



(Eighth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 37.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, September 20, 2018 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and
Economic Affairs

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale, Minister of Justice & Prison Reforms

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. John Amaratunga, Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious
Affairs

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms and
Chief Government Whip

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development
and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Integration, Reconciliation and Official
Languages

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. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Buddhasasana

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, Minister of Public Administration &
Management and Law & Order

Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara, Minister of Women and Child Affairs

Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, Minister of Provincial Councils, Local Government and
Sports

Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, Minister of Higher Education & Cultural Affairs

Hon. Malik Samarawickrama, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade

Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Finance and Mass Media

Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera, Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations

Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, Minister of Ports and Shipping

Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa, Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development and Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. D. M. Swaminathan, Minister of Resettlement, Rehabilitation, Northern Development & 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 Highways & Road Development

Hon. P. Harrison, Minister of Social Empowerment

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala, State Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Piyasena Gamage, State Minister of Youth Affairs, Project Management and Southern Development

Hon. Mohan Lal Grero, State Minister of Higher Education & Cultural Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

Hon. Ajith P. Perera, State Minister of Power and Renewable Energy

Hon. Palitha Range Bandara, State Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources & Disaster Management

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

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, State Minister of Finance

Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence

Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama, State Minister of Provincial Councils, Local Government and Sports

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne, State Minister of Science, Technology, Research, Skills Development & Vocational Training and Kandyan Heritage

Hon. (Dr.) M. L. A. M. Hizbullah, State Minister of Highways & Road Development

Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie, State Minister of National Unity and Co-existence

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Deputy Minister of Finance and Mass Media

Hon. Dunes Gankanda, Deputy Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms

Hon. Edward Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs & Wayamba Development
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha, Deputy Minister of Public Administration & Management and Law & Order
Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology, Research, Skills Development & Vocational Training and Kandyan Heritage
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana, Deputy Minister of National Integration, Reconciliation and Official Languages
Hon. K. Kader Masthan, Deputy Minister of Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Northern Development
Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage, Deputy Minister of Ports and Shipping Affairs
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam, Deputy Minister of Social Welfare & Primary Industries
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development and Rural Economic Affairs
Hon. H. M. M. Harees, Deputy Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail
Hon. T. B. Ekanayake
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
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. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Ishak Rahuman

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
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 announcement:-

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled ‘Medical (Amendment)’ on 19th September 2018 under the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Public Enterprise & Kandy City Development presented the Annual Report of the Regional Development Bank for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology of University of Kelaniya 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.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees: Hon. Douglas Devananda Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, the Chairman of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Finance Bill;
- (ii) Order under Ports and Airports Development Levy Act; and
- (iii) Notifications under Excise Ordinance

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare presented a petition dated 19.07.2018 from Mr. Subramaniam Shiva Kumar of No. 246/D1, Barberwatta, Ukuwela, Matale.
- (2) Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne presented a petition dated 10.07.2018 from Mr. K. P. N. S. Wickramasinghe of No. 63, B. O. P. 317, Thalpotha, Polonnaruwa.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order 30(10) to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Sitzings of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No. 8 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 20.06.2018, the hours of sitting of Parliament of this day shall be 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 5.30 p.m. Standing Order No. 8(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.

6. Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act: The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3(3) Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2065/42 of 06th April 2018, which was presented on 23.08.2018, be approved.

The Minister of City Planning and Water Supply moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 11.29 a.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

(At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,— That Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.11 p.m. Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake took the Chair.)

The Minister of Women and Child Affairs moved,— That Hon. Sehan Semasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.20 p.m. Hon. Sehan Semasinghe took the Chair.)

The Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs moved,— That Hon. Mujibur Rahuman do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.03 p.m. Hon. Mujibur Rahuman took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.1): The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media, under Sections 2, 12, 22 and 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance

(Chapter 52) regarding Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2075/23 of 13th June 2018, which was presented on 04.09.2018, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 10/2018)

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.2) : The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media, under Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) regarding Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2075/24 of 13th June 2018, which was presented on 04.09.2018, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 11/2018)

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Economic Service Charge (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Presiding Member took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed an amendment to leave out line 7 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“is hereby amended as follows:-”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed another amendment to leave out line 8 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“(1) in subsection (1) of that section-
(a) in paragraph (a) of that subsection by the”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed another amendment to leave out lines 11 and 12 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“(b) in paragraph (b) of that subsection-

(i) by the substitution, in sub-paragraph(ii)”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed another amendment to leave out line 16 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“(ii) by the repeal of sub-paragraph (iii) thereof”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed another amendment to leave out line 1 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“(c) by the addition, immediately after sub-paragraph”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed another amendment to leave out line 9 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“(d) by the addition immediately after sub-paragraph”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media proposed another amendment to insert the following immediately after line 16 in page 2:—

“(2) the proviso to paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of that section is hereby amended as follows:-

- (a) in paragraph (a) by the substitution for the words “turnover of such bank; and”, of the words “turnover of such bank;”;
- (b) in paragraph (b) by the substitution for the words “turnover of such person.”, of the words “turnover of such person; and”; and
- (c) immediately after paragraph (b) by the insertion of the following new paragraph:

“(c) in the case of Central Bank of Sri Lanka, unrealized gain from price revaluation and foreign exchange revaluation, shall be deemed not to form part of the turnover of Central Bank of Sri Lanka.”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause, as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Clauses 3 and 4 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended accordingly read the third time and passed.

10. Regulation under the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Act: The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 5(15) of the Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002 as last amended by the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Act, No. 20 of 2016, relating to Value Added Tax and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2078/06 of 02nd July 2018, which was presented on 10.08.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Adjournment (Irregularities in Import of Dairy Cattle Project): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and debated.

The Minister of Fishries & Aquatic Resources Development and Rural Economic Affairs moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.44 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.22 p.m. adjourned until 10.00 a.m. on Friday, September 21, 2018.