



*(Eighth Parliament - First Session)*

No. 183.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 10.30 a. m.

### PRESENT :

**Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala**, Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees

**Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**, Deputy Chairman of Committees

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**Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe**, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

**Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale**, Minister of Foreign Employment

**Hon. John Amaratunga**, Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs

**Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera**, Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development

**Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama**, Minister of Special Assignment

**Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka**, Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms and the Chief Government Whip

**Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam**, Minister of Education

**Hon. Lakshman Kiriella**, Minister of Higher Education and Highways and Leader of the House of Parliament

**Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara**, Minister of Sports

**Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva**, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation

**Hon. S. B. Dissanayake**, Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage

**Hon. S. B. Nawinne**, Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs

**Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera**, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife

**Hon. Harin Fernando**, Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure

**Hon. A. D. Susil Premajyantha**, Minister of Science, Technology and Research

**Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen**, Minister of Industry and Commerce

**Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara**, Minister of Women and Child Affairs

**Hon. Tilak Marapana**, Minister of Development Assignments

**Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**, Minister of Disaster Management

**Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development

**Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

**Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakse**, Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana

**Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade

**Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**, Ministry of Labour, Trade Union Relations and Sabaragamu Development

**Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management

**Hon. Rauff Hakeem**, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply

**Hon. Abdul Haleem**, Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs

**Hon. P. Harrison**, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

**Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development

**Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Public Enterprise Development

**Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture

**Hon. Dilan Perera**, State Minister of Highways

**Hon. Niroschan Perera**, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

**Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle**, State Minister of City Planning and Water Supply

**Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Industry and Commerce Affairs

**Hon. Palitha Range Bandara**, State Minister of Irrigation

**Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs

**Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance

**Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

**Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, State Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations

**Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe**, State Minister of International Trade

**Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**, State Minister of Science, Technology and Research

**Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah**, State Minister of Rehabilitation and Resettlement

**Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie**, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation

**Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation

- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**, Deputy Minister of Finance and Mass Media  
**Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage**, Deputy Minister of Petroleum Resources  
Development  
**Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and  
Environment  
**Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva**, Deputy Minister of National Policies and Economic  
Affairs  
**Hon. Karunaratna Paranawithana**, Deputy Minister of Skills Development and  
Vocational Training  
**Hon. Ajith P. Perera**, Deputy Minister of Power and Renewable Energy  
**Hon. Indika Bandaranayake**, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction  
**Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka**, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital  
Infrastructure  
**Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake**, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and  
Kandyan Heritage  
**Hon. Duleep Wijsekera**, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim  
Religious Affairs  
**Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen**, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
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- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**  
**Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**  
**Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**  
**Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**  
**Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**  
**Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri**  
**Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**  
**Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran**  
**Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera**  
**Hon. Chandima Gamage**  
**Hon. Siripala Gamalath**  
**Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**  
**Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**  
**Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena**  
**Hon. Bandula Gunawardane**  
**Hon. Edward Gunasekara**  
**Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera**

**Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**  
**Hon. Sisira Jayakody**  
**Hon. Malith Jayathilake**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa**  
**Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**  
**Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne**  
**Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne**  
**Hon. Lucky Jayawardana**  
**Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah**  
**Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam**  
**Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. M. S. Thowfeek**  
**Hon. Sirinal de Mel**  
**Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**  
**Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa**  
**Hon. Anura Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Salinda Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Douglas Devananda**  
**Hon. Mohamed Navavi**  
**Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan**  
**Hon. Buddhika Pathirana**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana**  
**Hon. K. K. Piyadasa**  
**Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. Ashoka Priyantha**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra**  
**Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**  
**Hon. S. M. Marikkar**  
**Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana**  
**Hon. K. Kader Masthan**  
**Hon. Imran Maharroof**  
**Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff**  
**Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe**

**Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana**  
**Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheśwaran**  
**Hon. Bimal Rathnayake**  
**Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**  
**Hon. Ishak Rahuman**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa**  
**Hon. Angajan Ramanathan**  
**Hon. Gamini Lokuge**  
**Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**  
**Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne**  
**Hon. A. A. Wijethunga**  
**Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna**  
**Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Heshan Withanage**  
**Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage**  
**Hon. Wimal Weerawansa**  
**Hon. Kumara Welgama**  
**Hon. S. Shritharan**  
**Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa**  
**Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**  
**Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament**  
**Hon. E. Saravanapavan**  
**Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan**  
**Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran**  
**Hon. Vadivel Suresh**  
**Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah**  
**Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne**

**Hon. Sunil Handunnetti**

**Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi**

**Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**

**Hon. Kanaka Herath**

**Hon. Vijitha Herath**

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

**Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.**

**1. Presentation of Papers :** (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Public Enterprises for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Rural Economy for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Sports presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Sports Development for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

**2. Petitions :**

- (1) Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale presented a petition dated 13.06.2017 from Mr. D.H.J.P. Wimalasiri of No. T 6, R.E.T. Junction, Udawalawa.
- (2) Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi presented a petition dated 23.06.2017 from Mr. S.C.K. Weerawardhana of “Hansagiri”, Goyambokka, Tangalle.
- (3) Hon. K. K. Piyadasa presented a petition dated 04.06.2017 from Mr. B.M.K.B. Basnayaka of No. 06, Halgolla, Nawalapitiya.
- (4) Hon. A. A. Wijethunga presented a petition dated 02.03.2017 from Mr. L.H.L. Rajapaksha of No. 04, Batugedara Old Road, Rathnapura.
- (5) Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar presented a petition dated 05.06.2017 from Mr. M.H. Athambawa of B/ Al Munshid Maha Vidyalaya, Silmiyapura, Welimada Zonal Education Office Area, Badulla.
- (6) Hon. Mohamed Navavi presented —
  - (i) a petition dated 06.06.2017 from Mr. A.M.A. Latheef of Alhira Muslim College, Kottaramulla; and
  - (ii) a petition dated 20.05.2017 from Mr. M.I.M. Siddeen of No. 31 / A, Madawakkulama, Andigama.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order No. 25A of the Parliament, to the Committee on Public Petitions.

**3. Business of the Parliament :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper of the Parliament be exempted at this day’s sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order No. 23 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

**4. Resolution under the Essential Public Services Act :** The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,— That this Parliament resolves that the proclamation made by the President in the form of an order under Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979 which was published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2029/23 of 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 throughout Sri Lanka with effect from 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 declaring the services of any Public Corporation or Government Department or Local Authority or Co-operative Society or any branch thereof being a Department or Corporation or Local Authority or Co-operative Society or any branch, which is engaged in supply or distribution of fuel including petroleum products and gas and all services, work, labour of any description whatsoever, necessary or required to be done in connection with the discharge, carriage, landing, storage, delivery and removal of oil or fuel from vessels within any port as defined for the purposes of the Customs Ordinance, considering that those services are essential to life of the community and are likely to be impeded or interrupted, be approved.

(Presented to the Parliament on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017.)

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,— That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.30 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.14 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

(At 4.44 p.m. Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved, that the debate do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to.

The debate stood adjourned accordingly; debate to be resumed on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.

**5. Adjournment :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to.

The Parliament adjourned accordingly at 5.00 p.m. until 10.30 a.m. on Friday, July 28, 2017 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 07<sup>th</sup> July, 2017.