



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 43.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

The Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees

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

The Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale, Minister of Foreign Employment

The Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

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

The Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignment

The Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass
Media and the Chief Government Whip

The Hon. Ravi Karunanayake, Minister of Finance

The Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

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

The Hon. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official
Languages

The Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

The Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

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

The Hon. S. B. Nawinne, Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and
Cultural Affairs

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

The Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Minister of Housing and Construction

The Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce

The Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, Minister of Public Administration and
Management

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

The Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government

The Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Minister of Disaster Management

The Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development

The Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Ports and Shipping

The Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Megapolis and Western
Development

The Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, Minister of Justice and Minister of
Buddhasasana

The Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

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

The Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, Minister of Skills Development and Vocational
Training

The Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne, Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations

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

The Hon. D. M. Swaminathan, Minister of Prisons Reforms, Rehabilitation,
Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs

The Hon. Abdul Haleem, Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious
Affairs

The Hon. P. Harrison, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

The Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena, State Minister of Finance

The Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture

The Hon. Mohan Lal Grero, State Minister of Higher Education

The Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways

The Hon. Niroshan Perera, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

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

The Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran, State Minister of Child Affairs

The Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan, State Minister of Education

The Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Development

The Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah, State Minister of Rehabilitation and Resettlement

The Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation

The Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe, Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation

The Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Deputy Minister of Megapolis and Western
Development

The Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena, Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development
and Wildlife

The Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Parliamentary Reforms
and Mass Media

The Hon. Susantha Punchinilame, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and
Management

The Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries

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

The Hon. Nimal Lanza, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs

The Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development

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

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

The Hon. H. M. M. Harees, Deputy Minister of Sports

The Hon. Hector Appuhamy

The Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

The Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

The Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

The Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

The Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

The Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

The Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

The Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

The Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

The Hon. Velu Kumar

The Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

The Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

The Hon. Chandima Gamage

The Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

The Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

The Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
The Hon. Edward Gunasekara
The Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
The Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
The Hon. D. V. Chanaka
The Hon. Sisira Jayakody
The Hon. Malith Jayathilake
The Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
The Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
The Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
The Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
The Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
The Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
The Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
The Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma
The Hon. Sirinal de Mel
The Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
The Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
The Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
The Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
The Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
The Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
The Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
The Hon. Douglas Devananda
The Hon. Mohamed Navavi
The Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
The Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
The Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
The Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
The Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
The Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
The Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
The Hon. Johnston Fernando
The Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
The Hon. S. Premarathna
The Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
The Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya

The Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
The Hon. S. M. Marikkar
The Hon. Imran Maharroof
The Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
The Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
The Hon. Tilak Marapana
The Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
The Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
The Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheśwaran
The Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
The Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
The Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
The Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
The Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
The Hon. Ishak Rahuman
The Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
The Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
The Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
The Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
The Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
The Hon. Gamini Lokuge
The Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
The Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
The Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
The Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
The Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
The Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
The Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
The Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
The Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
The Hon. Hesha Withanage
The Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
The Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
The Hon. Kumara Welgama
The Hon. S. Shritharan
The Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
The Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa

The Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera

The Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe

The Hon. Rajavarothingiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

The Hon. E. Saravanapavan

The Hon. M. H. M. Salman

The Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan

The Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan

The Hon. Muthu Sivalingam

The Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran

The Hon. Vadivel Suresh

The Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne

The Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah

The Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne

The Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

The Hon. (Dr.) A. R. A. Hafeez

The Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi

The Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath

The Hon. Kanaka Herath

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Deputy Secretary-General

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Deputy Speaker made the following announcements :-

I

“I wish to announce that the Hon. Speaker has under the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, endorsed the certificate on the Appropriation Bill on 19 December 2015.”

II

“I have an announcement to make regarding the Bills titled “Penal Code (Amendment) and “Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)”.

The Supreme Court has communicated that the petitioners of the above Bills have informed that they would not proceed with the petitions on the Bills entitled “Penal Code (Amendment) and “Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)” as the Attorney-General had informed the Supreme Court that the Government would not be pursued with these Bills.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations presented Regulation made by the Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations under Section 63 of the Wages Boards Ordinance (Chapter 136).

