



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 43.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, March 22, 2019 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff, Deputy Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara
Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
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. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha
Hon. Douglas Devananda

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
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 Wijesekera
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Hesha Withanage

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vasantha Senanayake
Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
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 Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development presented the Annual Report of the State Timber Corporation for the year 2016 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.

(2) The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Census and Statistics for the year 2018 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for the year 2017;
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment for the year 2013;
- (iii) Annual Report of the National Intellectual Property Office of Sri Lanka for the year 2014;
- (iv) Annual Performance Report of the Co-operative Employees Commission for the year 2017;
- (v) Performance Report and Annual Accounts of Department of Registrar of Companies for the year 2016; and
- (vi) Annual Report of the Consumer Affairs Authority for the year 2015

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne presented a petition dated 14.02.2019 from Mr. R. M. S. Jayatissa of No. N1, Special Task Force Quarters, Gonahena, Kadawatha.
- (2) Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 23.01.2019 from Mrs. B. G. Kusumawathie of No. 319, Rambukkana Road, Wewita, Bandaragama; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 22.03.2018 from Mr. V. A. Kulathunge of No. B 148, Lenagala, Waharaka.

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

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

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 118

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 10.40 a.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 11.29 a.m. Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya took the Chair.)

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

(At 2.16 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

(At 2.58 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna took the Chair.)

(At 4.16 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama took the Chair.)

(At 5.21 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

(At 6.31 p.m. Hon. Mujibur Rahuman took the Chair.)

(At 7.05 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 lines 12 and 13 in page 20 and substitute the following,—

“Recurrent	58,575,456,000
Capital	51,994,390,000”

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 lines 17 and 18 in page 20 and substitute the following,—

“Programme 01 Operational Activities	1,329,579,000	509,550,000
Programme 02 Development Activities	41,384,154,000	32,211,640,00

(The effect of this amendment is to transfer the provisions of Head 289 - Department of Export Agriculture and Head 300 - the Department of Food Commissioner from the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development to the Ministry of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment and to the Non Cabinet Ministry of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution respectively.)”

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 281

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 509,100,000 for Head 281, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 98,000,000 for Head 281, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 6,422,100,000 for Head 281, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,881,000,000 for Head 281, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 282

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 733,090,000 for Head 282, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 50,850,000 for Head 282, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,345,850,000 for Head 282, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 13,017,800,000 for Head 282, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 285

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 482,279,000 for Head 285, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 81,150,000 for Head 285, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,278,904,000 for Head 285, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,282,000,000 for Head 285, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 290

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 516,400,000 for Head 290, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 138,400,000 for Head 290, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 292

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 574,000,000 for Head 292, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 70,000,000 for Head 292, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 654,000,000 for Head 292, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 7.18 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

5. Annual Report and Accounts of the Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board (2014) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2014 and presented on 21.03.2017 under Section 27 of the Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board Act, No. 20 of 1999, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Annual Report and Accounts of the Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board (2015) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2015 and presented on 07.06.2018 under Section 27 of the Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board Act, No. 20 of 1999, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Annual Report and Accounts of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research & Training Institute (2013) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research & Training Institute together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2013 and presented on 07.03.2017 under Section 14 (2) (c) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Annual Report and Accounts of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research & Training Institute (2014) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research & Training Institute together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2014 and presented on 07.03.2017 under Section 14 (2) (c) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Annual Report and Accounts of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research & Training Institute (2015) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development moved,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research & Training Institute together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2015 and presented on 27.07.2017 under Section 14 (2) (c) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.18 p.m. adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, March 23, 2019 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 09th March, 2019.