



*(Eighth Parliament - First Session)*

No. 203.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, October 09, 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. 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. 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. 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 and Minister of Buddhasasana

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

- Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen**, Minister of Industry and Commerce
- Hon. Tilak Marapana**, Minister of Development Assignments and Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon. Faiszer Musthapha**, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government
- Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**, Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**, Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
- Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**, Minister of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs
- Hon. Rauff Hakeem**, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, Acting Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- 
- Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. Mohan Lal Grero**, State Minister of Higher Education
- 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. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs
- Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan**, State Minister of Education
- Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
- Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**, State Minister of Science, Technology and Research
- Hon. Vasantha Senanayake**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 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. Dunes Gankanda**, Deputy Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
- Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma**, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs

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

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

**Hon. Nimal Lanza**, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs

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

---

**Hon. Hector Appuhamy**

**Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**

**Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**

**Hon. Dilum Amunugama**

**Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**

**Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma**

**Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage**

**Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**

**Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare**

**Hon. Ravi Karunanayake**

**Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**

**Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera**

**Hon. Chandima Gamage**

**Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**

**Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**

**Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena**

**Hon. Bandula Gunawardane**

**Hon. Edward Gunasekara**

**Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**

**Hon. D. V. Chanaka**

**Hon. Sisira Jayakody**

**Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa**

**Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**

**Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne**

**Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana**

**Hon. Lucky Jayawardana**

**Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah**

**Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. Sirinal de Mel**  
**Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**  
**Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva**  
**Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa**  
**Hon. Anura Dissanayaka**  
**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. Sanath Nishantha Perera**  
**Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. Arundika Fernando**  
**Hon. S. Premarathna**  
**Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda**  
**Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**  
**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. Bimal Rathnayake**  
**Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**  
**Hon. Ishak Rahuman**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Namal Rajapaksa**

**Hon. Angajan Ramanathan**  
**Hon. Gamini Lokuge**  
**Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi**  
**Hon. A. A. Wijethunga**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Heshan Withanage**  
**Hon. Kumara Welgama**  
**Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. E. Saravanapavan**  
**Hon. M. H. M. Salman**  
**Hon. Muthu Sivalingam**  
**Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran**  
**Hon. Vadivel Suresh**  
**Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah**  
**Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**  
**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 :** The Speaker made the following announcements:-

I

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificates on the Bills entitled ‘Motor Traffic (Amendment)’ and ‘Sri Lanka Sustainable Development’ on 03<sup>rd</sup> of October 2017 in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

II

“I wish to inform the Parliament that I have received a copy of a petition filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment)’.”

**2. Presentation of Papers :** (1) The Speaker presented —

The Second Instalment – Part XX, Third Instalment – Part VII, Eighth Instalment – Part III and Ninth Instalment – Part IV of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015; and

The Second Instalment – Part I and Third Instalment – Part I of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2016

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Ordered that the said report do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

(2) The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act, (Chapter 203) read with Sub-section (2) of Section 5 and Section 19 of the aforesaid Act published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2035/51 of 08<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2037/23 published on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

## (3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

(i) Notification made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) read with Sections 12, 14 and 22 regarding Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2029/51 of 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2017

(Excise Notification No. 996);

(ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation for the year 2015; and

(iii) Annual Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Customs for the year 2016.

and moved that the Notification and the Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

(i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ayurvedic Drugs Corporation for the year 2014; and

(ii) Performance Report of the Department of Ayurveda for the year 2015.

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Coconut Cultivation Board 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.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report and Annual Accounts of the Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Reconciliation and North & East Reconstruction.

Question put, and agreed to.

**3. Presentation of Reports from Committees :** Hon. Nihal Galappaththi, 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 said Report on,

- (i) Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Urban Councils (Amendment) Bill; and
- (iii) Pradeshiya Sabha (Amendment) Bill

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

**4. Petitions :**

- (1) Hon. Niroschan Perera presented a petition dated 06.07.2017 from Mr. S.P. Weerakoon of Sisila, Lake Road, Wennappuwa.
- (2) Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare presented —
  - (i) a petition dated 25.07.2017 from Mr. B.A.A. Lakmal of No. 35/C, Awudangawa, Kibissa;
  - (ii) a petition dated 31.07.2017 from Mr. E.M.R. Sarath Ekanayake of Hewena, Thenna, Panliyadda;
  - (iii) a petition dated 21.08.2017 from Mr. Jayantha de Silva of No. 18 B, Malwatta Road, Matale;
  - (iv) a petition dated 08.08.2017 from Mrs. T.K. Achala Shiromani Thal pawila of No. 30, Weralugasthenna, Dankanda, Raththota;
  - (v) a petition dated 14.08.2017 from Mr. U.G. Abeyrathne of Udathenna Madakumbura, Welangahawatta, Matale; and
  - (vi) a petition dated 11.08.2017 from Mrs. W.P.G. Rathna Kanthi of No. 383/A, School Road, Maningamuwa, Pallepola.
- (3) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented —
  - (i) a petition dated 07.07.2017 from Mr. N.H. Thanoj Kumara of No. 180, Thal pawila Road, Dewinuwara;
  - (ii) a petition dated 05.07.2017 from Mr. R.P.S. De Silva of No. 91, Galle Road, Mirissa;
  - (iii) a petition dated 13.07.2017 from Mr. S.G. Pushpa Kumara of Subasingha Stores, Kokmaduwa, Weligama; and
  - (iv) a petition dated 06.07.2017 from Mr. W.D. Susil Prasanna of “Laksiri Osurisi”, No. 970, Pitipana Road, Negambo.

