



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 77.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, July 12, 2019 at 10.30 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. 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. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Integration, Official Languages, Social Progress and Hindu Religious Affairs

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

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. Malik Samarawickrama, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade

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

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

Hon. Kabir Hashim, Minister of Highways & Road Development and Petroleum 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. Ruwan Wijewardene, Non Cabinet Minister of Mass Media and State Minister of Defence

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, Non Cabinet Minister of Science, Technology & Research

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. Niroshan Perera, State Minister of National Policies & Economic Affairs

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. Vadivel Suresh, State Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Foreign 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. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Chandima Gamage
Hon. Piyasena Gamage
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana
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. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra

Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
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. 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. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Kumara Welgama

Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Kanaka Herath

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 Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

(i) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2113/10 of 05th March 2019; and

(ii) Annual Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Customs for the year 2018 and moved that the Order and the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Regulation made by the Minister of Justice & Prison Reforms with the concurrence of the Chief Justice under Section 61 of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 read with Section 60 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2116/28 of 26th March 2019 and moved that the Regulation 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 Performance and Accounts Report of the Vocational Training and Skills Development Division of the Ministry of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement & Rehabilitation, Northern Province Development, Vocational Training & Skills Development and Youth Affairs for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Consumer Affairs Authority for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

(1) Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara presented —

- (i) a petition dated 11.02.2019 from Mrs. L. H. Kalyani De Silva of No. 3029, 3rd Step, Anuradhapura; and
- (ii) a petition dated 27.01.2019 from Mr. R. A. Gamini Ranasinghe of 3rd Lane, Kurundankulama, Anuradhapura.

(2) Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare presented a petition dated 23.03.2019 from Mr. T. B. Hitihamu of No. 105, Pallethalavinna, Katugasthota.

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

(At 11.08 a.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

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 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 11.30 a.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.

4. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That Standing Orders 52 & 53 of the Parliament be suspended to enable publication in Government Gazette today the Private Member's Bill presented to Parliament for "Abolition of Death Penalty" for the purpose of repealing a reference made to the imposition of Capital Punishment under any Act or law.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Select Committee of Parliament to study and report to Parliament its recommendations to ensure Communal and Religious Harmony in Sri Lanka : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the Select Committee of Parliament to study and report to Parliament its recommendations to ensure Communal and Religious Harmony in Sri Lanka, appointed by the Speaker on 07 September 2018, presented an Interim Report on its findings within the time limit granted by the motion agreed to by Parliament on 04 September 2018 and that in terms of Standing Order 102 of the Parliament, this Parliament do grant, an extension of time till 12 January 2020 to present the Final Report.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Committee on High Posts : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 124(1) of the Parliament and the resolution adopted by Parliament on 26 February 2016, the Committee on High Posts shall consist of seventeen (17) Members of Parliament to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, as per the decision taken on 11 July 2019, by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Adjournment (Allegations Levelled against Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Ports & Shipping and Southern Development moved,— That Hon. Mujibur Rahuman do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.03 p.m. Hon. Mujibur Rahuman took the Chair.)

And notice being taken that a Quorum was not present, the Parliament was counted and a Quorum not being present, the Parliament was at 4.18 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member without question put, under Standing Order 11 of the Parliament until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23, 2019.