



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 69.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, May 17, 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. (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. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media
and the Chief Government Whip

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. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

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. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Minister of Disaster Management

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

Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Ports and Shipping

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. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Foreign Affairs

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

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

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

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. P. Harrison, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

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

Hon. Mohan Lal Grero, State Minister of Higher Education

Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne, State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways

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

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

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

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

Hon. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management

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

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

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. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital
Infrastructure

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. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Chandima Gamage
Hon. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
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. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda

Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharooft
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
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. Heshan Withanage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Ali Zahir Moulana Seyed
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka 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 Speaker took the Chair.

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

I

“In terms of paragraphs 8 (d) and (e) of the Resolution adopted by the Parliament on 19th December 2015, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. Tilak Marapana, MP, to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development in place of the Hon. Vadivel Suresh, MP, who had tendered his resignation.”

II

“In terms of paragraphs 8 (d) and (e) of the Resolution adopted by the Parliament on 19th December 2015, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. Vadivel Suresh, MP to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development in place of the Hon. Mujibur Rahuman, MP who had tendered his resignation.”

III

“In terms of paragraphs 8 (d) and (e) of the Resolution adopted by the Parliament on 19th December 2015, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, MP to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources in place of the Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, MP who had tendered his resignation.”

IV

“In terms of paragraphs 8 (d) and (e) of the resolution adopted by the Parliament on 19th December 2015, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. S. M. Marikkar, MP to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations in place of the Hon. M. H. M. Salman, MP who had tendered his resignation.”

V

“In terms of paragraphs 8 (d) and (e) of the resolution adopted by the Parliament on 19th December 2015, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. Vijitha Herath, MP to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands in place of the Hon. Bimal Rathnayake, MP who had tendered his resignation.”

VI

“In terms of Standing Order No. 129(c) of the Parliament, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, MP to serve in the Committee on Public Enterprises in place of the Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, who had tendered his resignation.”

VII

“In terms of Standing Order No. 129(c) of the Parliament, the Committee of Selection has nominated the Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, MP to serve in the Committee on Public Accounts in place of the Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, who had tendered his resignation.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented,—

- (i) the Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27(1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the establishment of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1948/58 of 8th January 2016;
- (ii) the Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27(1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the establishment of the Sabaragamuwa University, Sri Lanka on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1954/45 of 19th February 2016;
- (iii) the Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27(1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the establishment of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1960/8 of 29th March 2016;
- (iv) the Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 20(4) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1960/10 of 29th March 2016; and

- (v) the Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 20(4) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1960/11 of 29th March 2016.

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

(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Disaster Management for the year 2015.

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

(3) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Cultural Affairs for the year 2014.

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

3. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. John Amaratunga presented a petition dated 14.02.2016 from Mr. U.H.M. Sarath Wimalasiri of No.637, Thuduwe Gedara, Ragama.
- (2) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 01.03.2016 from Mr. J. M. P. Jayasinghe of No. 50/1 B, Dambarawa, Pilawala; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 07.02.2016 from Mr. L. P. Karunaratna of No. 145, Pushparama Mawatha, Pahala Biyanwala, Kadawatha.
- (3) Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne presented a petition dated 10.02.2016 from Mr. L. K. Nimal Gnanathilaka of No. 132/A, Panadura Road, Urathudawa, Anguruwathota.
- (4) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 19.12.2015 from Mr. R.A.S. Ranasinghe Arachchi of “Rohitha”, 22nd Post, 3rd Unit, Badulu Oya, Badulla;
 - (ii) a petition dated 16.11.2015 from Mr. T. M. Wijeratna of Keerapathdeniya, Welligepola, Balangoda; and
 - (iii) a petition dated 09.10.2015 from Mr. W.R.A. Silva of “Silva Rest”, Kalamulla, Kalutara.
- (5) Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe presented a petition dated 03.03.2016 from Mr. A. S. Hettiarachchi of No. 160/4, Koswatta, Nawala.

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

4. National Research Council of Sri Lanka : The Minister of Science, Technology and Research presented,— “Bill to provide for the establishment of a council to be called and known as the National Research Council of Sri Lanka for the purpose of fostering and sustaining a science and technology research culture and community in Sri Lanka and facilitating research programmes that will contribute to the National Development Agenda, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 07, 2016 and to be printed.

5. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of 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 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.

6. Adjournment (Current Status of Sri Lankan Airlines) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 2.22 p. m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Megapolis and Western Development moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.00 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Minister of Ports and Shipping moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.43 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

(At 5.28 p. m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

And it being 6.30 p. m. the Parliament was adjourned by the Deputy Chairman of Committees without question put.

The Parliament adjourned accordingly until 1.00 p. m. on Wednesday, May 18, 2016.