



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 27.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 10.30 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

His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Minister of Defence and Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment

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. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

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

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. 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. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Finance and 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. (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. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**, State Minister of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine
- 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. Vadivel Suresh**, State Minister of Plantation Industries
- Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen**, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage, Deputy Minister of Petroleum Resources
Development

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana, Deputy Minister of Industry & Commerce

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

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

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Piyasena Gamage

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Padma Udayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. Mohan Lal Grero

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. Malith Jayathilake

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne

Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. S. B. Nawinne
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda

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. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
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. S. Viyalanderan
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. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Vasantha Senanayake
Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
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 Speaker took the Chair.

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Performance Report of the Finance Commission for the Third quarter (01.07.2018-30.09.2018) of 2018 in terms of Article 41B (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 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 Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption 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 Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti - corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Order made by the Minister of Education and Higher Education 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 Chemical Sciences in the Faculty of Applied Sciences of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2100/12 of 05th December 2018 and moved that this Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Consumer Affairs Authority for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees: Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Chair of the Committee on Public Accounts presented the First Report of the Committee on Public Accounts (From 06.06.2017 to 08.12.2017) for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara presented a petition dated 14.10.2018 from Mr. Sarath Rajapakse of No. 35/A, 5th Lane, Abeya place, Anuradhapura.
- (2) Hon. Nimal Lanza presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 03.03.2018 from Ms. Isuri Amaya Weerasinghe of No. 252/2, Kimbulapitiya Road, Akkarapanaha, Negombo; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 16.09.2016 from Mrs. W. A. S. Mallika Perera of No. 75 B, Batuwatta, Ragama.

(3) Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva presented —

- (i) a petition dated 20.10.2018 from Mr. D. M. G. Susil Wijesekara of “Sewwandi”, Baddegama Road, Gonapinuwala;
- (ii) a petition dated 10.10.2018 from Mr. M. Thushara Pathmanath of No. 326, Galle Road, Dodanduwa; and
- (iii) a petition dated 24.09.2018 from Mr. M. K. Tisaru Gayantha of Molpathala Junction, Baddegama Road, Ampegama.

(4) Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath presented a petition dated 22.10.2018 from Mr. K. G. M. Silva of No. 12 A, Meddegoda, Ganemulla.

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

4. Sittings of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 11.30 a.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.

5. Business of the Parliament (No.1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That, the Standing Order 75 (1) of the Parliament shall operate with the substitution of the words “Twenty-five” for the words “Twenty-six” for consideration of the “Appropriation Bill (2019)”.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Business of the Parliament (No.2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That March 06th Wednesday, 07th Thursday, 08th Friday, 09th Saturday, 11th Monday and 12th Tuesday 2019 shall be allotted days for consideration of the “Appropriation Bill (2019)”.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of sittings of Parliament on allotted days for consideration of the “Appropriation Bill (2019)” from 06th Wednesday to 11th Monday, March, 2019 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.:

Provided that at 6.30 p.m. the provisions of the Standing Order 8(5) and (6) of the Parliament shall operate.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of sitting of Parliament on 12th Tuesday, March, 2019 for consideration of the “Appropriation Bill (2019)” shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m..

At 5.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Regulations under the Construction Industry Development Act (No.1) : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Housing and Construction under Section 39 and read with Section 58 of the Construction Industry Development Act, No. 33 of 2014 relating to Temporary Registration of Foreign Contractors and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2085/19 of 23rd August 2018, which were presented on 25.01.2019, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Regulations under the Construction Industry Development Act (No.2) : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Housing and Construction under Section 38 and read with Section 58 of the Construction Industry Development Act, No. 33 of 2014 relating to Procedures and Standards for Identified Construction Work and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2085/20 of 23rd August 2018, which were presented on 25.01.2019, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Adjournment (Criterion Followed by Constitutional Council in Making Appointments): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and debated.

(At 1.04 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 3.31 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 5.31 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

And it being 8.30 p.m. the Parliament was adjourned by the Deputy Speaker without Question put.

The Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.30 a.m. on Friday, February 22, 2019.