



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 139.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, January 09, 2017 at 9.30 a. 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. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

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. 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. A. D. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Science, Technology and Research

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. Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development

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

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

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. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Minister of Regional Development

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

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

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle, State Minister of City Planning and Water Supply

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

Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan, State Minister of Education

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

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. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Deputy Minister of Megapolis and Western Development

Hon. Dunes Gankanda, Deputy Minister of Disaster Management

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. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries

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

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

Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandima Gamage

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. Malith Jayathilake

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana

Hon. K. Thuraiatretnasingam

Hon. Sirinal de Mel

Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva

Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka

Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake

Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika 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. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Tilak Marapana
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
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. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
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 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 Bill on 10th December 2016:-

Appropriation.”

II

“A motion may be moved to refer the question of privilege raised by the Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne, MP in Parliament on 07th December 2016 to the Committee on Privileges.”

III

“A motion may be moved to refer the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, MP in Parliament on 22nd June 2016 to the Committee on Privileges.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Annual Report of the Auditor-General for the financial year of 2015 in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka 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 Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Navy for the Year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) read with Section 164 of the aforesaid Act relating to Motor Traffic (Signs, Signals, Symbols and Road Markings) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1940/21 of 12th November 2015 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs under Section 2 of the United Nations Act, No. 45 of 1968 amending the United Nations Regulations No. 02 of 2012 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1991/52 of 04th November 2016 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Report which contains the 204th Recommendation adopted at the International Labour Organization at its 104th Session in the year 2015 and moved that this Report 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) 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, upgrading the Medical Education Centre as the Department of Medical Education in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1991/43 of 03rd November 2016;
- (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 Nano Science Technology in the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1995/25 of 01st December 2016; and
- (iii) 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 Anaesthesiology in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1995/26 of 01st December 2016;

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ayurvedic Drugs Corporation for the Year 2013 and moved that this report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) 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. 1987/8 of 03rd October 2016;

- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3C of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1992/30 of 10th November 2016; and
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3(2) of Land (Restriction on Alienation) Act, No. 38 of 2014 regarding transfer of a land in Colpetty on free hold basis to M/s Avic International Hotels Lanka Ltd. which is a Strategic Development Project and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1992/10 of 08th November 2016;

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

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Crafts Council for the Year 2014; and
- (ii) Performance Report and Annual Accounts of the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department for the Year 2015;

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, Talawakelle for the Year 2014; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Tea Board for the Year 2014;

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Power and Renewable Energy for the Year 2015 and moved that this report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy.

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the National Livestock Development Board for the Year 2014 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.

(14) The Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana presented the Order made by the Minister of Justice under Section 2 of the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, No. 25 of 2002 in respect of the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of Ukraine on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1992/78 of 11th November 2016 and moved that the Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(15) The Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media presented the Performance Reports of the Department of Government Factory - Kolonnawa for the years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Export Agriculture for the Year 2015; and
- (ii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Primary Industries for the Year 2015;

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Petitions :

(1) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —

- (i) a petition dated 30.11.2016 from Mrs. H. K. C. Jayamalee of No. 99 A, Meera Road, Isadeen Town, Matara; and
- (ii) a petition dated 10.11.2016 from Mr. Lasantha Udagedara of F 20, Dhanyagama, China Harbor, Trincomalee.

(2) Hon. Vijitha Herath presented —

- (i) a petition dated 23.08.2016 from Mr. B. A. A. Wimalaweera of No. 70, Bandaranayake Mawatha, Badalgama;
- (ii) a petition dated 23.08.2016 from Mr. R. A. Mahinda Ranabahu of No. 154 C/3, Mabodala watta, Mabodala;
- (iii) a petition dated 23.08.2016 from Mrs. S. A. Vijitha Kumari Weerasuriya of No. 139/A/32, Sapugasthennawatta, Kalagedihena; and
- (iv) a petition dated 23.08.2016 from Mrs. T. A. Irangani of No. 36, Y Watta, Niwala, Veyangoda.

- (3) Hon. Sunil Handunnetti presented a petition dated 26.11.2016 from Mr. Anura Witharana of No. 22/52, Rahula Road, Matara.
- (4) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented —
- (i) a petition dated 17.11.2016 from Mrs. K. Inoka Nishanthi Fernando of No. 136/18B, Wanamal Uyana Bungalow, Sapugastenn, Kalagedihena; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 01.11.2016 from (Ven.) Watagedara Rewatha Thero serving in M/Minarwa Buddhist School, Kithulewela Road, Goodshed Street, Matara.
- (5) Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage presented —
- (i) a petition dated 20.10.2016 from Mr. K. G. Karunarathne of No. 107, Mawela Road, Ulapane; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 15.11.2016 from Mr. M. D. Sugathapala of No. 219/39, Govikam Pedesa, Divulapitiya, Boralessgamuwa.
- (6) Hon. Heshan Withanage presented a petition dated 14.11.2016 from Mrs. T. V. Indrani Chandrika of No. 1/446, Galabidaputhena, Udaellepola, Balangoda.
- (7) Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi presented —
- (i) a petition dated 10.11.2016 from Mr. Gunapala Witharana of No. 181, Bandaranayaka Place, Galle; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 09.09.2016 from Mr. W. C. Indrajith de Silva, Inspector of Police, Police Statation, Walasmulla.

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

4. Sri Lanka Sustainable Development : The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs presented,—“Bill to provide for the development and implementation of a National Policy and Strategy on Sustainable Development in Sri Lanka; for the establishment of a Sustainable Development Council and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, 24th January, 2017 and to be printed and be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.;

The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“The Attorney-General has expressed that the provisions of the Bill entitled “Sri Lanka Sustainable Development” which has been presented to Parliament today, are subject to Article 154G (5) (a) of the Constitution and accordingly, I direct the Secretary-General of Parliament to forward the copies of the said Bill to each Provincial Council for report to Parliament on its views regarding the Bill within a period of one month from the date of such reference of such Bill in accordance with the Standing Order No. 46A (2) (a) of the Parliament.”

5. 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, the Parliament shall sit on January 24th Tuesday, 25th Wednesday, 26th Thursday and 27th Friday, 2017.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No.2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sittings of Parliament on Tuesday 24th January, 2017 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 10.30 a.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.

7. Sittings of the Parliament (No.3) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday 24th January, 2017.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 10.40 a. m. adjourned until 9.30 a. m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of this day.