



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 175.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, June 22, 2017 at 10.30 a. m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan, Deputy Chairman of Committees

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

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development

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

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

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

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

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

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

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. A. D. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Science, Technology and Research

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce

Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara, Minister of Women and Child Affairs
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Minister of Disaster Management
Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakse, Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana
Hon. Malik Samarawickrama, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Finance and Mass Media
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. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management
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. 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. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture
Hon. T. B. Ekanayake, State Minister of Lands
Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways
Hon. Niroshan Perera, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs
Hon. A. D. Premadasa, State Minister of Industry and Commerce 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. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe, Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Deputy Minister of Finance and Mass Media

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

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

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
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. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
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. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
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. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
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. Announcement by the Speaker :** Speaker made the following announcement:-

“ I have an announcement to make in respect of the Bill titled ‘Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) (Amendment)’ which has been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has communicated that the petition on the above Bill has been dismissed as the petitioner has made an application to withdraw the petition on the Bill based on the submissions made by the Attorney-General that the Minister of Justice had decided to withdraw the Bill from the Parliament.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Election Commission for the year 2016.

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

(2) The Minister of Finance and Mass Media +presented the Performance Report of the Department of Legal Affairs for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Thurusaviya Fund 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.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Women and Gender.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Educational Publications Department for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade 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. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, The Chairman of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on “Note on the Supplementary Allocations given from the Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities provision made under the Department of National Budget as per the Introduction Note of the Annual Estimates”, “Notifications under the Excise Ordinance”, “Annual Reports of the Insurance Board of Sri Lanka for the years 2013 and 2014”, “Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Accounting and Auditing Standards Monitoring Board for the years 2014 and 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Treasury Operations for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Public Finance for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Management Audit for the year 2015”, “Performance Reports of the Department of Development Finance for the years 2015 and 2016”, “Performance Reports of the Department of State Accounts for the years 2015 and 2016”, “Annual Performance Report of the Department of Management Services for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Legal Affairs for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Information Technology Management for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Fiscal Policy of General Treasury for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of Trade and Investment Policy for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Department of National Budget for the year 2015”, “Annual Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Customs for the year 2015”, “Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Excise Department for the year 2015” and “Performance Report of the Department of Valuation for the year 2015” which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi presented a petition dated 20.02.2017 from Mr. B.G. Piyadasa of 100 feet Road, Ranna - East, Ranna.
- (2) Hon. Eran Wickramaratne presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 01.04.2017 from Mr. L.J.C. de Peiris of No. B/30/G/01, Soyzapura Housing Complex, Soyzapura, Moratuwa; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 16.03.2017 from Mr. M.D.T. Deepthi Kumara Muthugala of No. 232/02B, Arawwala Road, Rathmaleniya, Pannipitiya.
- (3) Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 12.03.2017 from Mrs. B. Ramani Perera of No. 865/3, Jaya Mawatha, Gothatuwa New Town; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 06.01.2017 from Mr. N.T.A. Jayawickrema of No. 12/7A, Ananda Balika Mawatha, Pitakotte.

- (4) Hon. Ajith P. Perera presented —
- (i) a petition dated 10.02.2017 from Mr. G. G. Ilangage of No. 48, Keels Housing Complex, Pinwatta, Panadura;
 - (ii) a petition dated 15.05.2017 from Mr. J. H. Willie Stanley Perera of “Madhu Sevana”, Panapitiya Road, Pothupitiya, Wadduwa;
 - (iii) a petition dated 19.05.2017 from Mr. K. D. Nandasiri of No. 103, Thanthrimulla, Panadura; and
 - (iv) a petition dated 07.06.2017 from Mrs. O. W. K. Gnanadasa of No. 324/2, Gorakapola, Panadura.
- (5) Hon. Bandula Gunawardane presented a petition dated 13.05.2017 from Mr. Senerath Kariyawasam of No. 317/S, Green Field Gardens, Malasinhagoda Road, Hokandara.
- (6) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented —
- (i) a petition dated 31.03.2017 from Mr. K.P. Karunadasa of Poojawadu Building, Udukawa, Thelijawila;
 - (ii) a petition dated 24.05.2017 from Mr. S.S. Kodithuwakku of Assistant Commissioner, Inland Revenue Regional Office, Pallimulla, Matara; and
 - (iii) a petition dated 21.04.2017 from Mrs. T.M. Shermi Dilrukshi of No. 126/11, Uswatta, Hiththetiya East, Matara.
- (7) Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran presented a petition dated 09.01.2017 from Mr. T. Deyivigapalagan of No. 40, Textile Centre Road, Akkaraipattu 07.
- (8) Hon. Sisira Jayakody presented a petition dated 06.02.2017 from Mr. L.H. Dharmadasa of No. 10, Nelligahawatta, Negombo Road, Peliyagoda.

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

5. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.1) : The Minister of Finance and Mass Media,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, under Section 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) relating to license fee on liquor and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1997/16 of 15th December 2016, which was presented on 06.06.2017, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 992)

(At 12.18 p.m. Hon. Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,—That Hon. J.M. Ananda Kumarasiri do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.48 p.m. Hon. J.M. Ananda Kumarasiri took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.2) : The Minister of Finance and Mass Media,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) relating to license fee on arrack and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1998/7 of 20th December 2016, which was presented on 06.06.2017, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 994)

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 4.03 p.m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Friday, 23rd June, 2017 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 08th March, 2016.