



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 88.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

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

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

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

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

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

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. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

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

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

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. Anuradha Jayaratne, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment

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

Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural 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. Tharanath Basnayaka, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development

Hon. Duleep Wijesekera, 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. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda 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. Siripala Gamalath

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardana

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Edward Gunasekara

Hon. Padma Udayashantha 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. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana

Hon. Lucky Jayawardana

Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah

Hon. K. Thuraiatretnasingam

Hon. M. S. Thowfeek

Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
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. (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. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharoof
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. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
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. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Sivasakthy Ananthan
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Vijitha 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

“I wish to inform that I have in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, endorsed the certificate on the following Bills:-

on 27th July 2016:-

Homoeopathy;

National Research Council of Sri Lanka; and

on 04th August 2016:-

Right to Information”

II

“I wish to announce to the House that, I have received the decision of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill titled ‘**Value Added Tax (Amendment)**’ which has been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121 of the Constitution.

The Court has determined that the provisions contained in Article 152 of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 133 of the Parliament are imperative in character and the failure to follow them render the subsequent proceedings nullity.

Since the due process had not been complied with in terms of Article 78 (2) and 152 in the Constitution before the bill was introduced in Parliament, the Supreme Court has made in terms of Articles 120 and 121 read with Article 123 and 152 of the Constitution, that no determination would be made at this stage on the ground of challenge raised by the petitioners.

I direct that the decision of the Supreme Court be printed in the official report of today’s proceedings.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Ranaviru Seva Authority for the year 2013 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Ocean University - National Institute of Fisheries and Nautical Engineering for the year 2012 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Finance presented,—

- (i) the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1964/70 of 29th April 2016;
- (ii) the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 C of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1965/2 of 02nd May 2016;
- (iii) the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 C of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1967/5 of 16th May 2016;
- (iv) the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1967/52 of 19th May 2016;
- (v) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1950/30 of 20th January 2016;
- (vi) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1951/28 of 28th January 2016;
- (vii) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1956/10 of 29th February 2016;
- (viii) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1957/5 of 8th March 2016;
- (ix) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity

Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1960/59 of 01st April 2016;

- (x) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1966/26 of 12th May 2016;
- (xi) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1967/57 of 20th May 2016;
- (xii) the Order made by the Minister of Finance relating to the Special Commodity Levy under Section 2 Sub Section 3 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1971/22 of 16th June 2016; and
- (xiii) the Resolution under Section 10 of Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to import duties published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1971/23 of 16th June 2016; and
- (xiv) the Performance Report of the Department of Public Enterprises for the year 2015;

and moved that these Papers and the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Performance Report of Ministry of Rural Economic Affairs for the year 2015 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.

(6) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of Sri Lankan Airlines for the year 2014/15 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Public Administration and Management presented the Annual Performance Report and Accounts of Department of Pensions for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Supplementary Estimate No. 02 of 2016 and moved that this Estimate be referred to the

Committee on Public Finance and to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Sunil Handunnetti, Chairman of the Committee on Public Enterprises presented the First Report of the Committee on Public Enterprises for the period from 26th January 2016 to 08th April 2016 for the First Session of the Eighth Parliament.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

(2) Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana, Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce on the matter related to, “Regulations under the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act” referred to the said Committee.

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

(3) Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare, Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations on the draft Statute of the Sabaragamuwa Province entitled, “Sabaragamuwa Provincial Tourist Bureau” referred to the said Committee.

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

The Secretary-General of Parliament was directed to forward the views of the Parliament on the Draft Statute to the Sabaragamuwa Province under Standing Order No. 46A (3) (b) of the Parliament.

4. Petitions :

(1) Hon. Abdul Haleem presented —

- (i) A petition dated 22.03.2016 from Mr. H. Gunasekara of No.716, Senarathgama, Katugasthota;
- (ii) A petition dated 23.05.2016 from Mr. K. G. N. P. H. M. I. Mohomad of No. 07, Telecom Road, Kurundugaha Ela, Akurana; and
- (iii) A petition dated 21.03.2016 from Mr. S. B. M. H. D. Samarakoon of No. 13/A, Diddeniya, Pujapitiya, Kandy.

(2) Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran presented a petition dated 05.10.2015 from Mr. M. Ratnasingam of No. 44 C, Hena Road, Mount Lavinia.

(3) Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe presented—

- (i) A petition dated 06.06.2016 from Mr. Ashoka Mahadivulwewa of No. 388/52, Harischandra Mawatha, Anuradhapura.;
- (ii) A petition dated 20.04.2016 from Mrs. Sriyani Munaweera of No. 266, Hokandara South, Sinhapura; and
- (iii) A petition dated 03.05.2016 from Mrs. W. A. P. M. H. Abeykoon of

No. 148, Hindagala, Peradeniya.

(4) Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare presented—

(i) A petition dated 23.04.2016 from Ms. P. G. M. Mallika Wickramasinghe of No. 140, Guralawela-North, Ukuwela; and

(ii) A petition dated 13.05.2016 from Mr. S. A. R. Premasiri of Bomaluwa, Medabedda, Wasalakotte.

(5) Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana presented—

(i) A petition dated 08.05.2016 from Mrs. P. D. Klera Merians of St. Anthony Mawatha, Kuda Payagala, Payagala; and

(ii) A petition dated 14.03.2016 from Mrs. S. A. Wijesekara of Ranawirugama, Dobagoda, Horana.

(6) Hon. M. S. Thowfeek presented a petition dated 02.02.2016 from Mr. S. Subramaniam of No. 748, Potkerny, Thampalagamam.

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

5. Appropriation (Amendment) : The Minister of Finance presented,— “Bill to amend the Appropriation Act, No. 16 of 2015.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Law Commission (Amendment) : The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana presented,— “Bill to amend the Law Commission Act, No. 3 of 1969.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, August 23, 2016 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

7. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. K. K. Piyadasa seconded by Hon. A. A. Wijethunga moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Lasallian Community Education Services.”

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.

8. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero seconded by Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Rajitha Senarathne Foundation.”

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.

9. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage seconded by Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Lak Janasetha Foundation.”

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.

(At 2.55 p. m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair)

10. Fiscal Management (Responsibility) (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Finance moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question proposed, and debated.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.40 p.m. Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.45 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

(At 6.05 p. m. the Speaker took the Chair)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Finance 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 Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 3 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

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

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Finance moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

11. Adjournment (Formulation of National Evaluation Policy on Development):

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

Question proposed, and debated.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.25 p. m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.17 p. m. adjourned until 1.00 p. m. on Wednesday, August 10, 2016.

