



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 170.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 at 1.00 p. 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. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

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

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. Harin Fernando, Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure

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

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce

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

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

Hon. Tilak Marapana, Minister of Development Assignments

Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Minister of Disaster Management

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

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training

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

Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management

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 Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Minister of Regional Development

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake, State Minister of Lands

Hon. Mohan Lal Grero, State Minister of Higher Education

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. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne, State Minister of Science, Technology and Research

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

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. Faizal Cassim, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment

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

Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Minister of Buddhasasana

Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training

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

Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

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. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekera

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Siripala Gamalath

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Edward Gunasekara

Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Arumugan Thondaman
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothingam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Acting 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 : (1) Speaker made the following announcement:-

I

“I wish to inform to the House that I have received the determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Registration of Electors (Special Provisions)’ which had been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has determined that neither the Bill nor any provision thereof is inconsistent with the Constitution. The Supreme Court further stated that the definition of ‘internally displaced person’ be amended as stated in the determination.

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

II

“I wish to inform the Parliament that I have received a copy of a petition filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled ‘Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) (Amendment)’.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Performance Report of the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs for the year 2016;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Department of Census and Statistics for the year 2016; and
- (iii) Performance Report of the Department of External Resources for the year 2016.

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Prime Minister’s Office for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report of the Department of Treasury Operations for the year 2016;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Department of Management Audit for the year 2016;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Department of State Accounts for the year 2016;

- (iv) 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
(Excise Notification No. 992); and
- (v) 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.
(Excise Notification No. 994)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Performance Report of the Office of the Leader of the Opposition of Parliament for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27 (1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of a Department of Psychology in the Faculty of Arts of University of Peradeniya and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2015/45 of 19th April 2017; and
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27 (1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of a Department of Radiology in the Faculty of Medicine of University of Peradeniya and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2015/46 of 19th April 2017.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2016;
- (ii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of Kegalle District Secretariat for the year 2016;

- (iii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of Moneragala District Secretariat for the year 2016;
- (iv) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of Ampara District Secretariat for the year 2016; and
- (v) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of Jaffna District Secretariat for the year 2016.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Public Administration and Management presented the Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Public Administration and Management for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe presented a petition dated 04.04.2017 from Mrs. Manoja Samaraweera of No. 03, Marina Avenue, Colombo 7.
- (2) Hon. Lucky Jayawardana presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 11.03.2017 from Mr. A. G. Dharmasena of No. 94/2, Moragahamula, Mada Mahanuware;
 - (ii) a petition dated 01.04.2017 from Mr. A.M.S. Adhikari of No. 115, Aluth Gedara, Galwetikanda;
 - (iii) a petition dated 22.04.2017 from Ms. E.M. Ranmal Kumari Ekanayaka of Uyatenna, Poppitiya, Udadumbara;
 - (iv) a petition dated 22.04.2017 from Mrs. E.M.P.W.L.B. Ekanayaka of No. 47, Oyathenna, Poppitiya, Udadumbara; and
 - (v) a petition dated 04.05.2017 from Mr. K.M.P.C. Bandara of No. 335/3, Angunawala, Peradeniya.
- (3) Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna presented a petition dated 22.12.2016 from Mr. R.M.D. Sirisena of No. 238, Samanabedda, Thiththapaththara.
- (4) Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna presented a petition dated 21.04.2017 from Mrs. B.W.D.M.K. Dharmakeerthi of No. 401, Katupotha, Bambaragaswewa, Galewela.
- (5) Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe presented a petition dated 27.03.2017 from Mr. K.G.M. Dissanayaka of Viyalapitiya, Bulathkohupitiya.

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

4. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No.7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(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.

5. Adjournment (Co-sponsoring United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution of 23rd March, 2017) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

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

The Minister of Sports moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.25 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardena do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.03 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardena took the Chair.)

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

The Parliament accordingly adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 07, 2017.