



*(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)*

No. 88. ]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 1.00 p.m.

### PRESENT :

**Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri**, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

**Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

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**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. Navin Dissanayake**, Minister of Plantation Industries

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

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

**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, 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. 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. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage**, State Minister of Petroleum Resources Development
- Hon. Lucky Jayawardana**, State Minister of City Planning, Water Supply and Higher Education
- Hon. Niroshan Perera**, State Minister of National Policies & Economic Affairs
- Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Power & Renewable Energy
- 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. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen**, State Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Vasantha Senanayake**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
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- 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
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- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
- Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana**
- Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara**
- Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. Dilum Amunugama**
- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**

**Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma**  
**Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage**  
**Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**  
**Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail**  
**Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**  
**Hon. Faizal Cassim**  
**Hon. Velu Kumar**  
**Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**  
**Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran**  
**Hon. Chandima Gamage**  
**Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**  
**Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana**  
**Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera**  
**Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**  
**Hon. D. V. Chanaka**  
**Hon. Sisira Jayakody**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa**  
**Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**  
**Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne**  
**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. T. Ranjith De Zoysa**  
**Hon. S. B. Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake**  
**Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha**

**Hon. Douglas Devananda**  
**Hon. S. B. Nawinne**  
**Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer**  
**Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana**  
**Hon. K. K. Piyadasa**  
**Hon. Susantha Punchinilame**  
**Hon. Sanath Nishantha 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. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda**  
**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. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe**  
**Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana**  
**Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**  
**Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran**  
**Hon. Bimal Rathnayake**  
**Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**  
**Hon. Ishak Rahuman**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa**

**Hon. Namal Rajapaksa**  
**Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa**, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament  
**Hon. Angajan Ramanathan**  
**Hon. Gamini Lokuge**  
**Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**  
**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 Wijesekara**  
**Hon. Duleep Wijesekera**  
**Hon. Hesha Withanage**  
**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. E. Saravanapavan**  
**Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan**  
**Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**  
**Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi**  
**Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala**  
**Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran**  
**Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**  
**Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**  
**Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah**  
**Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**  
**Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**  
**Hon. Sunil Handunnetti**

**Hon. H. M. M. Harees**

**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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.**

**1. Announcements by the Speaker :** The Deputy Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform the determination of the Supreme Court on the Bill entitled ‘Abolition of Death Penalty’ in respect of which petitions had been filed in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has dismissed the three petitions filed at the Supreme Court as the Supreme Court has no Jurisdiction to entertain any petition to declare that a Bill is consistent with the Constitution in terms of Article 120 of the Constitution.

I order that the determination of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today’s proceedings.”

II

“I wish to inform the determination of the Supreme Court on the Bill entitled ‘Holidays (Amendment)’ in respect of which two petitions had been filed in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has determined that the provisions of the Bill are not inconsistent with the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has further stated that the amendments suggested in the determination would bring more clarity to the legislation.

I order that the determination of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today’s proceedings.”

**2. Presentation of Papers :** (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of National Botanic Gardens for the year 2018 and moved that the 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 Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the 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 01.06.2019 to 15.07.2019 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 6 of 2019 and moved that the Note on Supplementary Allocations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Cement Corporation for the year 2015; and
- (ii) Interim Report on the issues that have arisen in relation to the quality of the milk powder imported to Sri Lanka

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Hadabima Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2016 and moved that the Report 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 Performance Report of the Legal Draftsman's Department for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations under Section 105 of the Factories Ordinance (Chapter 128) read with Section 3 of the aforesaid Ordinance regarding Registration of Factories and Approval of Factory Buildings;
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations under Section 105 of the Factories Ordinance (Chapter 128) read with Section 34 of the aforesaid Ordinance regarding Registration of Steam Boilers;

- (iii) Regulations made by the Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations under Section 105 of the Factories Ordinance (Chapter 128) read with Sections 34, 35, 36, 36A, 38 and 38A of the aforesaid Ordinance regarding issuance of Certificates for Examination of Steam Boilers and other Pressure Vessels;
- (iv) Regulations made by the Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations under Section 105 of the Factories Ordinance (Chapter 128) read with Section 58A of the aforesaid Ordinance regarding Protection of workers from Excessive Noise; and
- (v) Regulations made by the Minister of Labour & Trade Union Relations under Section 105 of the Factories Ordinance (Chapter 128) read with Section 13 of the aforesaid Ordinance regarding General Standards of Lighting

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

Question put, and agreed to.

**3. Presentation of Reports from Committees :** Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development presented the Report of the said Committee on, “Regulations under the Intellectual Property Act, No. 36 of 2003” which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

**4. Presentation of Public Petitions :**

- (1) Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma presented a petition dated 27.05.2019 from Mrs. H. W. Malani of No. 134/36, Pahala Imbulgoda, Imbulgoda.
- (2) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —
  - (i) a petition dated 08.07.2019 from Mr. B. S. Vidanage of “Kesaki” School Road, Kirinda, Puhulwella;
  - (ii) a petition dated 08.07.2019 from Mr. G. Rathnasiri and four others of No. 292, R.B.-03, Serunuwara; and
  - (iii) a petition dated 08.07.2019 from Mrs. P. G. Chandrakanthi of Revatha Lane, 5<sup>th</sup> Post, Kandy Road, China bay.
- (3) Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera presented —
  - (i) a petition dated 20.06.2019 from Mr. A. D. Chaminda Kumara of Old Airport Road, Nagoda, Kalutara;
  - (ii) a petition dated 04.07.2019 from Mr. A. S. Prasanga of “Buddhi Niwasa”, Near the Hospital, Deniyaya; and
  - (iii) a petition dated 03.07.2019 from Mr. Y. U. Upali Kulathunga of Ranaviru Jayalath Jayasinghe Mawatha, Palayangoda, Bombuwala.
- (4) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented a petition dated 07.06.2019 from Mr. R. Thilakananda of Remunagoda, Kalutara.

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

**5. Value Added Tax (Amendment) :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance presented,—“Bill to amend the Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, September 03, 2019 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

**6. Nation Building Tax (Amendment) :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Finance presented,—“Bill to amend the Nation Building Tax Act, No. 9 of 2009.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, September 03, 2019 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

**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 sittings of Parliament on this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 5.00 p.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

**8. State Land (Special Provisions) Bill :** Second Reading.

Bill by leave of the House withdrawn.

**9. Regulations under the Intellectual Property Act :** The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Non Cabinet Minister of Science, Technology & Research moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Science, Technology & Research under Section 204 of the Intellectual Property Act, No. 36 of 2003 read with Sections 6, 9, 17, 18 and 25 of the aforesaid Act relating to implementation of the mechanism for royalty payments to rights holders of songs or musical works and empowering the Collective Societies and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2128/6 of 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019, which were presented on 24.07.2019, be approved.

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,— That Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.01 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.00 p.m. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

**10. Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill :**  
Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and referred by the Presiding Member to the Legislative Standing Committee under Standing Order 53(3) of the Parliament.

**11. Adjournment (Relief to Farmers of Drought-Affected Mahaweli “H” Zone) :** 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. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.51 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna took the Chair.)

Hon. Bimal Rathnayake seconded by Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama moved,— That Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.06 p.m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.32 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2019.