



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 190.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 1.00 p. m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan, Deputy Chairman of Committees

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

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

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

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

Hon. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

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

Hon. Palany Thigambaram, Minister of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community Development

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

- 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. Sajith Premadasa**, Minister of Housing and Construction
- 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 and Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 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. Patali Champika Ranawaka**, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**, Minister of Ports and Shipping
- Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**, Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
- Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**, Ministry of Labour, Trade Union Relations and Sabaragamu Development
- Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne**, Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
- Hon. Rauff Hakeem**, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply
- Hon. Abdul Haleem**, Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs
- Hon. Kabir Hashim**, Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- 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. T. B. Ekanayake**, State Minister of Lands
- Hon. Dilan Perera**, State Minister of Highways
- Hon. Niroschan Perera**, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs
- Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Industry and Commerce Affairs

Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan, State Minister of Education

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, State Minister of Finance

Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence

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

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

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

Hon. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Foreign Affairs

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. Faizal Cassim, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and
Environment

Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena, Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development and
Wildlife

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, Deputy Minister of National Policies and Economic
Affairs

Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Minister of
Buddhasasana

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Deputy Minister of Foreign Employment

Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Skills Development and
Vocational Training

Hon. Susantha Punchinilame, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and
Management

Hon. Ajith P. Perera, Deputy Minister of Power and Renewable Energy

Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital
Infrastructure

Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage, Deputy Minister of Ports and Shipping Affairs

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and
Kandyan Heritage

Hon. Nimal Lanza, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Duleep Wijesekera, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim
Religious Affairs

Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. H. M. M. Harees, Deputy Minister of Sports

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Dilum Amunugama

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Edward Gunasekara

Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. Malith Jayathilake

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne

Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana

Hon. Lucky Jayawardana

Hon. Premalal Jayasekara

Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah

Hon. K. Thurairatnasingam

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. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheśwaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Gamini Lokuge

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
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. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
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 Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcements by the Speaker : Speaker made the following announcements:-

I

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled ‘Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority (Amendment)’ on 17th of August 2017 in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

II

“I have an announcement to make in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment)’ which had been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has communicated that the Petitioner informed the court that he does not wish to proceed with the petition.

The Supreme Court determined that the Bill is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution, and support the equality provisions referred to in Article 12(4) of the Constitution.

I order that the Determination of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today’s proceedings.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) Speaker presented the Progress Report of the National Procurement Commission, for First quarter (from 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017), in terms of Article 41B (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Order made by the President under Section 3 of the Extradition Law, No. 8 of 1977 relating to Extradition Treaty between Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and People’s Republic of China published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2024/25 of 20th June 2017 and moved that this Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.

Question put, and agreed to;

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Human Resources Development Council of Sri Lanka for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to;

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the,—

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2022/30 of 09th June 2017;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2024/1 of 19th June 2017; and
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2027/7 of 11th July 2017.

and moved that these Orders be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Reports of Selacine Television Institute for the years 2012 and 2013 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to;

(6) The Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine under Paragraph (u) of Subsection (2) of Section 142 read with the Sections 59 and 63 of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act, No. 5 of 2015 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2023/30 of 14th June 2017 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to;

(7) The Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs presented the Performance Report of the Department of Immigration and Emigration for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to;

(8) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board for the year 2014 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to;

(9) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the State Development and Construction Corporation for the year 2013 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to;

(10) The Minister of Regional Development presented the Order made by the Minister of Regional Development under Section 2 of the State Agricultural Corporation Act, No. 11 of 1972, amending the Order published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 302/12 of 01st February 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2026/45 of 07th July 2017 and moved that this Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to;

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne, member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication presented the Report of the said Committee on “Supplementary Sum – Head 117 – Programme – 2 of the Ministry of Higher Education and Highways”, which was referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**.

(2) Hon. Lucky Jayawardena, member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Gamini Lokuge, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management presented the Report of the said Committee on,—

- (i) Regulations under section 52(1) of the Registration of Persons Act, No. 32 of 1968; and
- (ii) Performance Reports of the Department for Registration of Persons for the years 2011, 2012, 2015 and 2016”

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**.

(3) Hon. Mujibur Rahuman, member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage presented the Report of the said Committee on,—

- (i) Regulations under section 41 of the Sports Law, No. 25 of 1973; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Sports Development for the year 2016’

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**.

(4) Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on,—

- (i) Inland Revenue Bill;
- (ii) Order under Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act; and
- (iii) Supplementary Sum – Head 117 – Programme – 2 of the Ministry of Higher Education and Highways

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table**.

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented—
- (i) a petition dated 30.06.2017 from Mrs. Gnanawathie Samaraweera of “Jayasevana”, Puhulyaya Road, Ambalanthota; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 30.06.2017 from Mrs. M.P. Nandawathie of Palugasgodella, Ambalanthota.
- (2) Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne presented a petition dated 30.01.2017 from Mr. Percy Nanayakkara of No. 18, “Nimthera Asapuwa”, Maha Heenatiyangala, Kalutara.
- (3) Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera presented —
- (i) a petition dated 24.07.2017 from Mr. H.G.W. Padmasiri of No. 245, Horana Road, Alubomulla, Panadura;
 - (ii) a petition dated 24.07.2017 from Mr. L.A.R.P.K. Liyanaarachchi of No.21, Vijithapuraya, Thalawathugoda, Pitakotte; and
 - (iii) a petition dated 26.07.2017 from Mr. P.K.D. Rathnasingha of “Sasindu”, Udawaththagoda, Dodangoda.

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

5. Regulation of Insurance Industry (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill to amend the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act, No. 43 of 2000.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, 06th September, 2017 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Electronic Transactions (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure moved,— That the Bill to amend the Electronic Transactions Act, No. 19 of 2006.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, 06th September, 2017 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

7. Supplementary Sum—Head 117— Programme 02 : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,— That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rupees Fifty Three Billion (Rs. 53,000,000,000) be payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or any other fund or monies of or at the disposal of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or from the proceed of any loans obtained by the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for service of the Financial Year beginning of the 01st January 2017 and ending on 31st December 2017. The said sum may be expended as specified in the Schedule hereto.

Schedule

Head	-117	Ministry of Higher Education and Highways	
Programme	- 2	Development Activities	
			<u>Rs. Million</u>
Project	- 3	Expressways Development-	31,200.00
		Foreign Fund (Financing Code12)	30,000.00
		Domestic Fund (Financing Code17) (Schedule No. 01)	1,200.00
	- 4	Highways Development-	15,800.00
		Foreign Fund (Financing Code12)	14,500.00
		Domestic Fund (Financing Code17) (Schedule No. 02)	1,300.00
	- 6	Construction of Bridges and Fly Overs- (Foreign Fund) (Financing Code12) (Schedule No. 03)	6,000.00
		Total Expenditure	Rs. 53,000.00
		(Rupees Fifty Three Billion only.)	

(At 2.46 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.20 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Ports and Shipping Affairs moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.25 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Regulations under the Registration of Persons Act : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs under Subsection (1) of Section 52 of the Registration of Persons Act, No. 32 of 1968 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2021/28 of 31st May 2017, which were presented on 25.07.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Regulation under the Sports Law : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Sports moved,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Sports under Section 41 read with Section 31 of the Sports Law, No. 25 of 1973 with regard to regulations on National Sports Associations and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2017/41 of 05th May 2017, which was presented on 26.07.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Adjournment (Handover of Paddy Lands in Mullaitivu District to Original Owners) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That Hon. J.M. Ananda Kumarasiri do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.35 p.m. Hon. J.M. Ananda Kumarasiri took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.21 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 23rd August, 2017.