



*(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)*

No. 22.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, February 05, 2019 at 1.00 p.m.

### PRESENT :

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

**Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

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**Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe**, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies,  
Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province  
Development, Vocational Training & Skills Development and Youth Affairs

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

**Hon. Wajira Abeywardana**, Minister of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial  
Councils & Local Government

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

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

**Hon. Ravi Karunanayake**, Minister of Power, Energy and Business Development

**Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam**, Minister of Education

**Hon. Lakshman Kiriella**, Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy  
Development and Leader of the House of Parliament

**Hon. Mano Ganesan**, Minister of National Integration, Official Languages, Social  
Progress and Hindu Religious Affairs

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

**Hon. Navin Dissanayake**, Minister of Plantation Industries

**Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera**, Minister of Buddhasasana & Wayamba  
Development

**Hon. Sajith Premadasa**, Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs

**Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara**, Minister of Women & Child Affairs and Dry Zone  
Development

**Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara**, Minister of Public Administration &  
Disaster Management

**Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen**, Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of  
Protracted Displaced Persons and Co-operative Development

**Hon. Tilak Marapana**, Minister of Foreign Affairs

**Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Ports & Shipping and Southern Development

**Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation

**Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka**, Minister of Megapolis & Western Development

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

**Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Finance & Mass Media

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

**Hon. Rauff Hakeem**, Minister of City Planning, Water Supply and Higher Education

**Hon. Abdul Haleem**, Minister of Postal Services & Muslim Religious Affairs

**Hon. Kabir Hashim**, Minister of Highways & Road Development and Petroleum Resources Development

**Hon. P. Harrison**, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development

**Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva**, Non Cabinet Minister of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution

**Hon. Ajith P. Perera**, Non Cabinet Minister of Digital Infrastructure and Information Technology

**Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan**, Non Cabinet Minister of Special Area Development

**Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, Non Cabinet Minister of Labour and Trade Union Relations

**Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe**, Non Cabinet Minister of Science, Technology & Research

**Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**, State Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation

**Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**, State Minister of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial Councils and Local Government

**Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare**, State Minister of Tourism Development, Wildlife & Christian Religious Affairs

**Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs

**Hon. Lucky Jayawardana**, State Minister of City Planning & Water Supply

**Hon. Niroshan Perera**, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

**Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Power & Renewable Energy

**Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana**, State Minister of Social Empowerment

**Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Education

**Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma**, State Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment

**Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake**, State Minister of Highways & Road Development

**Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance

**Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene**, State Minister of Defence

**Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources  
Development

**Hon. Vadivel Suresh**, State Minister of Plantation Industries

**Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen**, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural  
Economic Affairs

**Hon. Edward Gunasekara**, Deputy Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms

**Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**, Deputy Minister of Development Strategies and  
International Trade

**Hon. Buddhika Pathirana**, Deputy Minister of Industry & Commerce

**Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana**, Deputy Minister of Skills Development &  
Vocational Training

**Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff**, Deputy Minister of Ports & Shipping

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**Hon. Hector Appuhamy**

**Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana**

**Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**

**Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**

**Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera**

**Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**

**Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**

**Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma**

**Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage**

**Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**

**Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail**

**Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**

**Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**

**Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**

**Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran**

**Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera**

**Hon. Duneshe Gankanda**

**Hon. Piyasena Gamage**

**Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**

**Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**

**Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena**

**Hon. Padma Udayashantha Gunasekera**

**Hon. Mohan Lal Grero**  
**Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**  
**Hon. D. V. Chanaka**  
**Hon. Sisira Jayakody**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa**  
**Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**  
**Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana**  
**Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena**  
**Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah**  
**Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. M. S. Thowfeek**  
**Hon. Sirinal de Mel**  
**Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**  
**Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva**  
**Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa**  
**Hon. Anura Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Duminda Dissanayake**  
**Hon. S. B. Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Salinda Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Douglas Devananda**  
**Hon. S. B. Nawinne**  
**Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer**  
**Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan**  
**Hon. K. K. Piyadasa**  
**Hon. Susantha Punchinilame**  
**Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera**  
**Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. Ashoka Priyantha**  
**Hon. Johnston Fernando**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra**

