



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 68.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, June 18, 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. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale, Minister of Justice & Prison Reforms

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. 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 and Rural Economic Affairs

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

Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga, Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation

Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Finance

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

Hon. P. Harrison, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

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. (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. 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 Aluwihare, 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. 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. 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. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Skills Development & Vocational Training

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Piyasena Gamage
Hon. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane
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. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
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. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. S. B. Nawinne
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan

Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Palitha Range Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
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. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman

Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
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. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran

Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
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

Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker took the Chair.

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Performance Report of the Office of the Cabinet of Ministers for the year 2018;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Prime Minister's Office for the year 2018; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman) for the year 2017

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Human Resources Development Council of Sri Lanka for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Survey Department for the year 2018;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Land Title Settlement Department for the year 2018; and
- (iii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Lands & Parliamentary Reforms for the year 2018

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

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.04.2019 to 31.05.2019 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 6 of 2019;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2113/9 of 05th March 2019;
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2114/25 of 13th March 2019;
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2114/49 of 14th March 2019; and
- (v) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2123/5 of 13th May 2019

and moved that the Note on Supplementary Allocations and Orders be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Hambantota for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Performance and Financial Report of the District Secretariat - Colombo for the year 2018;
- (iii) Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat - Rathnapura for the year 2018;
- (iv) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat - Batticaloa for the year 2018;

- (v) Performance Report and Accounts of the Registrar General's Department for the year 2018;
- (vi) Performance Report of the Department of Immigration & Emigration for the year 2018;
- (vii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial Councils and Local Government - Home Affairs Division for the year 2018; and
- (viii) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial Councils and Local Government - Provincial Councils & Local Government Division for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Wijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital for the year 2015 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Housing, Construction & Cultural Affairs for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Cultural Affairs for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of National Integration, Official Languages, Social Progress and Hindu Religious Affairs for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Reconciliation and North & East Reconstruction.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) People's Bank (Amendment) Bill; and
- (ii) Notifications under the Excise Ordinance

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam presented a petition dated 20.09.2018 from Mr. M.G. Sarath of No. 217/1/4, Kanaththa Road, Pelenwatta, Pannipitiya.
- (2) Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 19.01.2019 from Mrs. H.P. Premawathie of Siwgiriwatta, Udapotha, Bulathkohupitiya; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 12.01.2019 from Mr. K.P.C. Rajangana of No. 16/23, Yaya 80, Nugagolla.
- (3) Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha presented a petition dated 04.03.2019 from Mrs. R. V. K. Pathirage of No. 331/3, Nawagamuwa South, Ranala.
- (4) Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella presented a petition dated 13.06.2018 from Mr. M.V.C. Ariyaratna of No. 96/1/A, Hamangoda, Katugastota.
- (5) Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake presented a petition dated 19.08.2018 from Mr. H.B.M.W. Aberathna Bandara of “Sandamali”, Hippala Road, Thalathuoya.

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

4. Regulations under the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 112 read with Section 16 of the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act, No. 43 of 2000 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2104/9 of 31st December 2018, which were presented on 21.05.2019, be approved.

(At 2.57 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Finance moved,—That Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.01 p.m. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna took the Chair.)

The Non Cabinet Minister of Digital Infrastructure and Information Technology moved,—That Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.42 p.m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.24 p.m. Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.1) : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the 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, which was presented on 24.05.2019, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 01/2019)

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No. 2) : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the 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, which was presented on 24.05.2019, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 02/2019)

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No. 3) : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the 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, which was presented on 24.05.2019, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 03/2019)

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (Restrictions on Media Freedom by Proposed Cyber Protection Laws) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.20 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, 2019.