

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 29th Sitting of the National Assembly under the Constitution of Guyana, held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER, 1971

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. Sase Narain, J.P.

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister  
and Minister of Agriculture  
The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of Communications  
The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Finance  
The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and  
Social Security  
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Housing and  
Reconstruction (Leader of the House)  
~~The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister of~~  
The Honourable D.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs  
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Attorney-General  
and Minister of State  
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works, Hydraulics  
and Supply  
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests  
The Honourable E.B. McDavid, Minister of Information and  
Culture

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. J.G. Joaquin, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,  
Ministry of Finance  
Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary,  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary,  
Office of the Prime Minister

(iii) Other Members

Mr. J.N. Aaron  
 Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip  
 Mr. K. Bancroft  
 Mr. N.J. Bissember  
 Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.  
 Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue  
 Mr. E.F. Correia  
 Mr. M. Corrica  
 Mr. E.H.A. Fowler  
 Mr. R.J. Jordan  
 Mr. S.M. Saffee  
 Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman  
 Mrs. L.E. Willems

(b) Members of the Opposition

Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition  
 Mr. Ram Karran  
 Mr. R. Chandisingh  
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C.  
 Mr. E.M.G. Wilson  
 Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip  
 Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.  
 Mr. M.Y. Ally  
 Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P.  
 Mr. R. Ally  
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose  
 Mrs. L.M. Branco  
 Mr. Balchand Persaud  
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.  
 Mr. V. Teekah  
 Mrs. E. DaSilva  
 Mr. M.F. Singh  
 Mr. J.A. Sutton  
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. F.A. Narain  
 Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. M.B. Henry

Absent:

	The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.C., Prime Minister	
	The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Health	- on leave
/The Honourable )	The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government	
D.A. Singh, )		
Minister of )	The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for Co-operatives and Community Development	
Trade )		
	The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education	- on leave
	Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture	
	Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply	
	Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.	- on leave
	Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker	
	Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.	
	Mr. Bholu Persaud	- on leave
	Mr. L.A. Durant	

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Financial Paper No. 6 of 1971 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ending 30th November, 1971, totalling \$9,207,917.

(2/5 V)(Circulated)

In terms of Standing Order No. 68(1), the Minister of Finance named Friday, 26th November, 1971, as the day for the consideration of the Financial Paper.

QUESTION TO MINISTERSQUESTION NO. 17

Mr. R. Ally asked the Minister of Education the following question:

- Question:
- (i) Will the Minister say whether she is aware that the condition of the Government Primary School building at Mibicuri, Black Bush Polder, is in such a state of disrepair that the teachers and children fear injury and the safety of their lives?
  - (ii) Will the Minister say how soon it is proposed to repair the school?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture gave the following reply:

Answer: The Ministry of Education is aware of the condition of the Mibicuri and Joanna Schools and did arrange for the Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply to carry out maintenance works.

Supplementary questions were asked by Mr. Wilson and the Leader of the Opposition.

QUESTION NO. 18

Mr. R. Ally asked the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply the following question:

- Question:
- (i) Will the Minister say whether he is aware that school children at Black Bush Polder are, due to the absence of potable water, forced to drink trench water?

- (ii) Will the Minister say whether he does not think this is dangerous to the health of the children; and if so, will he say whether it is proposed to make a supply of drinking water available to the settlers in the residential areas of the Polder?

The Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply gave the following reply:

- Answer:
- (i) I am not aware that the children at Black Bush Polder are forced to drink trench water; however the schools at Joanna and Yakusari were getting their supply of water from shallow wells drilled during 1962-1963. The well supplying the school at Joanna was found to be blocked with stones, old pens and sundry garbage and, despite attempts in 1970 to wash it out, the Pure Water Supply Division was unable to make it as operational as before. At Yakusari a supply is still available to the school from the shallow well there. The Pure Water Supply Division is now mobilising for drilling operations first at Yakusari and then at Joanna and when these two wells are completed, supplies will be made available to the schools there. Adequate supplies are available at Mibikuri and Lesbeholden from wells in those areas.
- (ii) Though everyone should be concerned about practices that are dangerous to health, it is sadly apparent that the people of the area themselves are the least concerned. The Ministry's officers have reported that in this area, there has been large scale and rampant vandalism. Destructive actions such as the blocking of the well at Joanna are only too prevalent. However, though a new well will be drilled to replace the blocked well it should be understood that the community is expected to act as guardian and protector of social property.

Supplementary questions were asked by Mr. R. Ally, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud.

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

### Presentation and First Reading

#### CAPITAL ISSUES (CONTROL) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 23/1971 published 24.11.71

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR  
THE CONTROL OF ISSUES OF CAPITAL AND  
FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46

The Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 46 be suspended to enable the second reading and the remaining stages of the Capital Issues (Control) Bill, 1971, to be taken at the Sitting of the National Assembly on Wednesday, 24th November, 1971.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. M.F. Singh, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Sutton, Mr. Ram Karran, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, Mr. Lall, Mrs. DaSilva, and Mr. Hamid spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for tea.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.45 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mr. Teekah spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Willems	Mr. Sutton
Mr. Van Sluytman	Mr. M.F. Singh
Mr. Saffee	Mrs. DaSilva
Mr. Jordan	Mr. Teekah
Mr. Fowler	Mr. Remington
Mr. Corrica	Mr. Balchand Persaud
Mr. Correia	Mrs. Branco
Mr. Chan-A-Sue	Mr. R. Ally
Mr. Budhoo	Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud
Mr. Bissember	Mr. M.Y. Ally
Mr. Bancroft	Mr. Lall
Miss Ackman	Mr. Hamid
Mr. Thomas	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Salim	Dr. Ramsahoye
Mr. Joaquin	Mr. Chandisingh
Mr. Clarke	Mr. Ram Karran
Mr. Ramsaroop	Dr. Jagan
Mr. Carrington	
Mr. Hoyte	
Mr. Kasim	
Dr. Reid	

BILLS - Second and Third ReadingsITEM 2 - CAPITAL ISSUES (CONTROL) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 23/1971 - published 24.11.71

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL OF ISSUES OF CAPITAL AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clauses 1 to 8 were passed as printed.

Clause 9 - The following amendment by the Minister of Finance was put and carried:

Substitution of "(3)" for "(4)" in the sixth line.

Clause 9 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 10 to 16 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

ITEM 3 - CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 22/1971 published 11.11.71

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

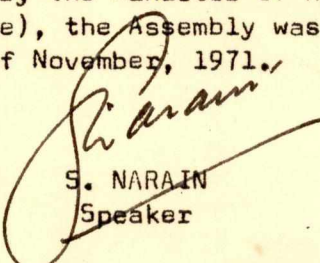
A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time, and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.55 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, the 26th of November, 1971.

  
S. NARAIN  
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.  
25th November, 1971.