**Hon. S. Premarathna**  
**Hon. Shantha Bandara**  
**Hon. Indika Bandaranayake**  
**Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda**  
**Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka**  
**Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**  
**Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**  
**Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor**  
**Hon. S. M. Marikkar**  
**Hon. K. Kader Masthan**  
**Hon. Imran Maharoof**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe**  
**Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana**  
**Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage**  
**Hon. Faiszer Musthapha**  
**Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**  
**Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran**  
**Hon. Bimal Rathnayake**  
**Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe**  
**Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella**  
**Hon. Ishak Rahuman**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Namal Rajapaksa**  
**Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament**  
**Hon. Gamini Lokuge**  
**Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne**  
**Hon. A. A. Wijethunga**  
**Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne**  
**Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara**

**Hon. Duleep Wijesekera**  
**Hon. Hesha Withanage**  
**Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage**  
**Hon. Chandima Weerakkody**  
**Hon. Wimal Weerawansa**  
**Hon. Kumara Welgama**  
**Hon. S. Shritharan**  
**Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa**  
**Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**  
**Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Rajavarothingam Sampanthan**  
**Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**  
**Hon. Muthu Sivalingam**  
**Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala**  
**Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran**  
**Hon. Vasantha Senanayake**  
**Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**  
**Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**  
**Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne**  
**Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**  
**Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**  
**Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**  
**Hon. Sunil Handunnetti**  
**Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi**  
**Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**  
**Hon. Kanaka Herath**  
**Hon. Vijitha Herath**  
**Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie**  
**Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**

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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.**

**1. Announcements by the Speaker :** The Deputy Speaker made the following announcements:-

**I**

“ I hereby inform and certify to the Parliament that the ballot papers used for the election conducted to elect me, to the post of Deputy Speaker as per Standing Order 6 were destroyed by the Secretary-General of Parliament as per the Standing Orders of the Parliament.”

**II**

“ I wish to inform that the Hon. Speaker has endorsed the certificate on the Bills entitled “Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment)” on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019 and “Debt Conciliation (Amendment)” on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

**III**

“ I wish to inform that the Hon. Bimal Rathnayake, Member of Parliament, has been discharged from the Committee on Public Petitions and nominated the Hon. Nihal Galappaththi, Member of Parliament, to serve in that Committee, by the Committee of Selection on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019, in terms of provisions of the Standing Order 127 (3) of the Parliament.”

**IV**

“ I wish to inform you that the following Members have been nominated to serve in the respective Ministerial Consultative Committees under the Chair of H. E. Maithripala Sirisena, by the Committee of Selection, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 112 of the Parliament and the resolutions adopted by Parliament on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence**

Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Hon. Lohan Ratwatte

**2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mahaweli Development & Environment**

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. Bimal Rathnayake

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake ”

**2. Presentation of Papers :** (1) The Deputy Speaker presented the —

- (i) Performance Report of the Delimitation Commission for the Third quarter (01.07.2018 - 30.09.2018) of 2018 in terms of Articles 41B (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Audit Service Commission for the Third quarter (01.07.2018 - 30.09.2018) of 2018 in terms of Articles 41B (6) and 153H of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; and
- (iii) Progress Report of the Public Services Commission for the Second quarter (01.04.2018 - 30.06.2018) of 2018 in terms of Articles 41B (6) and 55(5) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the Report presented to Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts regarding the performance of the National Police Commission in the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Notes on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 16.08.2018 to 30.11.2018 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2017;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2079/34 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2018;
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 relating to Stamp Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2091/3 of 01<sup>st</sup> October 2018; and
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 relating to Stamp



Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2104/5 of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the Report presented to Parliament by the Committee on Public Accounts regarding the performance of the Department of Textile Industry in the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy 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.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 relating to CESS and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2093/19 of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 and moved that this Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Employees' Provident Fund for the year 2016 and moved that the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

### **3. Presentation of Public Petitions :**

(1) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented —

- (i) a petition dated 09.07.2018 from Mr. Jagath Mahagamage of No. 29, 4<sup>th</sup> Cross Street, Walpala, Matara;
- (ii) a petition dated 13.07.2018 from Mrs. Kanthi Rathnasuriya of "Sisila", Maha Vidyala Road, Devinuwara;
- (iii) a petition dated 06.06.2018 from Mr. M. C. F. A. Baasith of No. 52/3, Main Street, Batticaloa;

