



*(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)*

No. 93. ]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, September 04, 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

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

**Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade

**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. (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. 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. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage**, State Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

**Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana**, State Minister of Primary Industries & Social Empowerment

**Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Education

**Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance

**Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development

**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

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**Hon. Hector Appuhamy**

**Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**

**Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**

**Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera**

**Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**

**Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama**

**Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**

**Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage**

**Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**  
**Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail**  
**Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**  
**Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**  
**Hon. Velu Kumar**  
**Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**  
**Hon. Piyasena Gamage**  
**Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**  
**Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**  
**Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana**  
**Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera**  
**Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**  
**Hon. Sisira Jayakody**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa**  
**Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**  
**Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne**  
**Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne**  
**Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena**  
**Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. M. S. Thowfeek**  
**Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**  
**Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva**  
**Hon. Anura Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Duminda Dissanayake**  
**Hon. S. B. Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Douglas Devananda**  
**Hon. S. B. Nawinne**  
**Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana**  
**Hon. K. K. Piyadasa**  
**Hon. Susantha Punchinilame**  
**Hon. Dilan Perera**  
**Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera**  
**Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. Ashoka Priyantha**

**Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra**  
**Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda**  
**Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**  
**Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**  
**Hon. S. M. Marikkar**  
**Hon. K. Kader Masthan**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe**  
**Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana**  
**Hon. Bimal Rathnayake**  
**Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Lohan Ratwatte**  
**Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella**  
**Hon. Ishak Rahuman**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa**  
**Hon. Nimal Lanza**  
**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. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera**  
**Hon. Duleep Wijesekera**  
**Hon. Chandima Weerakkody**  
**Hon. Wimal Weerawansa**  
**Hon. S. Shritharan**  
**Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan**  
**Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**  
**Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala**  
**Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran**  
**Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**  
**Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**

**Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**

**Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**

**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. Presentation of Papers :** (1) The Speaker presented the Performance Report of the Election Commission of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the First quarter of 2019 (01.01.2019 - 31.03.2019).

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

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department 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.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Rules (Excise Notification No. 04/2019) made by the Minister of Finance under Section 32 read with Sections 8 and 30 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), relating to Sticker and Sticker Management System and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2128/30 of 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and moved that those Rules be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Institute of Education for the year 2015; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Educational Publication Department for the year 2017

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Office on Missing Persons 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.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

**2. Presentation of Reports from Committees :** (1) Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government for the year 2017;
- (ii) Annual Reports and Accounts of the Local Loans and Development Fund for the years 2012 and 2013;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance for the year 2016;
- (iv) Performance Report of the Ministry of Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs for the year 2018;
- (v) Performance Report of the Department of Posts for the year 2018;
- (vi) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Public Administration and Disaster Management for the year 2018; and
- (vii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration for the year 2013

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (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 01.06.2019 to 15.07.2019 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 6 of 2019; and
- (ii) Excise (Amendment) Bill

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

**3. Presentation of Public Petitions :**

- (1) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented —
- (i) a petition dated 05.05.2019 from Mr. O. Narada Sri Vitharana of No. 47, Mahawala Road, Rathnapura; and
  - (ii) a petition dated 01.07.2019 from Mr. R. M. P. K. Rathnayeka of No. 04, Trinity Gardens, Pallekele, Kundasale.
- (2) Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne presented a petition dated 13.06.2019 from Mr. D. G. T. Dodamwala of Weligodella, Bombuwala.

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

**4. Immigrants and Emigrants (Amendment) :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Internal & Home Affairs and Provincial Councils & Local Government presented,— “Bill to amend the Immigrants and Emigrants Act (Chapter 351).”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, be printed and be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

**5. 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 6.30 p.m. At 2.00 p.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.

**6. Ministerial Consultative Committees :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the resolution adopted by Parliament on 09<sup>th</sup> July 2019, the designations of the following Ministerial Consultative Committees shall be re-designated as follows as per the decision taken by the Committee of Selection on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019:—

- The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development”; and
- The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Administration, Disaster Management and Rural Economic Affairs as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Administration, Disaster Management and Livestock Development”.

Question put, and agreed to.

**7. Adjournment (Irregular Release of Funds from Central Cultural Fund) :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That “this Parliament do now adjourn.”

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 2.23 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.12 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar 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 4.05 p.m. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Administration, Disaster Management and Livestock Development moved,—That “Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.”

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.12 p.m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake took the Chair.)

The Non Cabinet Minister of Economic Reforms and Public Distribution moved,—That “Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi do take the Chair.”

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 6.15 p.m. Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi took the Chair.)

The Parliament was at 6.43 p.m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, September 05, 2019 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.