



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 101.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, September 21, 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. 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 Leader of the House of Parliament

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

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. 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. 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. Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne, Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations

Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne, Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

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. Piyankara 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. 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. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management

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. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Minister of Buddhasasana
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Deputy Minister of Foreign Employment
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and Management
Hon. Arundika Fernando, Deputy Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
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. 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. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Dilum Amunugama
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

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. (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. Sirinal de Mel

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva

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. 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. Seeniththamby Yoheśwaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
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. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
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. 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. Jayantha Samaraweera

Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe

Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. Muthu Sivalingam

Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi

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

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 Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Reports of the Gem and Jewellery Research and Training Institute for the years 2012 and 2013 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.

(2) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Business Management 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.

(3) The Minister of Home Affairs presented the Performance Report and Accounts of the Registrar General's Department 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.

(4) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the National Lotteries Board for the year 2014 and moved that this report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Industry and Commerce presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment for the year 2011 and moved that this report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the Sugarcane Research Institute for the year 2013 and moved that this report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication on the matters related to "Annual Report of the Road Development Authority for the year 2012", "Performance Report of the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation for the year 2015", "Annual Report of the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2013", "Annual Report of the National Transport Commission for the year 2012", "Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Transport Board for the year 2011", "Performance Report of the Department of Sri Lanka Railways for the year 2015" and "Annual Report of the Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the year 2014" referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Vadivel Suresh, Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development on the matters related to the Bill entitled "The Universities (Amendment)", "Order made under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978" and "Order made under Section 27(1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978" referred to the said Committee.

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

(3) Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chairman of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the Resolutions related to, "Revision of Salary and Allowances of the Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption" and "Emoluments and Other Allowances being paid to Chairmen and Members of Independent Commissions" referred to the said Committee.

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

3. Reports under Standing Order No. 47(5) of the Parliament : The Minister of Women and Child Affairs presented the Report under Standing Order No. 47(5) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled “Child Rehabilitation Centre (Incorporation)”.

Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, October 04, 2016.

4. Petitions :

(1) Hon. Wajira Abeywardana presented—

- (i) A petition dated 23.05.2016 from Mr. A. L. P. S. Abeydeera of No. 2B/41, Jayawadanagama, Battaramulla;
- (ii) A petition dated 15.06.2016 from Mr. Cyril Jayasinghe of Paththinigoda, Pitigala;
- (iii) A petition dated 29.05.2016 from Dr. K. A. K. Nanayakkara serving in Ayurvedic Hospital, Galle;
- (iv) A petition dated 17.06.2016 from Mr. K. G. Ratnasiri of No. 38 A, Sri Gunarathana Mawatha, Galle;
- (v) A petition dated 29.06.2016 from Mr. L. A. F. Wasantha Fernando of “Siyapatha”, Katuneriya;
- (vi) A petition dated 03.08.2016 from Mrs. M. H. H. Rifaya of No. 30/1, Bandaranayaka Place, Thalapitiya, Galle;
- (vii) A petition dated 25.07.2016 from Mr. P. K. Athula of No.77, Sri Dewamiththa Mawatha, Cheena Koratuwa, Galle;
- (viii) A petition dated 29.07.2016 from Mr. S. M. L. S. Siriwardana of Halgollawaththa, Hapugasthalawa, Nawalapitiya;
- (ix) A petition dated 01.07.2016 from Mr. U. K. Wijesiri of Heenatigala South, Kandewatte, Thalpe, Galle;
- (x) A petition dated 14.06.2016 from Mr. W. G. S. Harischandra of No.13," Nishadhi", Wakunugoda Lane, Bope, Galle; and
- (xi) A petition dated 22.06.2016 from Mr. W. W. A. S. S. P. Fernando of “Deepa”, Wewala, Hikkaduwa.

(2) Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera presented a petition dated 13.06.2016 from Mr. W. L. P. Sanath of Rotawala Road, Oluvila, Ambalanthota.

(3) Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage presented a petition dated 08.02.2016 from Mr. M. G. Samarapala of Ihalawatta, Ihalagoda, Akmeemana.

(4) Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara presented a petition dated 05.07.2016 from Mr. A. K. G. Ananda Silva of “Peiris Villa”, L. M. P. Mawatha, Kurudugahahethakma, Elpitiya.

