



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 92.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, September 03, 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. 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. Lakshman Kiriella, Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Minister of Housing, Construction and Cultural Affairs

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 Livestock Development

Hon. Tilak Marapana, Minister of Foreign 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. 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. 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. Niroschan Perera**, State Minister of National Policies & Economic Affairs
- 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. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development
- 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. 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. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage**
- Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**
- Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail**
- Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**
- Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**
- Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**
- Hon. Dunes Gankanda**
- Hon. Chandima Gamage**
- Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**
- Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
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. Piyanaka Jayaratne
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
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. S. Premarathna
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake

Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
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. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. Vijitha 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. Messages from the President : The Speaker read the following message received from the President:—



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி

My No. PS/CSA/00/1/12/6

President of Sri Lanka

August 22, 2019

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya
Speaker
Parliament of Sri Lanka

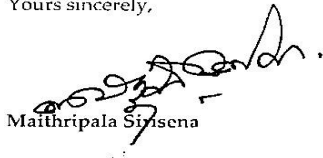
Hon. Speaker,

The Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40)

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Section 12 of the Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40), I have issued an order to the effect that all members of the Armed Forces specified in the First Schedule are summoned for the maintenance of Public Order in the areas specified in Second Schedule thereof taking into consideration the need for the Public Order to be maintained.

Accordingly, I hereby inform the Parliament of the said Order in terms of Section 2(3) of the aforesaid Ordinance read with Section 21(2) thereof.

Yours sincerely,


Maithripala Sirisena



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Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

2. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform the Parliament that I have received copies of two petitions filed at the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 121(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Ruhunu Economic Development Corporation of Sri Lanka’.”

II

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera, Member of Parliament, has been discharged from the membership of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources and nominated the Hon. T. B. Ekanayake, Member of Parliament, to serve in that Committee, by the Committee of Selection on 23 August 2019, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 111(22)(a) of the Parliament.”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Geological Survey & Mines Bureau for the year 2016 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 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 Election Commission 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 —

- (i) Annual Report of the People’s Bank for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Savings Bank for the year 2018;
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2122/4 of 07th May 2019;
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2124/2 of 21st May 2019
- (v) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2124/4 of 21st May 2019;

- (vi) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2130/20 of 03rd July 2019;
- (vii) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2131/30 of 10th July 2019;
- (viii) Order made by the Acting Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2132/13 of 18th July 2019;
- (ix) Resolution under Section 10 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties
(Gazette Extraordinary No. 2127/13 of 11th June 2019); and
- (x) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 19(A) of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235), relating to exemptions of Custom Import Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2134/34 of 31st July 2019

and moved that those Reports, Orders and the Resolution be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Public Administration, Disaster Management and Livestock Development presented the Reports 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 Ministry of Public Administration and Management, Ministry of Disaster Management, Department of Pensions and Department of Meteorology 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.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Transport Medical Institute for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media presented the Report of the said Committee on, “Regulation under the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978” which was referred to the said Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Gamini Lokuge presented a petition dated 03.07.2019 from Mr. R. D. S. U. Dhanapala of No. 32/6, Senanayaka Mawatha, Welhena, Minuwangoda.
- (2) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 08.07.2019 from Mr. Anura Weligamage of Kanda Uda, Gnanikulama, Kandy Road, Anuradhapura; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 08.07.2019 from Mr. D. G. Nandasena of No. 28/1, Ariyawansa Mawatha, Kantale.
- (3) Hon. Sunil Handunnetti presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 25.06.2019 from Mrs. A. L. Karunawathie of Dangodella watta, Ihalagama, Deniyaya;
 - (ii) a petition dated 07.07.2019 from Mr. A. T. L. Sajeewa Dharmasena of Werellawatta, Giriulla Road, Meerigama (South); and
 - (iii) a petition dated 24.06.2019 from Mrs. R. P. Rajangani of Ihalagoda, Rajapuragoda, Walasmulla.

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

(At 2.29 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

6. Regulation under the Judicature Act : The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development on behalf of the Minister of Justice & Prison Reforms moved,— That 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, which was presented on 12.07.2019, be approved.

The Minister of Public Enterprise, Kandyan Heritage and Kandy Development moved,—That “Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.”

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.01 p.m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake 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 4.01 p.m. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Adjournment : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That “this Parliament do now adjourn.”

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 4.39 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 04, 2019.