



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 100.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, September 20, 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. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignment

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. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

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. 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. Harin Fernando, Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure

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. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Minister of Disaster Management

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

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

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. 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. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena, State Minister of Finance

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

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. 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. A. H. M. Fowzie, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Deputy Minister of Megapolis and Western Development

Hon. Faizal Cassim, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

Hon. Duneshe Gankanda, Deputy Minister of Disaster Management

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. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Minister of Buddhasasana

Hon. Susantha Punchinilame, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and Management

Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

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. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Dilum Amunugama

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. Padma Udayashantha 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. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thuraiatretnasingam
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. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
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. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Tilak Marapana
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
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. 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. E. Saravanapavan

Hon. M. H. M. Salman

Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan

Hon. Muthu Sivalingam

Hon. Sivasakthy Ananthan

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran

Hon. Vadivel Suresh

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti

Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath

Hon. Kanaka Herath

Hon. Vijitha Herath

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Actg. Secretary-General of Parliament and Chief of Staff

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 the Parliament that I have received a copy of a petition filed at the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill entitled ‘**Nation Building Tax (Amendment)**’.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Second Instalment – Part I of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 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** and to be printed.

(2) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the Public Service Commission 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.

(3) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented,—

- (i) Annual Report of the State Timber Corporation for the year 2014; and
- (ii) Annual Reports of the National Gem and Jewellery Authority for the years 2013 and 2014;

and moved that these reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for the year 2014 and moved that this report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat of Matale 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.

(6) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy under Section 67 of the Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority Act, No. 35 of 2007, read with paragraphs (d) and (e) of Sub-section (2) of Section 36 of the said Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1971/13 of June 15th, 2016 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Vijitha Herath, Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands on the matters related to “Regulations under Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460)”, “Performance Report of the Commissioner General of the Title Settlement for the Financial Year 2014” and “Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management for the Year 2015” referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame, Member of the Committee on Public Finance on behalf of Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chairman of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the Bills entitled “Appropriation (Amendment)” and “Ports and Airports Development Levy (Amendment)”, and also on the matters related to, “Orders under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act No 40 of 1979”, “Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act No 13 of 1989” and “Proposal on Supplementary Estimate for the year 2016 of the Ministry of Regional Development” referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. S. B. Nawinne presented a petition dated 05.08.2016 from Mr. R. M. Podi Bandara of Siyambalakele, Wariyapola.
- (2) Hon. T. B. Ekanayake presented a petition dated 01.04.2016 from Mrs. J. M. Sumanawathi of “Central Supplies”, Kondagala, Nelumdeniya.
- (3) Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene presented a petition dated 02.10.2015 from Mr. P. M. Podi Appuhami of Welgama, Dompe.
- (4) Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 11.05.2016 from Mr. K. U. R. Perera of No. 1013 E/1, Nagamulla Road, Battaramulla; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 25.06.2016 from Dr. S. H. K. Samaraweera of No.03, Mareena Avenue, Colombo 07.
- (5) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 18.08.2016 from Mrs. H. D. Sriyani Chandrakanthi of No. 158/1, R.B. 02, Serunuwara;
 - (ii) A petition dated 15.08.2016 from Mr. K. G. Dayanada serving in Divisional Secretariat, Morawewa; and
 - (iii) A petition dated 13.07.2016 from Ms. U. M. U. G. Hasitha Udugama of Hapugasthenna, Weligepola, Balangoda.
- (6) Hon. Indika Bandaranayake presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 18.07.2016 from Mr. H. M. Upali Samaraweera of Kekunagolla, Mangulagama; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 24.07.2016 from Mr. W. A. Wijewardana of No.107/15, Jayanthipura, Kurunegala.

- (7) Hon. Sunil Handunnetti presented a petition dated 07.07.2016 from Mr. J. P. Sarath Chandrasiri of No. 7/2, Wotson Peiris Mawatha, Moratuwa.
- (8) Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa presented a petition dated 23.07.2016 from Mrs. Nilmini Dushanthi Finto (F. Nadia) of No. 13 A, Ocean View Tower, Railway Station Road, Colombo - 04.
- (9) Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa presented a petition dated 01.07.2016 from Mrs. Manoharan Santhanayaki of Maamoolai, Mulliyavalai, Mulativu.

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

5. Engineering Council, Sri Lanka : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy presented,— “Bill to provide for the establishment of the Engineering Council, Sri Lanka which shall be responsible for the maintenance of professional standards and conduct of engineering practitioners; registration of different categories of engineering practitioners; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, October 04, 2016 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Supplementary Sum—Head 147— Programme 1 : The Minister of Regional Development moved,—“† That an amount not exceeding rupees five hundred ninety two million and nine hundred twenty five thousand (Rs. 592,925,000) be obtained as specified in the Schedule as financed by and at the discretion of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka out of the Consolidated Fund of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or from any other fund or money belonging to the Government enabling transfer of anticipated savings under various Heads of Expenditure already approved by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to “Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liability Project” of the Head of Expenditure of the Department of National Budget for prioritization and accelerating of development projects functioning under identified foreign funds and transferring them to relevant Ministries as Supplementary Provisions subject to provisions of Section 6.1 and 6.2 of the Appropriation Act, No.16 of 2015 provided that such funds will not exceed the limits of expenditure already approved by the Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the use of the financial year commencing on 01st January 2016 and ending on 31st December 2016.

Schedule

Head	147	—	Ministry of Regional Development
Programme	1	—	Operational Programme
			Recurrent expenditure - Rs. 469,425,000
			Capital Expenditure - Rs. <u>123,500,000</u>
			Total Expenditure = Rs. <u>592,925,000</u>

(Rupees five hundred ninety two million and nine hundred twenty five thousand only.)

Advance to Government Officers- “B” Account

Maximum Limit of expenditure	- Rs. 2,000,000
Minimum Limit of Receipts	- Rs. 150,000
Maximum Limit of Debit Balance	- Rs. 3,500,000

[Supplementary Estimate No. 2 of 2016 presented on 09th August, 2016.]

(At 3.17 p. m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.05 p. m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

(At 6.14 p. m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Order Under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That 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. 1968/19 of 26th May 2016, which was presented on 24.08.2016, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (Issues Related to Service Minute of Labour Officers) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.23 p. m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.23 p.m. adjourned accordingly until 1.00 p. m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2016.