



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 148.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 1.00 p. m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

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 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 Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

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. 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. 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. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Foreign Affairs

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. P. Harrison, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Minister of Regional Development

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture

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

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. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardana

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Edward Gunasekara

Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Arumugan Thondaman
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara 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. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
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. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Tilak Marapana

Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheśwaran
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
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. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavaritham Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah

Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti

Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath

Hon. Kanaka 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 announcement:-

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the following Bills on 21 February 2017, in terms of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka:—

Medical (Amendment)

Divineguma (Amendment)”

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

- (i) Annual Report & Accounts of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka for the year 2013;
- (ii) Annual Report of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka for the year 2013;
- (iii) Annual Report of the University of Jaffna for the year 2013;
- (iv) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka for the year 2014;
- (v) Annual Report of the University of Peradeniya for the year 2014;
- (vi) Annual Report of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura for the year 2014;
- (vii) Annual Report & Accounts of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka for the year 2014;

- (viii) Annual Report of the Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies, University of Kelaniya for the year 2014;
- (ix) Annual Report of the University of Colombo School of Computing for the year 2014;
- (x) Annual Report of the National Centre for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (NCAS), Sri Lanka for the year 2014; and
- (xi) Annual Reports of the University of the Visual and Performing Arts for the years 2013 and 2014.

and moved that these reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Vijitha Herath, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands on “Regulations under the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460)”, which was referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented—
 - (i) a petition dated 09.01.2017 from Mr. H. P. Indrasena of No. 382/1 A, Wathuliyadda, Uduwela; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 05.01.2017 from Mr. Premasiri Waduge of No. 206/6, Balika Nivasa Road, Rukmalgama, Pannipitiya.
- (2) Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna presented a petition dated 31.08.2016 from Mr. W. Chamila Sanjeeewa of No. 527/A, Ihala Biyanwila, Kadawatha.

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

5. National Transport Commission (Amendment) : The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation presented,—“Bill to amend the National Transport Commission Act, No.37 of 1991.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, March 07, 2017 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No.7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 7.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Leave to introduce Bill (No.1) : Hon. M. S. Thowfeek seconded by Hon. Hector Appuhamy moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Institute of Chartered Corporate Secretaries of Sri Lanka”

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. Adjournment (Current Status of the Reconciliation Process): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 2.45 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.40 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Industry and Commerce moved,—That Hon. J. M. Ananda Kuamarasiri do take the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.55 p.m. Hon. J. M. Ananda Kuamarasiri took the Chair.)

Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne, seconded by Hon. Mujibur Rahuman moved,— That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.26 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

And it being 7.30 p.m. the Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member without question put.

The Parliament was adjourned accordingly until 10.30 a. m. on Thursday, February 23, 2017, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 08th March, 2016.