- (4) Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne presented a petition dated 05.06.2017 from Mr. H.M. Kiribanda of No. 82/28, Wijayarajapura, Kalinga Ela, Polonnaruwa.
- (5) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented —
- (i) a petition dated 01.06.2017 from Mr. A.D. Dayarathna of No. 03, 10<sup>th</sup> Lane, Yahalla Waththa, Awissawella;
  - (ii) a petition dated 17.06.2017 from Mr. A.P.N.J. Alexander of No. 27/A/1, Niwandama, Ja - Ela;
  - (iii) a petition dated 16.08.2017 from Mrs. B. Sumanawathi Perera of No. 172 B, Gangabada Road, Kidelpitiya, Welimilla;
  - (iv) a petition dated 18.08.2017 from Mr. P.A. Wanasinghe of No. 374, Walpaluwa, Minuwangete;
  - (v) a petition dated 27.07.2017 from Mr. P.A.G. Wijebanda of No. 170/1-B, Meegasthanna Road, Udupihilla, Matale;
  - (vi) a petition dated 15.08.2017 from Mr. Sagara Hewagama of No: 188/4, Wataddara, Veyangoda; and
  - (vii) a petition dated 14.08.2017 from Mr. Widanagamage Sumathipala of “Widaaruna”, Debarawewa, Thissamaharama.

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

**5. Appropriation :** Acting Minister of Finance and Mass Media presented,— Bill to provide for the service of the financial year 2018; to authorize the raising of loans in or outside Sri Lanka, for the purpose of such service; to make financial provision in respect of certain activities of the Government during that financial year; to enable the payment by way of advances out of the Consolidated Fund or any other fund or moneys, of or at the disposal of the Government, of moneys required during that financial year for expenditure on such activities; to provide for the refund of such moneys to the Consolidated Fund and to make provision for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Thursday, November 09, 2017 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

**6. Leave to introduce Bill :** Hon Dinesh Gunawardena seconded by Hon. Bandula Gunawardana presented,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Sri Shakyasingharama Viharastha Karyasadhaka Sanvidanaya.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order No. 47(5) of the Parliament to the Minister of Buddhasasana for Report.



**7. Provincial Council Elections (Amendment) Bill : Second Reading.**

Bill by leave of the House withdrawn.

**8. Municipal Councils (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.**

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

*(In the Committee)*

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government proposed an amendment to leave out lines 10 to 18 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

- “(a) equivalent to sixty *per centum* of the number of Councillors to be elected and returned, for such Municipal Council, as specified by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*, based on the number of wards specified in the Orders published under section 3C and 3D of the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance (Chapter 262);
- (b) equivalent to forty *per centum* of the number of Councillors to be elected and returned for such Municipal Council, who shall be returned”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government proposed another amendment to leave out line 23 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“under paragraph (a) of subsection (4)”.

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

**9. Urban Councils (Amendment) Bill :** Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

*(In the Committee)*

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government proposed an amendment to leave out lines 10 to 18 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

- “(a) equivalent to sixty *per centum* of the number of Councillors to be elected and returned, for such Municipal Council, as specified by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*, based on the number of wards specified in the Orders published under section 3C and 3D of the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance (Chapter 262);
- (b) equivalent to forty *per centum* of the number of Councillors to be elected and returned for such Urban Council, who shall be returned”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government proposed another amendment to leave out line 23 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“under paragraph (a) of subsection (4)”.

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

**10. Pradeshiya Sabha (Amendment) Bill :** Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

*(In the Committee)*

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government proposed an amendment to leave out lines 10 to 18 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

- “(a) equivalent to sixty *per centum* of the number of Councillors to be elected and returned, for such Municipal Council, as specified by the Minister by Order published in the *Gazette*, based on the number of wards specified in the Orders published under section 3C and 3D of the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance (Chapter 262);
- (b) equivalent to forty *per centum* of the number of Councillors to be elected and returned for such Pradeshiya Sabha, who shall be returned”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government proposed another amendment to leave out line 23 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“under paragraph (a) of subsection (4)”.

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 3 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

**11. Regulation of Insurance Industry (Amendment) Bill :** Order for Second Reading read.

The Acting Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Acting Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

*(In the Committee)*

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 to 11 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Acting Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

**12. Adjournment (Sale of Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport to a Foreign Company) :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 4.02 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.26 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 5.03 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 17, 2017.