



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 58.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, May 08, 2019 at 1.00 p. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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 Areas Development
- Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene**, Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media and State Minister of Defence
- Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, Non Cabinet Minister of Labour & 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. 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 & Economic Affairs
- Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Power & Renewable Energy
- Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Education
- Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma**, State Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance
- Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development
- Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen**, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. H. M. M. Harees**, State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government
- 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. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma**, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment

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. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama

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. Velu Kumar

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. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. Malith Jayathilake

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. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Piyal Nishantha 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. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
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. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran

Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera
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. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha 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 —

- (i) Second Instalment – Part XXVII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2013;
- (ii) Second Instalment – Part XXIX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2014;
- (iii) Ninth Instalment – Part X of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015; and
- (iv) Second Instalment – Parts XII and XIII and Ninth Instalment – Part II of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2017

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Gem and Jewellery Research and Training Institute for the year 2015 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.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka for the year 2018 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka for the year 2017;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology - University of Kelaniya for the year 2017;
- (iii) Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Institute of Technology - University of Moratuwa for the year 2017;
- (iv) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka for the year 2017;
- (v) Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Institute of Human Resource Advancement - University of Colombo for the year 2017; and
- (vi) Annual Report of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences - University of Colombo for the year 2017

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency 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.

(7) 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 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.

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

(1) Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma presented —

- (i) a petition dated 21.03.2019 from Mr. A.V.P. Thilak of “Nilwala”, Uswewa, Tangalle; and
- (ii) a petition dated 02.03.2019 from Mr. J.K. Sirisena of Biligahakanda, Panthiya, Mathugama.

(2) Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura presented a petition dated 06.03.2019 from Mr. G. Sunil Ashoka Perera of No. 71/11, Jalashaya Road, Rathnapura.

(3) Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi presented a petition dated 17.10.2018 from Mrs. G.L. Piyaseeli of Aluthwatta, Kurunda, Akmeemana.

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

3. 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 1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 7.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Adjournment (Current situation of the country after the unexpected terrorist attack on Sunday, the 21st of April 2019) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Order read for resuming; Adjourned debate on question (07th May 2019).

Question again proposed and debate resumed.

(At 2.18 p. m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,—That Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.02 p. m. Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne took the Chair.)

The Minister of Megapolis & Western Development moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.03 p. m. Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs moved,—That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.45 p. m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

And it being 7.00 p.m. the Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put.

The Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, May 09, 2019.