



(Eighth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 100.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, October 08, 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. 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. 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. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of
Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development, Vocational Training &
Skills Development

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

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. Ravindra Samaraweera, Non Cabinet Minister of Labour & Trade Union
Relations

Hon. Faizal Cassim, State Minister of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

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. Edward Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms

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

Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff, Deputy Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama

Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Piyasena Gamage

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Sisira Jayakody

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena

Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah

Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam

Hon. Sirinal de Mel

Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka

Hon. Douglas Devananda

Hon. S. B. Nawinne

Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer

Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan

Hon. K. K. Piyadasa

Hon. Susantha Punchinilame

Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera

Hon. Ashoka Priyantha

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle

Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha

Hon. Shantha Bandara

Hon. Imran Maharoof

Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe

Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. D. B. Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Manoj Hewagampalage

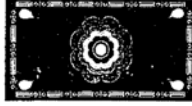
Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

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:—



ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජනාධිපති
இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

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

September 23, 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



ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජය
இலங்கை சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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

I

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bills entitled ‘Wages Boards (Amendment)’ on the 24th of September 2019, ‘Shrama Vasana Fund (Amendment)’ and ‘People’s Bank (Amendment)’ on the 30th of September 2019 and ‘Merchant Shipping (Amendment)’ on the 02nd of October 2019 in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

II

“A motion may be moved to refer the question of Privilege raised in Parliament by the Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe, M.P., on 09th August 2019 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Audit Service Commission 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.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Order declared by the President under Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979, making Public Transport Services for passengers or goods as essential public services and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2143/51 of 03rd October 2019 and moved that the Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms 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 Presidential Secretariat 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;
- (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 Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Department of Forest Conservation and Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management 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

- (iii) 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 Judicial Service Commission Secretariat 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.

(4) 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 Ministry of Public Enterprise Development 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.

(5) 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 Ministry of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms, Survey Department of Sri Lanka, Department of Government Printing, Department of Land Use Policy Planning, Land Commissioner General's Department and Land Title Settlement Department 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.

(6) The Minister of Tourism Development, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs presented the Orders made by the Minister of Tourism and Sports under Section 2 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (Chapter 469) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1920/3 of 22nd June 2015 and moved that those Orders be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Tourism Development, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs 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 Ministry of Tourism Development, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs and Department of Christian Religious Affairs 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.

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

- (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 15.07.2019 to 15.09.2019 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 6 of 2019;
- (ii) The Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Sultanate of Oman under Section 75(1) of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 for the avoidance of Double Taxation and the prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, entered in to on 15th August 2018; and
- (iii) Scheme made by the Minister of Finance under Section 9 of the Welfare Benefits Act, No. 24 of 2002 relating to Methodology to identify low-income families for Welfare Benefit payments and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2128/24 of 20th June 2019 as amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2141/16 of 18th September 2019

and moved that the Note on Supplementary Allocations, Agreement and the Scheme be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Ayurveda Medical Council for the year 2017 and moved that the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd. for the year 2016-2017; and
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Lanka Sathosa Limited for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Business and Commerce.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission 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.

(12) 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 Department of Co-Operative Development 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.

(13) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka 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.

(15) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms 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 Women and Child Affairs and Dry Zone Development and Department of Probation and Child Care Services 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.

(16) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Guidelines made by the Minister of Justice & Prison Reforms under Section 12(f) of the Office on Missing Persons (Establishment, Administration and Discharge of functions) Act, No. 14 of 2016 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2133/36 of 24th July 2019 and moved that those Guidelines be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti - corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(17) 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 Ministry of Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs 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.

(18) 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 Ministry of National Integration, Official Languages, Social Progress and Hindu Religious Affairs 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.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Sports Fund for the year 2017; and
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Telecommunication, Foreign Employment and Sports under Section 41 read with Section 31 of the Sports Law No. 25 of 1973 regarding National Association of Sports and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2128/8 of 18th June 2019

and moved that the Report and Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage.

Question put, and agreed to.

(20) 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 Foreign Employment Division of Ministry of Telecommunication, Foreign Employment and Sports 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.

(21) 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 Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade and Department of Import and Export Control 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.

(22) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms 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 Labour and Trade Union Relations, Department of Labour and Department of Manpower and Employment 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.

(23) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Science Foundation 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.

(24) 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 Ministry of Digital Infrastructure and Information Technology 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.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Edward Gunasekara, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri, Chair of the Legislative Standing Committee presented the Report of the said Committee on the Bill entitled, “Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka (Incorporation)” which was referred to the Committee, together with the Minutes of proceedings.

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

Bill, as reported by Legislative Standing Committee, to be considered on Wednesday, 23rd October 2019.

(2) Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report on the, “Proposed Amendments to the Monetary Law Act, No. 58 of 1949” which was compiled by the said Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Edward Gunasekara presented a petition dated 13.08.2019 from Mrs. M. P. Ajantha Vinodani of Dagampitiya, Kelanigama, Ginigathhena.
- (2) Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana presented a petition dated 07.07.2019 from Mr. J. Karunarathne of Thennahena, Nawalakanda, Kalawana.
- (3) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented a petition dated 23.07.2019 from Mr. K. M. Sunil Padmasiri of Narawelketiya, Pituwala, Elpitiya.
- (4) Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 08.08.2019 from Mr. A. N. Wickremasinghe of No. 382/2 A, Circular Road, Polonnaruwa; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 17.07.2019 from Mr. Y. M. Sunil Yapa Bandara of Gamudawa Circular Road, Hingurakgoda.
- (5) Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera presented a petition dated 23.06.2019 from Mrs. I. M. Sirima Gunawardena of Meepitikanda Road, Gomaduwa, Yatiyanthota.
- (6) Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe presented a petition dated 06.07.2019 from Mr. M. P. Sanath Rohitha Premakumara of No. 174/71 B, Light Road, Kantale.

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

6. Companies (Amendment) : The Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development, Vocational Training & Skills Development presented,—“Bill to amend the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, be printed and be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

7. Prevention of Offences relating to Sports : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Telecommunication, Foreign Employment and Sports presented,—“Bill to provide for the prevention of match fixing, corruption, illegal manipulation and illegal betting in sports and for the appointment of a special investigations unit for investigation of offences and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, be printed and be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

8. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1) : 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 sittings of Parliament on Wednesday, 23rd October, 2019 shall be 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. At 6.30 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.

9. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 23rd October, 2019.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi seconded by Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill :—

“Bill to amend the Lions Clubs International District 306A-National Development Foundation Trust (Incorporation) Act, No. 28 of 1986.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament to the Minister of Primary Industries and Social Empowerment for report.

11. Regulation under the Public Contracts Act : The Minister of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development moved,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Industry and Commerce with the concurrence of the President under Section 36 of the Public Contracts Act, No. 3 of 1987 and the regulations published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 508/7 of 02nd June 1988 last amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1773/36 of 30th August 2012 further amending and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2055/18 of 24th January 2018, which was presented on 09.07.2019, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Institute of Environmental Professionals, Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms 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 Speaker to the Legislative Standing Committee under Standing Order 53(3) of the Parliament.

13. Adjournment (Necessary Action Against Violation of Order by Mullaitivu Magistrate Court) : 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 2.00 p.m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.