



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 157.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, March 24, 2017 at 10.30 a. m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees

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

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

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media
and 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. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

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

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

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

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

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

Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Minister of Disaster Management

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. 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. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Minister of Regional Development

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture

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

Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways

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

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

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

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

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. Eran Wickramaratne, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
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. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda

Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
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. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh

Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi

Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Acting Secretary-General of Parliament

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement,—

“Your attention is kindly drawn to the following facts in order to ensure that the dignity of the Parliament is maintained.

I would like to draw the attention of all Hon. Members of Parliament to the fact that the Standing Orders of Parliament clearly sets out rules that Hon. Members shall observe when speaking in Parliament such as those which stipulate that every member must confine his observations to the subject under discussion, no member shall refer to any other member by name, and no member shall impute improper motives to any other member.

However, after studying the relevant extracts from the Hansard, I have observed that some of the Members had continued to speak in an indecent and insulting manner damaging the dignity and the decorum of this august assembly and leveling unfair, false and baseless allegations at the Hon. Prime Minister and other Members on 22 March 2017 and I am very sad to note that the Standing Orders of Parliament have been deliberately violated.

I would like to inform that I have already made aware the Parliamentarians, the seriousness of such acts and the negative impact it causes on the dignity of Members.

I would like to draw the special attention of all honorable Members, such behaviors within the legislature, which is the supreme authority of democracy, damages its decorum and are against the longstanding traditions, practices and rules set out in Standing Orders of Parliament.

I would also like to mention that a descent view point against any Parliamentarian can be made in accordance with the Parliamentary tradition and standing orders of the Parliament.

I emphasize honorable Members of both the ruling party and the opposition not to insult as well as to prevent from making baseless allegations and to preserve each other's respect in this august assembly while being mindful to take part in the debates patiently and to act in this august assembly in accordance with the rules and traditions mentioned in standing orders of the Parliament.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Report on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.02.2017 to 28.02.2017 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016 and moved that these Supplementary Allocations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Industry and Commerce including the new subsection (ix) published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1998/11 of 20th December 2016, amending the Section 2(i) (b) relating to the Companies (Secretaries) Regulations under Section 527 of the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007 published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 471/6 of 14th September 1987 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Ceylon Fertilizer Company Ltd 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.

(4) The Minister of Rural Economic Affairs presented the Annual Report of the Paddy Marketing Board for the year 2012 and moved that this report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication on “National Transport Commission (Amendment) Bill”, “Regulations under the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971” and “Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Transport Board for the year 2012” referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 29.08.2016 from Mrs. Sajeewani Gomes of 11 Mile post, Perahera Mawatha, Buttala; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 27.09.2016 from Mr. T.H. Ashoka de Mel of No: 108/A, Elhena Road, Maharagama.
- (2) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 09.01.2017 from Mr. A.M.I. Kumarasinghe of No. 508/4, Moragala, Eheliyagida;
 - (ii) a petition dated 05.12.2016 from Mr. K.G.R. Dias of No. 26/11, 3rd Lane, Palliyawatta, Hendala, Wattala;
 - (iii) a petition dated 31.12.2016 from Mr. R.M. Nimal Chandrasiri serving in Textile Centre, Bulanawewa, Devahuwa; and
 - (iv) a petition dated 01.12.2016 from Mrs. W. Ariyawathie of No. 54/4/A, Mahawaladeniya, Hingurala, Puwakpitiya.
- (3) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 07.03.2017 from Mrs. A. A. Priyakanthi of No. 1036, Zone No. 4, Millenium City, Athurugiriya; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 06.02.2017 from Mr. D. M. Dissanyaka of No. 4/15, Lumbini Mawatha, Dalugama, Kelaniya.

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

5. Votes of Condolence : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,— The Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka, former Prime Minister and ex-Member of Parliament.

(At 2.30 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The vote of condolence is adjourned for an another day.

6. Adjournment (Strengthening Health Care Service) : The Leader of the House moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.55 p.m. Hon. J.M. Ananda Kumarasiri took the Chair.)

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 5.26 p. m. adjourned until 1.00 p. m. on Tuesday, April 04, 2017.