



(Eighth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 13.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 1.00 p.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

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

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Buddhasasana

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, Minister of Public Administration & Management and Law & Order

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

Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka, Minister of Youth Affairs, Project Management and Southern Development

Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, Minister of Higher Education & Cultural Affairs

- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**, Minister of Ports and Shipping
- Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**, Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development and Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Kabir Hashim**, Minister of Highways & Road Development
- Hon. P. Harrison**, Minister of Social Empowerment
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- Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare**, State Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs
- Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. Piyasena Gamage**, State Minister of Youth Affairs, Project Management and Southern Development
- Hon. Lucky Jayawardana**, State Minister of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community 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. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs
- Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan**, State Minister of Education
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance
- Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama**, State Minister of Provincial Councils, Local Government and Sports
- 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. A. H. M. Fowzie**, State Minister of National Unity and Co-existence
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- Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation
- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**, Deputy Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
- Hon. Edward Gunasekara**, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs & Wayamba Development
- Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**, Deputy Minister of Public Administration & Management and Law & Order

- Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara**, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure and Foreign Employment
- Hon. Buddhika Pathirana**, Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce
- 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. Ajith Mannapperuma**, Deputy Minister of Environment
- Hon. Angajan Ramanathan**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake**, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment
- 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
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- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
- Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. Dilum Amunugama**
- Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma**
- Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage**
- Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**
- Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail**
- Hon. Ravi Karunanayake**
- Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**
- Hon. Velu Kumar**
- Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**
- Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**
- Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**
- Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena**
- Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane**
- Hon. Padma Udayashantha Gunasekera**
- Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**
- Hon. D. V. Chanaka**
- Hon. Sisira Jayakody**
- Hon. Malith Jayathilake**

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairtnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana

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. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Nimal Lanza
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. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
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. Thilanga Sumathipala
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne

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 the determination of the Supreme Court on the Bill entitled “Land (Restrictions on Alienation) (Amendment)” in respect of which petition had been filed in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has determined that the provisions of the Bill are not inconsistent with the Constitution.

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

II

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bills entitled “Shop and Office Employees (Regulation of Employment and Remuneration) (Amendment)” and “Maternity Benefits (Amendment)” on the 18th of June 2018 in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Second Instalment – Parts XVI and XVII and Third Instalment – Part VIII 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 Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Census and Statistics for the year 2017 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 —

- (i) Performance Report of the Department of National Budget for the year 2017;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Ministry of Finance for the year 2017;
- (iii) Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.04.2018 to 31.05.2018 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017;
- (iv) 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. 2058/33 of 15th February 2018; and
- (v) 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. 2058/34 of 15th February 2018

and moved that these Reports, Note on Supplementary Allocations and Orders be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority for the year 2014 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Kegalle for the year 2017; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Vavuniya for the year 2017

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development & Cultural Affairs for the year 2017 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Milco (Pvt) Ltd for the year 2015; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Livestock Development Board for the year 2015

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

- (8) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the
- (i) Performance Report of the Department of Cultural Affairs for the year 2017; and
 - (ii) Performance Report of the Department of Archaeology for the year 2015

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the Horizon College of Business and Technology (Pvt.) Ltd as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2053/38 of 11th January 2018 ;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the Colombo International Nautical and Engineering College (Private) Limited as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2053/39 of 11th January 2018 ;
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Gurantee) Limited as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2055/31 of 24th January 2018;
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the Colombo International Nautical and Engineering College (Private) Limited as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2067/15 of 19th April 2018;
- (v) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Gurantee) Limited as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2067/16 of 19th April 2018; and
- (vi) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the National School of Business Management Limited as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2067/17 of 19th April 2018

and moved that these Orders be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife for the year 2017 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts presented the First Report of the Committee on Public Accounts for the Second Session of the Eighth Parliament regarding the Assessment of the financial management and the performance of the Public Institutions, Provincial Councils and Local Government Authorities through a computerized Information Management System – Financial Year 2016.

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

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran presented a petition dated 08.01.2018 from Mr. A. Thirunavukkarasu of No. 38, Market Street, Negombo.
- (2) Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 19.03.2018 from Mrs. C.D. Artigala of No: 510/A, Old Kottawa Road, Udahamulla, Nugegoda; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 16.03.2018 from Ven. Rukmale Dhammakiththi Thero of Dhammadeepa Bilingual Primary Pirivena, Pore, Athurugiriya.
- (3) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 21.02.2018 from Mr. H.K.C. Asela Kumara of No: 735/5, Udaya Mw, Gonawala, Kelaniya;
 - (ii) a petition dated 04.05.2018 from Mr. K. M. Shantha Nimalsiri of Near 94th Mile Post, Colombage Ara; and
 - (iii) a petition dated 15.02.2018 from Mr. S.D. Rapaideen of No: 66/17, Jamaliyapura, Trincomalee.
- (4) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented a petition dated 06.05.2018 from Mr. Upali Dayananda Aponso of No. 98/D, Wathumulla, Walapane.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order No. 30 (10) of the Parliament, to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Nation Building Tax (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media presented the Bill to amend the Nation Building Tax Act, No. 9 of 2009.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, July 03, 2018 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 8 of the Parliament, the hours of sittings of Parliament on this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Adjournment (Recommendations Made in Reports Presented by Committee on Public Accounts) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and debated.

(At 2.02 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation moved,— That Hon. Shehan Semasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.25 p.m. Hon. Shehan Semasinghe took the Chair.)

The Minister of Women and Child Affairs moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.32 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Power and Renewable Energy moved,— That Hon. (Dr.) Thusitha Wijemanna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.21 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) Thusitha Wijemanna took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment moved,— That Hon. Mujibur Rahuman do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.36 p.m. Hon. Mujibur Rahuman took the Chair.)

And it being 6.30 p.m. the Presiding Member adjourned the Parliament without question put.

The Parliament adjourned accordingly until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 20, 2018.