



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 57.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, March 09, 2016 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. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and
Economic Affairs

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

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

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

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

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

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

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake, Minister of Finance

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

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

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

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

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 Agriculture

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

- Hon. S. B. Nawinne**, Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs
- Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera**, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife
- Hon. Harin Fernando**, Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
- Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha**, Minister of Science, Technology and Research
- Hon. Sajith Premadasa**, Minister of Housing and Construction
- 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. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Ports and Shipping
- Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe**, Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**, Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training
- Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**, Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
- Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**, Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations
- Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management
- Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**, Minister of Prisons 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. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development
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- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Finance
- Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**, State Minister of Lands
- Hon. Mohan Lal Grero**, State Minister of Higher Education
- Hon. Piyanara Jayaratne**, State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government
- Hon. Dilan Perera**, State Minister of Highways

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

Hon. A. D. Premadasa, State Minister of Industry and Commerce Affairs

Hon. Palitha Range Bandara, State Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training

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

Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence

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

Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera, State Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

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 Megapolis and Western Development

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

Hon. Dunesh Gankanda, Deputy Minister of Disaster Management

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

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 Foreign Affairs

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

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

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

Hon. Ajith P. Perera, Deputy Minister of Power and Renewable Energy

Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Arundika Fernando, Deputy Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs

Hon. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage, Deputy Minister of Ports and Shipping Affairs
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare
Hon. Nimal Lanza, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development
Hon. Duleep Wijsekera, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
Hon. H. M. M. Harees, Deputy Minister of Sports

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Dilum Amunugama
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Chandima Gamage
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Arumugan Thondaman
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
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. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
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. Johnston Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor

Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Tilak Marapana
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. 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. 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. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
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. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Sivasakthy Ananthan
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Ali Zahir Moulana Seyed
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Air Force for the year 2014.

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

(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) read with Section 213D of the Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1946/10 of 22nd December 2015.

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

(3) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board for the year 2012, and moved that this Report be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Sports under Section 34 read with Section 3 of the Convention against Doping in Sport Act, No. 33 of 2013 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1950/1 of 18th January 2016.

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

2. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 20.01.2016 from Ms. H. D. Piyaseeli of No. 348/1, Welpalla;
 - (ii) a petition dated 10.10.2015 from Ms. J. H. M. Kirimenike of Rathmalgoda, Polgahawela;
 - (iii) a petition dated 15.10.2015 from Mrs. P. A. Suwindini Dharshika Alwis of Land Use Planning Office, Kurunegala; and
 - (iv) a petition dated 21.12.2015 from Mr. W. P. Premasiri Jayalath of Pahala Kandegedara, Waddegama, Wewagama, Kuliyapitiya.
- (2) Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka presented a petition dated 16.11.2015 from Mr. B. A. D. C. G. Jayathilake of No. 132, Old Police Rd., Kahathuduwa, Polgasowita.
- (3) Hon. Piya Nishantha De Silva presented a petition dated 14.10.2015 from Mr. N. K. Sujith Samantha De Silva of No. 51/D, Mullapitiya, Beruwala.
- (4) Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor presented a petition dated 12.01.2016 from Mr. M. A. M. Hasheem of No. 213, 5/6 Common Road, Akkaraipattu - 18.

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

3. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved moved,— That notwithstanding the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sitting this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana seconded by the Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Sethsada Yoga Nikethanaye Karya Baraya.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order No. 47(5) of the Parliament to the Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare for report.

5. Resolution for the appointment of the Constitutional Assembly : Order read for resuming 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 Law and Order and Southern Development moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.40 p. m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

The Minister of Plantation Industries moved,— That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.55 p. m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The State Minister of City Planning and Water Supply moved,— That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.04 p. m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation moved,— That Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.18 p. m. Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.10 p. m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

(At 5.43 p. m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways proposed the following amendments:—

1. In paragraph 1 on page 1, delete the word 'new'.
2. Delete paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 on page 1.
3. Add the words "have the powers of a committee of the whole Parliament" and" after the words "Constitutional Assembly which shall" in paragraph 5 on page 1 (item 1) and delete the word 'new'.
4. Delete clause 4 on page 2 and substitute the following:

“4.

- a. The Constitutional Assembly may appoint or call for experts in any field, or profession where deemed necessary by the Constitutional Assembly.
- b. There shall be —
 - (i) An Additional Secretary to the Constitutional Assembly, appointed by the Constitutional Assembly

- (ii) Staff for the purpose of recording the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in Clause 5;
- (iii) 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 the 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. Delete the words “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” in item 5 a. on page 2, and substitute therefor the words “twenty one (21)”.
6. Add the words “, one of whom shall be the Chairman” at the end of the first paragraph of item 5 a on page 2.
7. Delete the word “new” in the second paragraph of item 5 a on page 2.
8. Delete the words “a. elect the Deputy Chairmen;” in clause 6 on page 2.
9. Delete the words “Prime Minister” in item 7 on page 2 and substitute therefor the word “Chairman of the Steering Committee”.
10. Delete the word “first” in item 7 on page 2 and substitute therefor the word “next”.
11. Delete the word “Constitution” in item 7 on page 2 and substitute therefor the word “Constitutional Proposal”.
12. Delete both provisos to clause 8 on page 3.
13. Delete clause 13 on page 3 and renumber the balance clause accordingly.
14. Delete the words “Prime Minister” in the second paragraph of item 14 on page 3 and substitute therefor the word “Chairman of the Steering Committee”.
15. Delete the words “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” in item 14 on page 3, and substitute therefor, the following words “ Unless suspended by Parliament, the Standing Orders of Parliament shall apply to the Proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly subject to the provisions of this resolution.”.
16. Clause 15 on page 3 to be deleted and substitute with the following:
“Notice of the business of the Constitutional Assembly shall be given by the Chairman upon approval thereof by the Steering Committee”
17. Add the words “, or such further time granted by the Steering Committee” at the end of item 16 on page 3.

18. Delete the words “Draft Constitution” in terms 17, 18 and 19 on page 4 and substitute therefor in each place where such words appeared, the words “Draft Constitutional Proposal”

19. Delete the words “and the report of the Public Representations Committee,” in Clause 17 on page 4 and substitute the words “and the views of the public” in places thereof.

20. Delete items 20 - 29 on pages 4 - 5 and substitute the following paragraphs:

“19. If a simple majority of the Constitutional Assembly does not approve the resolution on the Draft Constitutional Proposal, the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved.

20. If only a simple majority of the Constitutional Assembly approves the resolution on the Draft Constitutional Proposal, the resolution shall be referred to the Parliament, and, if a special majority of Parliament approves the Report and the Draft Constitutional Proposal within one month, the Draft Constitutional Proposal shall be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers, and the provisions of clause 23 hereof shall thereafter apply, and the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved.

21. If Constitutional Assembly approves the Resolution on the Draft Constitutional Proposal by a two-thirds majority, the Report and the Draft Constitutional Proposal shall be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers. The Report and the Draft Constitutional Proposal shall also be presented to Parliament. Thereupon the Constitutional Assembly and the Sub-Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved. Thereafter the provisions of the Constitution relating to the enactment of such a Bill shall be followed”

and renumber the balance paragraphs accordingly.

21. Delete clause 32 on page 6.

Question that the amendments be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Accordingly, question that the motion as amended agreed to, put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.20 p. m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, March 10, 2016, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 08th March, 2016.