



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 140.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 9.30 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. 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. Lakshman Kiriella, Minister of Higher Education and Highways and 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. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation

Hon. Palany Thigambaram, Minister of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community Development

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, Minister of Agriculture

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 Premajyantha**, 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. Faiszer Musthapha**, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government
- 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. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakse**, Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**, Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
- 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. Kabir Hashim**, Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- Hon. P. Harrison**, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development
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- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Finance
- Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**, State Minister of Lands
- Hon. Mohan Lal Grero**, State Minister of Higher Education

Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways

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. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, Deputy Minister of Foreign 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. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage, Deputy Minister of Ports and Shipping
Affairs

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

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development

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. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Padma Udhayashantha 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. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana

Hon. Premalal Jayasekara

Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah

Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam

Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon

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. 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. 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. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana

Hon. K. Kader Masthan

Hon. Imran Maharroof

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma

Hon. Tilak Marapana

Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
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. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavaroatham Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran

Hon. Vadivel Suresh

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

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented,— the Oversight Plan of the Sectoral Oversight Committees in terms of paragraph 2(e) of the Resolution which was passed by Parliament on 19th December 2015.

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

(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented,— The Regulations made by the Minister of Lands under Paragraph (f) of Sub-section (2) of Section 63 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) amending the Regulation 4(2) of the Land Acquisition (Payment of Compensation) of 2013 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1993/26 of 18th November 2016 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife presented,— The Performance Report of the Department of Wildlife Conservation 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.

(4) The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation presented the Annual Report of the National Transport Medical Institute for the Year 2013 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Shrama Vasana Fund for the Year 2012 and moved this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the “S L T CAMPUS (PVT) LTD” as a Degree Awarding Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1995/39 of 02nd December 2016; and
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27(1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of a Department of Languages in the Faculty of Engineering of University of Moratuwa and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1991/44 of 03rd November 2016;

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the University of Peradeniya for the year 2013;
- (ii) Annual Report of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura for the year 2013;
- (iii) Annual Report and Accounts of the University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka for the year 2013;
- (iv) Annual Report & Accounts of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for the year 2013;
- (v) Annual Report of the Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya for the year 2013;
- (vi) Annual Report of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences - University of Colombo for the year 2013;
- (vii) Annual Report of the University of Colombo Institute for Agro-Technology and Rural Sciences for the year 2013;
- (viii) Annual Report of the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka for the year 2014;
- (ix) Annual Report of the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka for the year 2014;
- (x) Annual Report & Statement of Account of the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka for the year 2014;
- (xi) Annual Report & Annual Accounts of the Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa for the year 2014;
- (xii) Annual Reports and Annual Accounts of the Institute of Human Resource Advancement University of Colombo, Sri Lanka for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (xiii) Annual Reports of the Gampaha Wickramarachchi Ayurveda Institute, University of Kelaniya for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (xiv) Annual Reports of the Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies, Eastern University, Sri Lanka for the years 2013 and 2014; and
- (xv) Annual Reports of the University of Ruhuna for the years 2012 and 2013.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Science, Technology and Research presented the Annual Report of the Industrial Technology Institute for the Year 2014 and moved this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Ceylon - German Technical Training Institute for the Year 2013 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine under Section 142 of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act, No. 5 of 2015 read with Section 118 of the said Act, relating to ceiling on prices and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1989/61 of 21st October 2016 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the—

- (i) Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget - 2016 as at 31.12.2016 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 16 of 2015;
- (ii) Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 22(2) of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) on exempting the payment of excise duty on foreign liquor imported for the purpose of re-export or to sell at duty free shops for foreign currency with effect from 04th October 2016 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1987/5 of 03rd October 2016 (Excise Notification No. 990);
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Sub-section 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to special commodity levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1992/27 of 10th November 2016; and
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 10 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to import duties and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1992/26 of 10th November 2016;

and moved that these Supplementary Allocations, Notification and Orders be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Industry and Commerce under Section 527 of the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007 read with Section 477 of the said Act and Regulations made under Section 19 of the Societies Ordinance (Chapter 123) No. 16 of 1891 read with the Societies Ordinance (Amendment) Act, No.11 of 2005 relating to the Companies (Fees) and Societies (Fees) and published in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 1990/12 of 25th October 2016 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce.

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Public Enterprise Development presented the Annual Report of the National Savings Bank for the year 2015 and moved this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the State Development & Construction Corporation for the Year 2012 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(15) The Minister of Prisons Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs presented the Annual Reports & Statements of Accounts of the Rehabilitation Authority for the Years 2013 and 2014 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Reconciliation and North & East Reconstruction.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka presented a petition dated 15.11.2016 from Mr. S. Dananssuriya of No. 108, Bandarawatta, Kubaloluwa, Veyangoda.
- (2) Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe presented a petition dated 10.11.2016 from Mrs. D. M. S. I. K. Dissanayake of No. 3/246, Munamale Mawatha, Negambo Road, Kurunegala.
- (3) Hon. Gamini Lokuge presented a petition dated 17.11.2016 from Mr. W. A. Albert Singho of No. 504, Aluth Para, Gedabuwana, Piliyandala.
- (4) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented a petition dated 20.07.2016 from Mrs. Kaluarachchi Kusumawathie of Temple Road, Dambadeniya.
- (5) Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe presented a petition dated 03.11.2016 from Mr. A. A. Ranasinghe of No. C 3/1, Abuwangala, Imbulgasdeniya.

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

3. Sittings of the Parliament (No.1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motions agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016 and 09.01.2017, the hours of sittings of Parliament on Tuesday, 24th January, 2017, shall be 9.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 10.30 a.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Sittings of the Parliament (No.2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That the sitting hours agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016 shall apply for Wednesday 25th, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th of January, 2017.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne seconded by Hon. Buddhika Pathirana moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Palitha Thewarapperuma 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.

6. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Kanaka Herath seconded by Hon. Sisira Jayakody moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Study Centre for the Advancement of Technology and Social Welfare”

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 Foreign Affairs for Report.

7. Adjournment (Irregularities in Issuance of Central Bank of Sri Lanka Treasury Bonds) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 1.23 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,— That Hon. Mujibur Rahuman do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.47 p.m. Hon. Mujibur Rahuman took the Chair.)

(At 5.55 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

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

Accordingly the Parliament adjourned until 1.00 p. m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 pursuant to the Resolutions of Parliament of 09th January, 2017 and this day.