- (iv) a petition dated 11.09.2018 from Mr. P. G. Ariyadasa of “Hirudini”, Pusaththolla Koratuwa, Kotawila, Kamburugamuwa; and
  - (v) a petition dated 23.08.2018 from Mr. W. W. J. G. S. Chandrasena of No. 220, Wijaya Rajadahana, Meerigama.
- (2) Hon. Gamini Lokuge presented a petition dated 18.09.2018 from Mr. G. B. B. Gunasekara of 1B, Rilawala, Polgasowita.
- (3) Hon. Vijitha Herath presented —
- (i) two petitions dated 29.06.2018 from Mr. A. K. Perera of 80/3/A, Ballapana Road, Medagampitiya, Divulapitiya;
  - (ii) a petition dated 30.08.2018 from Mrs. P. G. Ramani Pushpalatha of No 49/1, Mahawatte North, Kundesale; and
  - (iii) a petition dated 12.09.2018 from Mrs. P.M. Priyangika Wijaya Nilmini of Medakatuwa, Weregoda, Halpe, Belihuloya.
- (4) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —
- (i) a petition dated 21.09.2018 from Mr. Sunil Withana arachchi of No. 9/1, “Sampath Uyana”, Matthegoda Road, Matthegoda; and
  - (ii) a petition dated 10.10.2018 from Mr. Y. P. Justin Abeywardena of 64/A, Ihala Imbulgoda, Imbulgoda.
- (5) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented —
- (i) a petition dated 01.09.2018 from Mr. H. S. Weerasiri Fernando of No. 205, Warapitiya, Darga Town; and
  - (ii) a petition dated 21.09.2018 from Mr. M. P. Amarasena of No. 165/1, Medadeniya, Hungama.
- (6) Hon. D. V. Chanaka presented a petition dated 18.10.2017 from Ms. Bhadrani Mallika Munasingha of Warapitiya Road, Batagassa, Kirama.

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

**4. Appropriation:** The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance & Mass Media presented,— A Bill to provide for the service of the financial year 2019; to authorize the raising of loans in or outside Sri Lanka, for the purpose of such service; to make financial provision in respect of certain activities of the Government during that financial year; to enable the payment by way of advances out of the Consolidated Fund or any other fund or moneys of, or at the disposal of the Government, of moneys required during that financial year for expenditure on such activities; to provide for the refund of such moneys to the Consolidated Fund and to make provision for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, March 05, 2019 and to be printed and to be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

**5. Sittings of the Parliament :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order 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. Business of the Parliament:** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That for the purpose of the proceedings of the current session, Standing Order 38(4) of the Parliament shall operate with substitution of the words “One question for the Government and three questions for the Opposition” for the words “Two questions each for the Government and the Opposition”.

Question put, and agreed to.

**7. Committee on Parliamentary Business:** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 115 of the Parliament and the Resolution adopted by Parliament on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019, the Committee on Parliamentary Business shall consist of the Speaker as the Chair, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairperson of Committees, the Leader of the House of Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, the Chief Government Whip, the Chief Opposition Whip and Nineteen (19) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, as per the decision taken on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019, by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

**8. Ministerial Consultative Committees:** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 112 (1) of the Parliament the following five (05) Ministerial Consultative Committees be appointed to be designated in addition to the thirty one (31) Ministerial Consultative Committees approved by Parliament on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019, as per the decision taken on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 by the Committee of Selection:—

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour and Trade Union Relations
2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Science, Technology & Research
3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Economic Reforms and Public Distribution
4. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Digital Infrastructure and Information Technology
5. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Special Area Development

Each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall consist of the Non-Cabinet Minister in charge of the relevant subject as the Chairperson, State Minister, Deputy Minister and Five (05) other Members of Parliament to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to discuss and report upon such matters as are referred to it.

The quorum of above each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall be three (03) Members.

Question put, and agreed to.

**9. Adjournment : (Implementation of Recommendations in “PRECIFAC” Report):** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and debated.

(At 3.23 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Finance moved,— That Hon. Hesha Withanage do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.09 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama seconded by Hon. Nihal Galappaththi moved,— That Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.10 p.m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri seconded by Hon. Shantha Bandara moved,— That Hon. Hesha Withanage do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.25 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.55 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 06, 2019.