

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 45th 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, 29TH DECEMBER, 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 Trade
The Honourable D.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government
The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for
Co-operatives and Community Development
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Attorney-General and
Minister of State

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. J.G. Joaquin, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Finance
Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply

(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
 Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

(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. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker
 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. L.A. Durant
 Mr. V. Teekah
 Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mr. J.A. Sutton

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 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
 The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird,
 Minister of Education
 Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary,
 Office of the Prime Minister
 Mrs. L.E. Willems - on leave
 Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
 Mr. Bholu Persaud - on leave
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P. - on leave
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. R.F. Creeks

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS -Presentation and First ReadingAPPROPRIATION BILL 1971 - Bill No. 27/1971 published 29.12.71

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 ISSUE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE SUM NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURE (NOT OTHERWISE LAWFULLY CHARGED ON THE CONSOLIDATED FUND) OF GUYANA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1972, ESTIMATES WHEREOF HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND FOR APPROPRIATION OF THAT SUM FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSE, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 - MOTION TO CONFIRM CUSTOMS DUTIES (EXEMPTION FROM IMPORT DUTIES) (NO. 31) ORDER, 1971

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, confirm the Customs Duties (Exemption from Import Duties)(No. 31) Order, 1971 (No. 80), which was made on the 3rd of December, 1971, and published in the Gazette on the 11th of December, 1971.

BILLS - Second and Third ReadingsITEM 2 - MISCELLANEOUS (FISCAL ENACTMENTS)(AMENDMENT) BILL 1971 - Bill No. 26/1971 published 17.12.71

The Cabinet's recommendation having been signified, the Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN FISCAL ENACTMENTS.

Mr. Sutton and Dr. Remsahoye spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then 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 and 2 were passed as printed.

Clause 3 - The following amendment by the Minister of Finance was put and carried:

Substitution of a colon for the full stop at the end of the clause and insertion of the following proviso -

"Provided that -

- (a) the increase in the corporation tax imposed by the foregoing provisions of this section shall not apply to a company which satisfies the Commissioner of Inland Revenue that the company would not have been liable for the payment of withholding tax pursuant to section 27B of the Income Tax Ordinance if that section had been in operation during the period commencing on 1st January, 1970 and ending on 11th December, 1970;
- (b) any amount received by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue from a company as withholding tax pursuant to section 27B of the Income Tax Ordinance during the year 1970 shall be set off against the increase in the corporation tax payable by virtue of the foregoing provisions of this section."

Clause 3 was then passed as amended.

Clause 4 was passed as printed.

Schedule. (1) The following amendment by Mr. M.F. Singh was put and negatived:

Addition of the words "or arising to the individual from any trade, business, profession or vocation" after the words "past services" at the end of the amendment to section 16 of the Income Tax Ordinance, Chapter 299.

(2) Dr. Ramsahoye moved the following amendment:

Renumbering of "(b)" as "(e)", and insertion of the following as "(b)", "(c)" and "(d)" in the amendment to section 19B of the Income Tax Ordinance, Chapter 299:

- " (b) Delete expression "has after the 31st December, 1964"
- (c) Insert the words "occupied or" after the word "building" where it first appears
- (d) Delete the word "new" where it first appears. "

The amendment was under consideration when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to continue consideration of the Miscellaneous (Fiscal Enactments)(Amendment) Bill 1971.

In Committee

Schedule - The amendment by Dr. Ramsahoye was put and negatived.

- (3) The following amendment by the Leader of the Opposition was put and negatived:

Deletion of paragraph (b) in the amendment to section 19B of the Income Tax Ordinance, Chapter 299.

- (4) The following amendment by the Minister of Finance was put and carried:

Insertion of the following provisions to the amendments to the Corporation Tax Act 1970 -

"Section 6(2) The words "in the year preceding" shall be substituted for the word "for". "

Assembly resumed.

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

ITEM 3 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1971 - Bill No. 27/1971 published 29.12.71

On a motion by the Minister of Finance the following Bill was read the second and third times and passed as printed:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE SUM NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURE (NOT OTHERWISE LAWFULLY CHARGED ON THE CONSOLIDATED FUND) OF GUYANA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1972, ESTIMATES WHEREOF HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND FOR APPROPRIATION OF THAT SUM FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSE, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

ITEM 4 - STATE PENSIONS BILL 1971 - Bill No. 24/1971 published 6.12.71

The Cabinet's recommendation having been signified, the Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO REGULATE THE AWARDS OF STATE PENSIONS IN RESPECT OF SERVICE TO THE STATE IN CERTAIN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Mr. D.C. Jagan, Mr. M.F. Singh, Mr. Ram Karran and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was thereafter read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clauses 1 to 3 were passed as printed.

Clause 4 - (1) Mr. Ram Karran moved the following amendment:

Substitution of the word "unanimous" for the word "negative" in subsection (1).

The amendment was put and negatived on the following division:

FOR

Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mr. Teekah
 Mr. Durant
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mrs. Branco
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud
 Mr. M.Y. Ally
 Mr. Lall
 Mr. Hamid
 Mr. Wilson
 Mr. D. Jagan
 Dr. Ramsahoye
 Mr. Chandisingh
 Mr. Ram Karran
 Dr. Jagan

 16

AGAINST

Mr. Zaheeruddeen
 Mr. Van Sluytman
 Mr. Saffee
 Mr. Jordan
 Mr. Fowler
 Mr. Corrica
 Mr. Chan-A-Sue
 Mr. Budhoo
 Mr. Bissember
 Mr. Bancroft
 Mr. Ackman
 Mr. Aaron
 Mr. Salim
 Mr. Duncan
 Mr. Joaquin
 Mr. Haynes
 Mr. Mingo
 Mr. D.A. Singh
 Mr. Ramgaroop
 Mr. Carrington
 Mr. Hoyte
 Mr. Kasim

 22

- (2) The following amendment by Mr. M.F. Singh was put and negatived:

Substitution of the word "affirmative" for the word "negative" in subsection (1).

Clause 4 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 5 to 9 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

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

NEW YEAR WISHES

Miss Ackman on behalf of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and Mr. M.F. Singh wished His Honour the Speaker and his family, the Members of the Staff of Parliament and Members of the Press and Radio a Happy New Year.

His Honour the Speaker on behalf of his family and himself and the Staff of Parliament Office, reciprocated the wishes and thanked Members for their co-operation during the year.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.50 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

S. Narain
S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

3rd January, 1971.