



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 44.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 9.30 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

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province 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. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms and Chief Government Whip

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

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

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment

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

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

Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation

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

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

Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media and State Minister of Defence

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

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. Ajith Mannapperuma, State Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, State Minister of Finance

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Chandima Gamage
Hon. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
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. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda

Hon. S. B. Nawinne
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

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. Appropriation Bill — (Fifteenth Allotted Day) : Considered further in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 149

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Kumara Welgama proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 10.14 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 11.36 a.m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 2.28 p.m. Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne took the Chair.)

(At 4.39 p.m. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna took the Chair.)

(At 5.25 p.m. Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne took the Chair.)

(At 6.24 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 3 in page 26 and substitute the following,—

“ Recurrent 2,759,000,000”

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

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed another amendment to leave out line 8 in page 26 and substitute the following,—

“ Programme 01	Operational Activities	691,650,000
		3,727,000,000

(The effect of this amendment is to transfer the provisions of the Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka and the Institute of Chartered Accountants from the Ministry of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development to the Ministry of Finance)”

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

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

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,716,350,000 for Head 149, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 6,304,000,000 for Head 149, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 297

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 68,000,000 for Head 297, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 298

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 111,000,000 for Head 298, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 10,000,000 for Head 298, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 301

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 75,000,000 for Head 301, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 34,000,000 for Head 301, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 302

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 17,000,000 for Head 302, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,000,000 for Head 302, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 303

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 80,000,000 for Head 303, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 58,000,000 for Head 303, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 55

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to insert the following in page 12,—

“ Non Cabinet Ministry of Mass Media

Recurrent 839,000,000

Capital 845,600,000

Head 55 - Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media

Programme 01 Operational Activities	175,350,000	120,450,000
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Programme 02 Development Activities	437,000,000	668,000,000
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(The effect of this amendment is to provide provisions for the newly created Non Cabinet Ministry of Mass Media in line with the Extraordinary Gazettes No. 2112/13, of 26/02/2019, creating the Head, 55 in the Appropriation Bill– 2019 by transfer the provisions pertaining to the subjects and functions of the Non Cabinet Ministry of Mass Media from the Ministry of Finance and Mass Media to this Ministry and to transfer Head 210 Department of Information to this Ministry)”

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

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

Head 210

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out lines 8 and 9 in page 13 and transfer and insert the following under the New Head 55 in page 12,—

“Head 210 Department of Information

Programme 01	Operational Activities	226,650,000	57,150,000
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(The effect of this amendment is to transfer the Head 210 Department of Information by deleting lines 8 and 9 in Page 13 from the Ministry of Finance and Mass Media and to transfer it to Head 55 - Non Cabinet Ministry of Mass Media)”

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

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

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 226,650,000 for Head 210, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 57,150,000 for Head 210, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Whereupon the Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms proposed that the Chair do report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Question put, and agreed to.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Monday, March 25, 2019.

2. Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board (2014) :

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2014 and presented on 22.08.2017 under Section 14(3) of the Financial Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd (2015/2016) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.03.2016 and presented on 23.05.2018 under Sri Lankan State Trading (General) Corporations Act, No. 33 of 1970, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd (2014/2015) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.03.2015 and presented on 23.05.2018 under Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporations Act, No. 33 of 1970, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Press Council (2014) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media and State Minister of Defence moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of Sri Lanka Press Council together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2014 and presented on 23.05.2018 under Sri Lanka Press Council Act, No. 5 of 1973 and Section No.14 of Financial Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Annual Report and Accounts of the Selacine Rupavahini Institute (2015) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media and State Minister of Defence moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Selacine Rupavahini Institute together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2015 and presented on 07.08.2018 under Section 14(1) of Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Annual Report and Accounts of the Selacine Rupavahini Institute (2014) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media and State Minister of Defence moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Selacine Rupavahini Institute together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2014 and presented on 07.08.2018 under Section 14(1) of Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.55 p.m. adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Monday, March 25, 2019 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 09th March, 2019.