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

(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented,—

- (i) Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Poland for the avoidance of Double Taxation and prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income entered into on 6th October 2015.
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 10A of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) as amended by Act, No. 83 of 1988 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1933/15 of 22nd September 2015.
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1932/54 of 17th September 2015.
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1933/18 of 22nd September 2015.
- (v) Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1934/32 of 01st October 2015.
- (vi) Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1935/45 of 09th October 2015.
- (vii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1938/4 of 28th October 2015.
- (viii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1941/43 of 20th November 2015.

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

3. Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) : The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs presented,— “Bill to amend the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance (Chapter 262).”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 and to be printed.

4. Microfinance : The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs presented,— “Bill to provide for the licensing, regulation and supervision of companies carrying on microfinance business; the registration of non-governmental organizations accepting limited savings deposits as microfinance non-governmental organizations; for the setting up of standards for the regulation and supervision of microfinance non-governmental organizations and micro credit non-governmental organizations and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 and to be printed.

5. Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration) : The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana presented,— “Bill to provide for the formulation and Registration of Kathikawath in relation to Nikaya or Chapters of Theravadi Bhikkus in Sri Lanka; to provide for every Bhikku to act in compliance with the provisions of the Registered Kathikawath of the Nikaya or Chapter which relates to such Bhikku; to impose punishment on Bhikkus who act in violation of the provisions of any Registered Kathikawath, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 and to be printed.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No.1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 06.10.2015 and in terms of the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.01.2016, the hours of sitting this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.. At 1.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Sitzings of the Parliament (No.2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 26th January, 2016.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Resolution for the appointment of the Constitutional Assembly : Order read for resuming the adjourned debate on question (09th January, 2016),— Motion made and question proposed that “WHEREAS there is broad agreement among the People of Sri Lanka that it is necessary to enact a new Constitution for Sri Lanka;

AND WHEREAS the People have at the Presidential Election held on 08th January, 2015 given a clear mandate for establishing a political culture that respects the rule of law and strengthens democracy;

AND WHEREAS His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has clearly expressed his desire to give effect to the will of the People expressed at the aforesaid Presidential Election by enacting a new Constitution that, *inter alia*, abolishing the Executive Presidency;

AND WHEREAS it has become necessary to enact a new Constitution that, *inter alia*, abolishes the Executive Presidency, ensures a fair and representative Electoral System which eliminates preferential voting, strengthens the democratic rights of all citizens, provides a Constitutional Resolution of the national issue, promotes national reconciliation, establishes a political culture that respects the rule of law, guarantees to the People’s fundamental rights and freedom that assure human dignity and promotes responsible and accountable government.

That this Parliament Resolves that —

1. There shall be a Committee of Parliament hereinafter referred to as the 'Constitutional Assembly' which shall consist of all Members of Parliament, for the purpose of deliberating, and seeking the views and advice of the People, on a new Constitution for Sri Lanka, and preparing a draft of a Constitution Bill for the consideration of Parliament in the exercise of its powers under Article 75 of the Constitution.
2. The Hon. Speaker of Parliament shall be the Chairman of the Constitutional Assembly. There shall be seven (7) Deputy Chairmen of the Constitutional Assembly, who shall be elected by the Constitutional Assembly.
In the absence of the Hon. Speaker, the Constitutional Assembly shall elect one of the Deputy Chairmen to chair the sittings of the Assembly.
3. The quorum for meetings of the Constitutional Assembly shall be twenty (20).
4. There shall be—
 - (a) Constitutional Advisors to the Constitutional Assembly;
 - (b) A Legal Secretary to the Constitutional Assembly and assistants to such Legal Secretary;
 - (c) Staff for the purpose of recording the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in Clause 5; and

(d) Media (including Social Media) Staff of the Constitutional Assembly.

The Media Staff shall set up and maintain a website and use other appropriate media, towards giving due publicity to the process for the adoption of a new Constitution for Sri Lanka.

The Media Staff shall ensure that the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and its Committees, as well as public representations / submissions are documented and published on such website along with such other relevant expert or technical opinions.

