



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 67.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, June 07, 2019 at 10.30 a. m.

PRESENT :

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

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

Hon. P. Harrison, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

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

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Piyasena Gamage

Hon. Siripala Gamalath

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardane

Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena

Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. Malith Jayathilake

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne

Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana

Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon

Hon. Sirinal de Mel

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. S. B. Nawinne
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Susantha Punchinilame
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka 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. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Deputy Speaker presented the Performance Report of the Finance Commission for the year 2018 (01.01.2018-31.12.2018) in terms of Article 41B (6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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 Department of Christian Religious Affairs for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report of the Comptroller General's Office for the year 2018;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Department of National Budget for the year 2018; and
- (iii) Performance Report of the Department of Legal Affairs for the year 2018

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

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report and Annual Accounts of the District Secretariat - Killinochchi for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Polonnaruwa for the year 2018;
- (iii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Kegalle for the year 2018;
- (iv) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Moneragala for the year 2018;
- (v) Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Mullaitivu for the year 2018;
- (vi) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Puttalam for the year 2018;
- (vii) Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Kurunegala for the year 2018;
- (viii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Nuwara Eliya for the year 2018;
- (ix) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat - Kandy for the year 2018;

- (x) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat - Ampara for the year 2018; and
- (xi) Performance Report of the Department for Registration of Persons for the year 2018.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development – Fisheries Section 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.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Public Administration & Disaster Management for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Public Trustee 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.

(8) 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 Department of Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs in the Second Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts for the period from 23.02.2018 to 12.10.2018 which was presented to Parliament on 04.04.2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) 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 Ministry of Foreign Employment in the Second Report for the Third Session of the Eighth Parliament of the Committee on Public Accounts for the period from 23.02.2018 to 12.10.2018 which was presented to Parliament on 04.04.2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Manpower & Employment 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.

(11) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Fundamental Studies 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 under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament :

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled “Chamber of Construction Industries of Sri Lanka (Incorporation)” of the Minister of Housing Construction and Cultural Affairs.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

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) Motor Traffic (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Regulations under the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Ports and Shipping for the year 2017;
- (iv) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the years 2015 and 2016;
- (v) Annual Report of the National Transport Medical Institute for the year 2015;
- (vi) Performance Report of the Department of Motor Traffic for the year 2017;
- (vii) Performance Report of the Department of Sri Lanka Railway for the year 2017;
- (viii) Annual Reports of the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka for the years 2015 and 2016; and
- (ix) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Transport Board for the year 2014

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Women and Gender presented the Report of the said Committee on, “Annual Performance Report of the Department of Probation and Childcare Services for the year 2017” which was referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena presented a petition dated 05.04.2019 from Mr. Samanpriya Rodrigo of No. 137/3, Raja Maha Vihara Road, Mirihana, Kotte.
- (2) Hon. Susantha Punchinilame presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 03.04.2019 from Mr. G. A. Lakshman Silva of GF Vadiya, Klefunburg, Chinabay;
 - (ii) a petition dated 06.04.2019 from Mr. I. M. R. B. Kohombakadawala of No. 235/3, Wijayaba Mawatha, Negombo Road, Kurunegala; and
 - (iii) a petition dated 11.04.2019 from Mr. P. H. Abeywardene of No. 76, Main Street, Kantale.
- (3) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 05.02.2019 from Mr. B. K. C. Gunasekara of No. 43, “Saman”, Baddegama Road, Hiribura, Galle; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 28.02.2019 from Mr. U. W. A. Piyasiri of “Sirisevana”, Galagama, Nakulugamuwa.
- (4) Hon. K. K. Piyadasa presented a petition dated 21.01.2019 from Mrs. J. M. Sumanawathie of Horakada, Ginigathhena.

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

5. Business of the Parliament : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the Government Business shall have precedence this day.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Sittings of the Parliament : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of 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 7.30 p.m.. At 1.30 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.

7. Motor Traffic (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to.

Clause 3

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication proposed an amendment to leave out the words “140 and 141” in line 10, in page 3 and substitute the following,—

“ 140,141 and 142 ”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clauses 4 and 5 were agreed to.

Clause 6

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication proposed an amendment to insert the following immediately after the words “section 224 ” in line14, in page 5,—

“and also be liable to the amount prescribed for on the spot fines under section 215A”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clauses 7 to 11 were agreed to.

Clause 12

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication proposed an amendment to leave out the words “to a fine not less than two thousand five hundred rupees and not exceeding three thousand five hundred rupees, and on a second conviction to a fine not less than three thousand five hundred rupees and not exceeding five thousand rupees, and on a third and subsequent conviction to a fine not less than five thousand rupees and not exceeding twenty five thousand rupees.” in lines 2 to 11, in page 8 and substitute the following,—

“to a fine not less than two thousand five hundred rupees and not exceeding seven thousand five hundred rupees, and on a second conviction to a fine not less than seven thousand five hundred rupees and not exceeding fifteen thousand rupees, and on a third and subsequent conviction to a fine not less than fifteen thousand rupees and not exceeding twenty five thousand rupees.’ ”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clause 13

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication proposed an amendment to leave out the words “140 and 141” in page 8, in line 10 and substitute the following,—

“140, 141 and 142”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clause 14 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Transport & Civil Aviation moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

(At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

8. Adjournment (Agreements Entered into by Government of Sri Lanka with Foreign States) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Buddhasasana & Wayamba Development moved,—That Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.08 p.m. Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya took the Chair.)

Hon. Abdul Haleem seconded by Hon. S. M. Chandrasena 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 State Minister of Highways & Road Development moved,—That Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.41 p.m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake 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 5.46 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.35 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.