(5) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented—

- (i) A petition dated 28.07.2016 from Mr. A. G. R. Senevirathna of “Sarasavi”, Kapugama West, Devinuwara;

- (ii) A petition dated 26.07.2016 from Mr. G. P. Amarasekara of “Amarawasa”, Habaraduwa;
 - (iii) A petition dated 28.07.2016 from Mr. M. I. M. Zahir serving in Labour Tribunal - No. 26, No. 13, Wilmert Balasooriya Mawatha, Nupe, Matara;
 - (iv) A petition dated 02.08.2016 from Mr. M. M. A. Ruwan Kumara of Kekilla, Sulthanagoda, Matara; and
 - (v) A petition dated 25.07.2016 from Mrs. Mahagamage Soma of Maragahahena, Penetiya, Weligama.
- (6) Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna presented a petition dated 02.07.2016 from Mr. P. G. Sudantha Podibandara of No. 19, Maragamuwa, Pubbiliya.

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

5. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. S. M. Marikkar seconded by Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Aloka Social Service 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 National Policies and Economic Affairs for report.

6. Revision of Salary and Allowances of the Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption : The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,— Whereas provision has been made as per Section 16(1) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994 to appoint a Director-General to assist the said Commission in discharging the duties assigned to the Commission and to pay the holder of that post a salary as determined by the Parliament;

And whereas, approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to pay with effect from 12.02.2015 the following salary and allowances as personal to her, to Ms. A. A. P. Dilrukshi Dias Wickramasinghe, President’s Counsel and former Additional Solicitor-General of the Attorney-General’s Department, on her appointment with effect from 12.02.2015 on State’s initiative, as Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, which post is vulnerable and exposed to risks:—

- (a) Monthly salary and all allowances entitled to the post of Additional Solicitor-General (other than telephone allowance, fuel allowance and house-rent allowance); and
- (b) Ministry Secretaries’ allowance, telephone allowance and fuel allowance entitled to the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Bribery or Corruption and house-rent allowance provided government official quarters are not allocated;

Accordingly, that this Parliament resolves to pay under votes of the Consolidated Fund, the above mentioned monthly salary and allowances to Ms. A.A.P. Dilrukshi Dias Wickramasinghe, President's Counsel holding the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, as per Section 16(2) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994.

(At 2.58 p. m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.23 p. m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise Development moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.29 p. m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

(At 6.03 p. m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Emoluments and Other Allowances being paid to Chairmen and Members of Independent Commissions : The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,— Whereas approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to provide the payment of the following emoluments and allowances to the Chairmen and Members of the nine Independent Commissions stipulated in the Schedule of Article 41(b) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as amended by the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and to treat the date on which the relevant Commissions commenced their functions in actuality as the effective date to commence the payments:—

- (a) A monthly allowance of Rs.100,000/-, a monthly telephone allowance of Rs. 10,000/- and an official vehicle which may also be used for personal use along with a quota of 225 ltrs. of fuel or a fuel allowance on par with the prevalent fuel price in the market, to Chairmen other than the ex. officio Chairmen;
- (b) Payment of monthly allowance, equal to 50% of the monthly allowance of a Chairman of an Independent Commission, to ex. Officio Chairmen appointed to Independent Commissions, in addition to salary and other allowances in their substantive posts;
- (c) In the case of non-ex. officio Members of all other Commissions except the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, a monthly allowance of Rs. 75,000/-, a monthly telephone allowance of Rs. 8,000/- and a transport allowance of Rs. 25,000/- up to a limit of 350 kilometres or a transport allowance of Rs. 50,000/- for distance of over and above 350 kilometres depending on the distance from their residencies to the office of the Commission to be made;

- (d) An attendance allowance of Rs. 10,000/- per meeting to be made to ex. officio Members of Independent Commissions, as per provision laid down in Public Enterprises Circular No. 3/2015 of 17.06.2015;
- (e) In the case of the Chairman of Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption and Members thereof who have been equally delegated with powers in keeping with the provisions laid down in Section (8) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994, payment of a monthly allowance of Rs. 95,000/-, a monthly telephone allowance of Rs.8,000/- and an official vehicle which may also be used for personal use along with a quota of 170 ltrs. of fuel or a fuel allowance on par with the prevalent fuel price in the market; and
- (f) Payment of a special allowance equal to $\frac{3}{4}$ of their monthly allowance to be made to the Chairman and Members of the Elections Commission during the period from the date of declaring an election to the date of releasing results thereof.

Accordingly, that this Parliament resolves to pay the above mentioned emoluments and other allowances to the Chairmen and Members of the nine Independent Commissions stipulated in the Schedule of Article 41(b) of the Constitution.”

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament having divided under Standing Order No. 43 of the Parliament — Ayes: 68; Noes: Nil.

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 6.37 p. m. adjourned until 10.30 a. m. on Thursday, September 22, 2016 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 08th March, 2016.