



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 233.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, December 11, 2017 at 9.30 a. 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. 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. Duminda Dissanayake, Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

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. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

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

Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Finance and Mass Media

Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, Minister of Ports and Shipping

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

Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne, Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

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. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Minister of Regional Development

Hon. Mohan Lal Grero, State Minister of Higher Education

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

Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

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

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

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera

Hon. M. H. M. Salman

Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi

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 announcement:-

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled ‘Appropriation’ on 09th of December 2017 in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Vadivel Suresh, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Annual Reports of the Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the years 2014 and 2015;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Industrial Technology Institute for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (iv) Annual Report of the National Engineering Research & Development Centre of Sri Lanka for the year 2014;
- (v) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (vi) Annual Reports of the National Science and Technology Commission for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (vii) Annual Reports of the National Science Foundation for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (viii) Annual Performance Reports of the Ministry of Education for the years 2015 and 2016; and
- (ix) Annual Performance Reports of the Ministry of Educational Publications Department for the years 2014 and 2015

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

(2) Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media presented the Report of the said Committee on “Performance Report of the Department of the Law Commission for the year 2016”.

which was referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

3. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne presented a petition dated 11.09.2017 from Mr. K.L. Nihal Pushpakumara of Peththarakumbura, Weligepola, Balangoda.
- (2) Hon. Mujibur Rahuman presented a petition dated 02.10.2017 from Mr. R.A. Priyantha of No. A/13, Hilda Flats, Dehiwala.

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

4. Excise (Amendment) : The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— Bill to amend the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52).

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Thursday, January 23, 2018 and to be printed and be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

5. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 7 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.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No.1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament, and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.12.2017, the hours of sitting of Parliament this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.. At 11.30 a.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Privileges (No. 1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, M.P. on 09th November, 2017 in Parliament to the effect that privileges of the Members of Parliament have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Privileges (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe, M.P. on 23rd November, 2017 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Appropriation (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament having divided as follows :— Ayes:53; Noes: 08.

AYES

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana	Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. John Amaratunga	Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka	Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella	Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake	Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake	Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. S. B. Nawinne	Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera	Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha	Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen	Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Tilak Marapana	Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga	Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Malik Samarawickrama	Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne	Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne	Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan	Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Rauff Hakeem	Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka	Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala	Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan	Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle	Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene	Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie	Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe	Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
	Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
 Hon. M. H. M. Salman Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi

NOES

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
 Hon. Bandula Gunawardana Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
 Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
 Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The 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.

Clauses 1 to 3 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill reported without Amendments.

The 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.

11. Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce moved,— That this debate be now adjourned.

Question put, and agreed to.

The debate stood adjourned; debate to be continued on a future date.

12. Safeguard Measures Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce moved,— That this debate be now adjourned.

Question put, and agreed to.

The debate stood adjourned; debate to be continued on a future date.

13. Notification under the Excise Ordinance : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved, — That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Sections 2, 12, 22 and 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) relating to Excise Duty on import of non-potable spirits and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2044/33 of 09th November 2017, which was presented on 05.12.2017, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 999)

Question put, and agreed to.

14. Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.1): The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 20 read with Sub-section (3) of Section 4 and Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2044/40 of 09th November 2017, which were presented on 29.11.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

15. Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.2) : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 20 read with Sub-section (3) of Section 4 and Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2044/41 of 09th November 2017, which were presented on 29.11.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

16. 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 under the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979 published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2048/47 dated 09.12.2017, which was presented on 09.12.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament having divided as follows :— Ayes:52; Noes: 08.

AYES

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana	Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana
Hon. John Amaratunga	Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka	Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella	Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake	Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake	Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. S. B. Nawinne	Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera	Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha	Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen	Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Tilak Marapana	Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga	Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Malik Samarawickrama	Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne	Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan	Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Rauff Hakeem	Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
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Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan	Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle	Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene	Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
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Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe	Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna	Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha	Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara	Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi

NOES

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila	Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena	Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Bandula Gunawardana	Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Sisira Jayakody	Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 11.26 a.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of this day.