



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 64.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, May 24, 2019 at 10.30 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. 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. 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. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

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. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation

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

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

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

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. Faizal Cassim, State Minister of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

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

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. Vadivel Suresh, State Minister of Plantation Industries

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

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. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

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

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Piyasena Gamage

Hon. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Arumugan Thondaman
Hon. Piyal Nishantha 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. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha

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. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara

Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Heshu Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, 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, as Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana appointed as per the announcement of 23rd May 2019 to serve in the Select Committee of Parliament to look into and report to Parliament on the terrorist attacks that took place in different places in Sri Lanka on 21st April 2019 has resigned from the said Committee, I have nominated Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne in place, and that Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa has also been nominated additionally by me to serve in the said Select Committee.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Presidential Secretariat for the year 2018 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development presented the Annual Performance Report of the Office of the Leader of the Opposition of Parliament for the year 2018 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti - corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report of the Department of Management Audit for the year 2018;
- (ii) Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2113/6 of 05th March 2019
(Excise Notification No. 01/2019);
- (iii) Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 32 read with Sections 12, 14 and 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2113/7 of 05th March 2019
(Excise Notification No. 02/2019); and
- (iv) Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2113/8 of 05th March 2019
(Excise Notification No. 03/2019)

and moved that this Report and Notifications be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development presented the Annual Performance Report of the Co-operative Employees Commission for the year 2018 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Kurunegala Plantation Company Limited for the year 2016; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Coconut Research Board for the year 2017

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation for the year 2014 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.

(7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development for the year 2018 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation under Section 117 read with Section 13 of the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2087/27 of 06th September 2018 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) 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 matters mentioned on the Ministry of Education in the First Report of the Committee on Public Accounts for the period from 06.06.2017 to 08.12.2017 which was presented to Parliament on 21.02.2019 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Language Education & Training for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Reconciliation and North & East Reconstruction.

Question put, and agreed to

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Vijitha Herath, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Tea Research Board (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Tea Board for the years 2015 and 2016;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Tea Small Holdings Development Authority for the years 2015 and 2016;
- (iv) Annual Reports of the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka for the years 2015 and 2016;
- (v) Annual Reports of Thurusaviya Fund for the years 2016 and 2017;
- (vi) Performance Report of the Department of Rubber Development for the year 2017;
- (vii) Annual Reports of the Sugarcane Research Institute for the years 2014 and 2015;

- (viii) Performance Report of the Rubber Development Department for the year 2016;
- (ix) Annual Report of the Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka for the year 2016;
- (x) Annual Performance Reports of the Ministry of Plantation Industries for the years 2016 and 2017; and
- (xi) Annual Report of the National Institute of Plantation Management for the year 2016

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Lucky Jayawardana presented a petition dated 02.02.2019 from Mr. W.M.M. Samarakoon Banda of No. 237/1, Ganegoda, Megoda Kalugamuwa.
- (2) Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana presented a petition dated 18.02.2019 from Mr. Saman M. Kariyakarawana of No. 125/6, Sethsiri Mawatha, Kithulampitiya, Uluwitike, Galle.
- (3) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented a petition dated 11.01.2019 from Mr. R.M. Dinadasa of “Udayagira”, Imbulgashinna, Lunuwatta.
- (4) Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa presented a petition dated 10.03.2019 from Mr. K.P.A. Premachandra of No. 10, Senevirathna Gama, Thalagaskanda, Ambamiwila, Pallebedda.

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

(At 11.58 a. m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

5. People’s Bank (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance presented a Bill,— Bill to amend the People’s Bank Act, No. 29 of 1961.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 04, 2019 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day’s Sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. 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 6.30 p.m.. At 6.00 p.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Resolution under the Public Security Ordinance : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province Development and Youth Affairs moved,— That the Proclamation made by the President under Section 2 of the Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40), as amended by Act, No. 8 of 1959, Law No. 6 of 1978, and Act, No. 28 of 1988, bringing into operation the provisions of Part II of the aforesaid Ordinance throughout Sri Lanka with effect from 22nd May, 2019, be approved.

Hon. Vijitha Herath seconded by Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa moved,—That Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 12.50 p. m. Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.52 p. m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Highways & Road Development moved,—That Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.00 p. m. Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne took the Chair.)

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman seconded by Hon. Hector Appuhamy moved,—That Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.03 p. m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.40 p. m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

(At 5.48 p. m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to. Parliament having divided as follows : Ayes:22; Noes: 08.

The following Thirty (30) Hon. Members of Parliament voted by using the electronic voting system under the Standing Order 47(2)(b) of the Parliament, as follows:—

O 018. Mavai S. Senathirajah	No
O 021. Selvam Adaikkalanathan	No
O 047. Duminda Dissanayake	Yes
O 055. Lasantha Alagiyawanna	Yes
O 058. Seeniththamby Yoheeswaran	No

O 072. Shantha Bandara	Yes
O 077. S. Shritharan	No
O 097. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran	No
O 098. I. Charles Nirmalanathan	No
O 099. Gnanamuthu Srineshan	No
O 113. Shanthi Sriskandarasa	No
G 005. Gayantha Karunatileka	Yes
G 006. Lakshman Kiriella	Yes
G 034. Harsha De Silva	Yes
G 038. Lucky Jayawardana	Yes
G 048. Vadivel Suresh	Yes
G 053. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana	Yes
G 055. Edward Gunasekara	Yes
G 056. Anoma Gamage	Yes
G 059. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha	Yes
G 063. Piyasena Gamage	Yes
G 074. Anura Sidney Jayarathne	Yes
G 075. K.K. Piyadasa	Yes
G 077. A. A. Wijethunga	Yes
G 078. Hector Appuhamy	Yes
G 097. Thusitha Wijemanna	Yes
G 098. Rohini Kumari Wijerathna	Yes
G 101. Sandith Samarasinghe	Yes
G 103. Wijepala Hettiarachchi	Yes
G 104. Ashu Marasinghe	Yes

9. Adjournment (Hand Over of Paddy Lands in Jeyapuram to the People) :

The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.04 p. m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

And it being 6.30 p.m. the Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put.

The Parliament adjourned accordingly until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 04, 2019.