5. There shall be the following Sub-Committees of the Constitutional Assembly:—
 - (a) A Steering Committee consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairman), Leader of the House of Parliament, Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Justice, and not more than seventeen (17) other Members of the Constitutional Assembly to be appointed by the Constitutional Assembly. The Steering Committee shall be responsible for the business of the Constitutional Assembly and for preparing a Draft of a new Constitution for Sri Lanka.
 - (b) Such other Sub-Committees, consisting of Members of the Constitutional Assembly, which may be appointed by the Constitutional Assembly. Provided that each such Sub-Committee shall comprise of not more than eleven (11) Members. The Chairman of each Sub-Committee shall be appointed by the Steering Committee.
6. The Constitutional Assembly shall at its first sitting—
 - (a) elect the Deputy Chairmen;
 - (b) determine the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5(b); and
 - (c) elect Members to the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5.
7. The Prime Minister shall, at the first meeting of the Constitutional Assembly, present a Resolution for adoption by the Constitutional Assembly, calling upon the Steering Committee to present a Resolution proposing a Draft Constitution for the consideration of the Constitutional Assembly, prior to its submission to the Cabinet of Ministers and Parliament.
8. The Constitutional Assembly is hereby authorised to conduct its sittings in the Chamber of Parliament,

Provided that the Constitutional Assembly may resolve to sit at any other specified location outside the Western Province.

Provided further that the presentation of papers, moving of resolutions and voting on any matter shall only take place in the Chamber of Parliament.
9. The Steering Committee may seek the services of any institution which services are necessary for the carrying out of the objects of the Constitutional Assembly or any Committee thereof.
10. The Steering Committee may appoint other experts to aid and advise the Constitutional Assembly and / or its various Sub-Committees.

11. The proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly shall be open to the public. The proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and its Sub-Committees shall be documented and published forthwith. Where appropriate, the Constitutional Assembly shall take steps to ensure the broadcast of the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and / or its Sub-Committees.

For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby specifically resolved that the special leave of Parliament is specifically granted in terms of Section 17 of Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act for the publication of the aforesaid matters.

For the avoidance of doubt it is further resolved that the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5 shall be deemed to have been reported to Parliament simultaneously, and that the publication of any such proceedings, which publication is hereby specifically authorized, shall not constitute an offence in terms of Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act.

12. The Constitutional Assembly shall have the power to invite any person for consultation and / or to make submissions before the Constitutional Assembly.
13. The Constitutional Assembly shall also have the power to invite any member of the Public Representations Committee for consultation and / or to make submissions and / or to report on the findings of the Public Representations Committee.
14. Subject to the provisions hereof, the Constitutional Assembly is hereby authorized to determine the procedure and mechanisms to be adopted in the conduct of its business:

Provided that such determination shall be made pursuant to a Resolution moved by the Prime Minister with the concurrence of the Steering Committee.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Standing Orders of Parliament, the rules of procedure of the Constitutional Assembly and its Sub-Committees shall be as set out in this Resolution.

15. Notice of the business of the Constitutional Assembly shall be given by the Prime Minister, such other Minister of the Cabinet nominated from time to time for such purpose by the Prime Minister, upon approval thereof by the Steering Committee.
16. The Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5(b) shall submit their reports to the Steering Committee within ten (10) weeks of the appointment of each such Sub-Committee.
17. Upon the consideration of the Reports of the Sub-Committees appointed under Clause 5(b), and the report of the Public Representations Committee, the Steering Committee shall submit a Report to the Constitutional Assembly. Such Report may be accompanied by a Draft Constitution.
18. The Constitutional Assembly shall thereafter debate the general merits and principles of the Report and the Draft Constitution (if applicable), and may also debate proposed amendments. At the end of such debate the question that "the Steering Committee be required to submit a final report and a Resolution on a Draft Constitution" shall be put to the Constitutional Assembly by the Chair.

19. The Steering Committee shall thereafter, considering the amendments, if any, proposed during the debate, submit a Final Report and a Resolution containing a Draft Constitution for the consideration of the Constitutional Assembly. The Prime Minister shall move that such Final Report and the Resolution containing the Draft Constitution be approved by the Constitutional Assembly.
20. The following procedure shall be adopted during the debate referred to in Clause 18:—

The Chairman or in his absence one of the Deputy Chairmen shall read the number of each Clause in succession.

