



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 59.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, March 11, 2016 at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, Deputy Speaker and 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

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

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. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. S. B. Dissanayake, Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare

Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and
Wildlife

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

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

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

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

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

- Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**, Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations
- 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. P. Harrison**, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development
- Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**, State Minister of Lands
- Hon. Piyanakara 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. 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. A. H. M. Fowzie**, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation
- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**, Deputy Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
- Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
- 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. Arundika Fernando**, Deputy Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- Hon. Duleep Wijesekera**, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs
- Hon. H. M. M. Harees**, Deputy Minister of Sports
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Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Dilum Amunugama
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Chandima Gamage
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. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan

Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
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. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. M. H. M. Salman

Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Ali Zahir Moulana Seyed
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
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

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. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented a petition dated 03.02.2016 from Mr. H. A. R. Wasantha of No. 153, 7th Lane, Siddamulla, Piliyandala.
- (2) Hon. Arundika Fernando presented a petition dated 07.11.2015 from Mr. K. A. Kwintan Dias Appuhamy of Kobbakaduwa Mawatha, Haaldanduwana, Dankotuwa.
- (3) Hon. Bimal Rathnayake presented a petition dated 26.11.2015 from Mrs. S. Praissoody of No. 189, Manipay Road, Jaffna.
- (4) Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran presented a petition dated 02.10.2015 from Mr. C. Sambasivam of No. 38, Sinna Uppodai Road, Batticaloa.
- (5) Hon. Mohamed Navavi presented a petition dated 17.01.2016 from Mr. T. Ponnambalam of No. 113/23, Behind Hospital, Jaya Mawatha, Kurunegala Road, Puttlam.

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

2. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the Government Business do have precedence this day.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 23rd March 2016.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act (No.1) : The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979, relating to Cess and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1941/32 of 20th November 2015, which was presented on 10.02.2016, be approved.

The Minister of Home Affairs moved,— That Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 12.15 p. m. Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri took the Chair.)

The Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri seconded by the Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera moved,— That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.30 p. m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.18 p. m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Minister of Regional Development moved,— That Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.15 p. m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake took the Chair.)

The Minister of Rural Economic Affairs moved,— That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.40 p. m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

(At 6.03 p. m. Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act (No.2) : The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979, relating to Cess and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1941/33 of 20th November 2015, which was presented on 10.02.2016, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act (No.3) : The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade,— That the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979, relating to Cess and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1944/54 of 11th December 2015, which was presented on 10.02.2016, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. National Minimum Wage of Workers Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to.

Clause 3

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations proposed an amendment to leave out lines 22 to 25 (both inclusive) in page 1.

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

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clauses 4 to 13 were agreed to.

Clause 14

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations proposed an amendment to leave out line 8 in page 10 and insert the following:-

“or of apprenticeship excluding a contract of apprenticeship covered under the Tertiary and Vocational Education Act, No. 20 of 1990 and the Employment of Trainees (Private Sector) Act, No. 8 of 1978, or a contract personally to”.

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

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 15 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

8. Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to.

Clause 3

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations proposed an amendment to leave out lines 28 to 32 (both inclusive) in page 4 and insert the following:-

“(a) a Collective Agreement entered into under the Industrial Disputes Act (Chapter 131), which is in force on the date of coming in to operation of this Act and which contains provisions relating to increase of wages;
or

(b) an order under subsection (2) of section 10 of the Industrial Disputes Act, extending the application of a Collective Agreement referred to in paragraph (a) in respect of such worker,”;

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

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations proposed another amendment to leave out lines 13 and 14 in page 5 and insert the following:-

“ relevant declining economic conditions prevailing in relation to any industry or service, in consultation with the Minister assigned the subject of Industry and the Minister assigned the subject of Economic Affairs, defer by Order published in the *Gazette*, ”;

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

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clauses 4 to 13 were agreed to.

Clause 14

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations proposed an amendment to leave out line 24 in page 14 and insert the following:-

“ apprenticeship excluding a contract of apprenticeship covered under the Tertiary and Vocational Education Act, No. 20 of 1990 and the Employment of Trainees (Private Sector) Act, No. 8 of 1978, or a contract personally to”.

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

Question that the Clause as amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clause 15 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.33 p. m. adjourned until 1.00 p. m. on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on this day.