



(Eighth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 5.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 1.00 p.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

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

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale, Minister of Justice & Prison Reforms

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

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

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Agriculture

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Science, Technology, Research, Skills Development & Vocational Training and Kandyan Heritage

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

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Integration, Reconciliation and Official Languages

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Social Welfare and Primary Industries

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 Irrigation and Water Resources & Disaster Management

Hon. S. B. Nawinne, Minister of Internal Affairs & Wayamba Development

Hon. Harin Fernando, Minister of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment

- 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 Foreign Affairs
- Hon. Faiszer Musthapha**, Minister of Provincial Councils, Local Government and Sports
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Youth Affairs, Project Management and Southern Development
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**, Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development and Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**, Minister of Resettlement, Rehabilitation, Northern Development & Hindu Religious Affairs
- 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 Social Empowerment
- Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Sustainable Development, Wildlife and Regional Development
-
- Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. Piyasena Gamage**, State Minister of Youth Affairs, Project Management and Southern Development
- Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva**, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs
- Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake**, State Minister of Mahaweli Development
- Hon. Ajith P. Perera**, State Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
- Hon. Niroshan Perera**, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs
- Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Plantation Industries
- Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance
- Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene**, State Minister of Defence
- Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development and Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe**, State Minister of International Trade
- Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**, State Minister of Science, Technology, Research, Skills Development & Vocational Training and Kandyan Heritage

Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah, State Minister of Highways & Road Development

Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie, State Minister of National Unity and Co-existence

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. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage, Deputy Minister of Petroleum Resources
Development

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication, Digital
Infrastructure and Foreign Employment

Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology,
Research, Skills Development & Vocational Training and Kandyan Heritage

Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana, Deputy Minister of National Integration,
Reconciliation and Official Languages

Hon. Muthu Sivalingam, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare & Primary Industries

Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources
Development and Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. H. M. M. Harees, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City
Development

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha

Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoo
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
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. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan

Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne
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 : The Speaker made the following announcements:-

I

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bills entitled “Judicature (Amendment)” on the 15th of May 2018 and “Penal Code (Amendment)”, “Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)” and “Civil Aviation (Amendment)” on the 21st of May 2018 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 in terms of the Standing Order No. 140 of the Parliament, I have nominated the following Members of Parliament to serve in the Panel of Chairs for the Second Session of the Eighth Parliament:—

The Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne

The Hon. Lucky Jayawardana

The Hon. Bimal Rathnayake

The Hon. Edward Gunasekara

The Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri
 The Hon. K. Thurairatnasingam
 The Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
 The Hon. Kanaka Herath
 The Hon. Velu Kumar
 The Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
 The Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Performance Report of the Finance Commission, from 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2017, 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 Annual Report of the National Human Resources Development Council of Sri Lanka for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited 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.

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

- (i) Notification made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media, under Section 32(1) of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) regarding on Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2054/41 of 18th January 2018
(Excise Notification No. 03/2018);
- (ii) Notification made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media, under Section 25 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) regarding on Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2054/42 of 18th January 2018
(Excise Notification No. 04/2018);
- (iii) Notifications made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media, under Sections 2 and 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) regarding on Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2055/9 of 23rd January 2018
(Excise Notification Nos. 05/2018 and 06/2018); and
- (iv) 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) regarding on Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2059/32 of 21st February 2018
(Excise Notification No. 07/2018)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Cashew Corporation for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Tea Small Holdings Development Authority 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.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Institute of Education for the year 2013; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Educational Publications Department for the year 2016 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, the Chairperson of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Regulations under The National Environmental Act, No 47 of 1980;
- (ii) Order under Section 24C and Section 24D of The National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980; and
- (iii) Five Orders under Section 23W of The National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

4. 1990 Suwaseriya Foundation : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs presented the Bill to provide for the establishment of the 1990 Suwaseriya Foundation; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 05, 2018 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

5. Land (Restrictions on Alienation) (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media presented the Bill to amend the Land (Restrictions on Alienation) Act, No. 38 of 2014.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 05, 2018 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Committee on Standing Orders of Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— In terms of the Standing Order No. 116 of the Parliament, the Committee on Standing Orders shall consist of the Speaker who shall be the Chair, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairman of Committees and Six (06) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. House Committee : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—In terms of the Standing Order No. 117 of the Parliament, the House Committee shall consist of the Speaker who shall be the Chair and Nine (09) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Committee on Ethics and Privileges : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— In terms of the Standing Order No. 118 of the Parliament, the Committee on Ethics and Privileges shall consist not more than Ten (10) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Committee on Public Accounts : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No. 119 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Accounts shall consist of Twenty Six (26) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Committee on Public Enterprises : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No. 120 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Enterprises shall consist of Twenty Six (26) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Committee on Public Finance : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No.121 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Finance shall consist of a Chair and Nineteen (19) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Committee on Public Petitions : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No.122 of the Parliament, Committee on Public Petitions shall consist of Twenty Two (22) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

13. Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.1) : The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2051/38 of 29th December 2017 amending the order published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1867/5 of 16th June 2014, which was presented on 20.03.2018, be approved.

(At 2.15 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.29 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.32 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.26 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna took the Chair.)

(At 5.59 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

14. Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.2) : The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2049/59 of 15th December 2017 amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2062/47 of 16th March 2018, which was presented on 23.03.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

15. Adjournment (Provision of Fuel at Previous Price for Fisherfolk) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and debated.

The State Minister of International Trade moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.10 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.10 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 23, 2018.