 - (i) Any amendment may be made to a Clause, or Clauses may be deleted or new Clauses may be added.
 - (ii) The principle of the Draft Constitution shall not be discussed during this stage of the debate but only its details.
 - (iii) No amendment can be proposed inconsistent with any decision come to upon any previous part of the Draft Constitution.
 - (iv) After a Draft Constitution has been read through, and prior to the conclusion of the debate on the Draft, any Member may, with leave of the Chairman, move an amendment of any Clause already passed.
 - (v) A Clause may be postponed, unless upon an amendment thereto a question shall have been fully put from the Chair.
 - (vi) Postponed Clauses shall be considered after the remaining Clauses of the Draft Constitution have been considered and before new Clauses are brought in.
 - (vii) New Clauses may be offered before the Schedules to the Draft Constitution are considered and shall be deemed to have been read the first time. The questions which follow thereupon shall be “That the Clause be read a second time” and “That the Clause (or the Clause as amended) be added to the Draft”.
 - (viii) New Schedules may be offered after the Schedules to the Draft Constitution have been disposed of and shall be treated in the same manner as new Clauses.
 - (ix) When every Clause and Schedule and proposed new Clause or Schedule have been dealt with, the Preamble, if there be one, shall be considered and a question put “That this be the Preamble of the Draft ”.
 - (x) If any amendment be necessary to the title of the Draft Constitution, it shall be made at the conclusion of the proceedings detailed above.
21. The provisions of Standing Order Nos. 42, 43 and 44 of the Parliament shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly.
22. If two-thirds of the Constitutional Assembly does not approve the resolution on the Draft Constitution, the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved.

23. If the Constitutional Assembly approves the Resolution on the Draft Constitution by a two-thirds majority, the Report and the Draft Constitution shall be submitted by the Steering Committee to the Cabinet of Ministers, and thereupon the Constitutional Assembly and the Sub-Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved.
24. The Cabinet of Ministers shall certify the Bill contained in such Report as a Bill to repeal and replace the Constitution as a whole in terms of Article 75(b) and Article 120(b) of the Constitution and that such Bill is intended to be passed with the special majority required by Article 83 of the Constitution and submitted to the People by Referendum.
25. The Bill shall thereafter be published in the Gazette as required by Article 78(1) of the Constitution.
26. The President shall thereafter refer the Bill to every Provincial Council, for the expression of the views of every such Council, as required by Article 154G(2) of the Constitution.
27. The Prime Minister shall thereafter present such Bill to Parliament and such Bill shall be placed on the Order Paper of Parliament.
28. After the presentation of such Bill to Parliament as aforesaid the Prime Minister shall move that the Bill be passed by Parliament by a special majority required under Article 83 of the Constitution.

If not less than two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of Parliament vote in favour of the said Bill, the Speaker shall make an appropriate certification in terms of Article 79 of the Constitution, that the Bill has been duly passed by Parliament by a special majority, and that the Bill shall not become law until approved at a Referendum by the People in whom the sovereignty of Sri Lanka vests.
29. Thereafter the Bill shall be submitted by the President in terms of Article 85(1) of the Constitution, to the People by Referendum for their approval.
30. If the Bill is approved by the People at a Referendum, the Bill shall become law upon the President certifying the Bill in terms of Article 80(2) of the Constitution.
31. The expenses of the Constitutional Assembly, the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5, and the staff and advisors appointed in terms of this Resolution, shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund, and Parliament shall take appropriate steps in respect of same in terms of Article 150 of the Constitution.
32. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the adoption or rejection or adoption subject to amendment of such a Draft Constitution as proposed by the Constitutional Assembly, shall be the responsibility of Parliament.
33. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby further declared that a Constitution Bill shall only be enacted into law if it is passed in Parliament by a special majority of two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of Parliament, including those not present and subsequently approved by the people at a Referendum as required by Article 83 of the Constitution.”

Question again proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine moved,— That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 11.41 a. m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,— That the debate do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to.

The debate adjourned accordingly; debate to be resumed on a future date.

9. Adjournment : And it being past 1.30 p. m. the Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member without question put.

The Parliament was at 2.30 p.m. adjourned accordingly until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on this day.