



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 91.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, August 23, 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. 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. 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. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of
Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development, Vocational Training &
Skills Development

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

Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Minister of City Planning, Water Supply and Higher Education

Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan, Non Cabinet Minister of Special Areas Development

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. Buddhika Pathirana, State Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development, Vocational Training & Skills Development

Hon. Niroschan Perera, State Minister of National Policies & Economic Affairs

Hon. A. D. Premadasa, State Minister of Power & Renewable Energy

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne, State Minister of Finance

Hon. Vasantha Senanayake, State Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Edward Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms

Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana, Deputy Minister of Skills Development & Vocational Training

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

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

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Piyasena Gamage

Hon. Siripala Gamalath

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana

Hon. Padma Udayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne

Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. S. B. Nawinne
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

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. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“In terms of Standing Order 113(2) of the Parliament, I have nominated the following co-opted Members to serve on the Legislative Standing Committee for the consideration of the ‘Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill’:—

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development presented the —

- (i) 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 performance of the Office of the Leader of the House of Parliament for the year 2017 in the Third Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament on 21.06.2019; and
- (ii) 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 performance of the Parliament of Sri Lanka for the year 2017 in the Third Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament on 21.06.2019

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

(2) 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 performance of the Office of the Chief Government Whip of the Parliament for the year 2017 in the Third Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament on 21.06.2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Merchant Bank of Sri Lanka and Finance PLC for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill
- (ii) Order under Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979; and
- (iii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation for the year 2018

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Hesha Withanage, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Vijitha Herath, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Annual Report of the Coconut Cultivation Board for the year 2016;

(ii) Annual Reports of the Coconut Research Board for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017; and

(iii) Annual Report of the Coconut Development Authority for the year 2016 which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(3) Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No.13 of 1989;
- (ii) Resolution for Determination of Recovery of Pension Gratuity of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeal; and
- (iii) Resolution for Determination of Salary of the Auditor General, Mr. W.P.C. Wickramaratne

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

(1) Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana presented —

- (i) a petition dated 19.06.2019 from Mr. C. R. D. Perera of No. 359/12, Waragoda Road, Kelaniya;
- (ii) a petition dated 19.06.2019 from Mr. C. R. D. Perera serving at the Administration Division, National Building Research Organization, No. 99/1, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05;
- (iii) a petition dated 13.06.2019 from Mr. D. A. M. C. Rupasingha of No. 7/19, Thoramulla, Diyagama, Homagama; and
- (iv) a petition dated 03.07.2019 from Mr. Siripala Rathnayaka of No. 474, Malwatta Road, Kaduwela.

(2) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented a petition dated 24.06.2019 from Mr. Mahendra V. Wijethilaka of No. 03, Manthri Place, Colombo 05.

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

5. Votes of Condolence : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. Salinda Dissanayake, Member of Parliament.

(At 11.47 a.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Hon. Gamini Lokuge seconded by Hon. T. B. Ekanayake moved,—That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.46 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake seconded by Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe moved,—That Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.50 p.m. Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam took the Chair.)

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,—That Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.37 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama took the Chair.)

(At 4.57 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Deputy Speaker announced that the Speaker and himself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the death of Hon. Salinda Dissanayake, Member of Parliament and directed the Secretary-General of Parliament to send a copy of the Official Report (Hansard) to the members of his bereaved family.

6. Adjournment (Absorption of Principals Appointed on Supernumerary Basis to Permanent Principals' Service) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 5.07 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 03, 2019.