



(Eighth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No.1.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, January 03, 2020 at 10.00 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

His Excellency Gotabaya Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economy and Policy Development, Minister of Buddhasasana, Cultural and Religious Affairs and Minister of Urban Development, Water Supply and Housing Facilities

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Transport Service Management and Minister of Power & Energy

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Education and Minister of Sports & Youth Affairs

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Foreign Relations and Minister of Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Information and Communication Technology and Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Minister of Environment and Wildlife Resources and Minister of Lands & Land Development

Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon, Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government

Hon. Arumugan Thondaman, Minister of Community Empowerment and Estate Infrastructure Development

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Justice, Human Rights & Legal Reforms

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Plantation Industries and Export Agriculture

Hon. Johnston Fernando, Minister of Roads and Highways and Minister of Ports & Shipping and Chief Government Whip

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Industrial Export and Investment Promotion and Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation

- Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa**, Minister of Mahaweli, Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Development and Minister of Internal Trade, Food Security and Consumer Welfare and State Minister of Defence
- Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi**, Minister of Women & Child Affairs and Social Security and Minister of Healthcare and Indigenous Medical Services
- Hon. Wimal Weerawansa**, Minister of Small & Medium Business and Enterprise Development and Minister of Industries and Supply Chain Management
- Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana**, State Minister of Energy
- Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Irrigation and Rural Development
- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Information and Communication Technology
- Hon. Dilum Amunugama**, State Minister of Transport Services Management
- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**, State Minister of Public Management and Accounting
- Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**, State Minister of Power
- Hon. Piyanaka Jayaratne**, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine Services
- Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara**, State Minister of Industries
- Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva**, State Minister of Human Rights and Law Reforms
- Hon. Duminda Dissanayake**, State Minister of Youth Affairs
- Hon. S. B. Dissanayake**, State Minister of Lands and Land Development
- Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka**, State Minister of Wildlife Resources
- Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**, State Minister of Water Supply Facilities
- Hon. Susantha Punchinilame**, State Minister of Small & Medium Enterprise Development
- Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera**, State Minister of Fisheries and Inland Fisheries Industry
- Hon. Arundika Fernando**, State Minister of Tourism Promotion Affairs
- Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha**, State Minister of International Co-operation
- Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**, State Minister of Social Security
- Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**, State Minister of Women & Child Affairs
- Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**, State Minister of Internal Trade and Consumer Welfare
- Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe**, State Minister of Mahaweli Development
- Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**, State Minister of Railway Services
- Hon. Lohan Ratwatte**, State Minister of Highways Development
- Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella**, State Minister of Investment Promotions
- Hon. Nimal Lanza**, State Minister of Community Development
- Hon. Gamini Lokuge**, State Minister of Urban Development
- Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**, State Minister of Export Agriculture
- Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka**, State Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara, State Minister of Tea Industry Development
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera, State Minister of Environment
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, State Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, State Minister of Education Services
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, State Minister of Technology and Innovations
Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne, State Minister of Economy and Policy Development
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Development Banking and Loan Schemes
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath, State Minister of Housing
Hon. Kanaka Herath, State Minister of Ports Development Affairs

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara
Hon. John Amaratunga
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare
Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare
Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail
Hon. T. B. Ekanayake
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Dunes Gankanda
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage

Hon. Chandima Gamage
Hon. Daya Gamage
Hon. Piyasena Gamage
Hon. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. Mohan Lal Grero
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairetnasingam
Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva
Hon. Palany Thigambaram
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Navin Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. S. B. Nawinne

Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Harin Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. A. D. Premadasa
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Palitha Range Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Tilak Marapana
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha

Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe
Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene
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. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Malik Samarawickrama
Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera

Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Vasantha Senanayake
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. P. Harrison
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. D. B. Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Manoj Hewagampalage
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 the Proclamation of His Excellency the President of 02nd December, 2019. His Excellency's Procession having entered the Chamber of Parliament, His Excellency took the Chair at 10.00 a.m. in terms of Article 33(2)(b) of the Constitution.

1. The Secretary-General of Parliament read the following Proclamation of His Excellency the President by which Parliament was prorogued and the meeting was summoned:—



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EXTRAORDINARY

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Proclamations & C., by the President

PROCLAMATION BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT



GOTABAYA RAJAPAKSA

KNOW YE that by virtue of the powers vested in me by Article 70 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, I, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, do by this Proclamation, prorogue Parliament with effect from midnight of the Second day of December, Two Thousand and Nineteen and hereby fix the Third day of January, Two Thousand and Twenty, at 10.00 a.m. for the commencement of the next session and summon Parliament to meet in the Chamber of Parliament, Sri Jayewardenapura.

Given at Colombo on this Second day of December, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

By His Excellency's command,

P. B. JAYASUNDERA,
Secretary to the President.



2. Address by His Excellency the President : His Excellency the President addressed the Parliament in terms of Article 33(2)(a) of the Constitution.

Suspension of Sittings

At 10.35 a.m.

The Sitting was then suspended until 1.00 p.m.

At 1.00 p.m.

The Sitting was resumed. The Speaker took the Chair.

3. Official Oath or Affirmation by new Members : Hon. Udagama Liyanage Waruna Priyantha Liyanage, Member of Parliament for the Rathnapura Electoral District made and subscribed the Affirmation required by Law and signed the Book at the Table.

4. Message from the President : The Speaker read the following message from His Excellency the President:—



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

My No. PS/CSA/00/1/12/7

December 1st, 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,

Gotabaya Rajapaksa

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

I

“I wish to inform this House that the Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, M.P., as the Leader of the House of Parliament and the Hon. Johnston Fernando, M.P., as the Chief Government Whip have been appointed.”

II

“I wish to inform the Parliament that this House recognizes the Hon. Sajith Premadasa as the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament.”

III

“I wish to inform this House that the Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka has been appointed as the Chief Opposition Whip.”

IV

“It is with great regret that I have to announce to Parliament the death of Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa, Member of Parliament of the Rathnapura District. I desire on behalf of the Parliament to express the deep sense of loss that we have sustained, and our deepest sympathies to the members of the family of the Hon. Member.

The Vote of Condolence in this regard will be taken up in Parliament on a future date.”

V

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bills entitled ‘National Innovation Agency’ on the 15th of November 2019 and ‘Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka (Incorporation)’ and ‘Prevention of Offences relating to Sports’ on the 18th of November 2019 in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

6. Presentation of Papers : The Speaker presented the—

- (i) Performance Reports of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka for the Fourth quarter of 2017 and First, Second, Third and Fourth quarters of 2018 in terms of Section 30 of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka Act No. 21 of 1996 and Article 41B(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka;
- (ii) Reports of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption for the Third and Fourth quarters of 2017 and First, Second, Third and Fourth quarters of 2018 in terms of Article 41B(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Election Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the Second quarter of 2019; and
- (iv) Performance Report of the Delimitation Commission for the Third quarter of 2019 in terms of Articles 41B(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

7. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development presented the Report compiled by the said Committee on, “2020 - 2030 National Policy and Strategic Plan on STEM Education”.

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

8. Select Committee of Parliament to study and report to Parliament its recommendations to ensure Communal and Religious Harmony in Sri Lanka : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— The Select Committee of Parliament to study and report to Parliament its recommendations to ensure Communal and Religious Harmony in Sri Lanka, appointed by the Speaker, on 07 September 2018 presented an Interim Report on its findings within the time limit granted by the motion agreed to by Parliament on 04 September 2018 and that in terms of Standing Order 102 of the Parliament, this Parliament do grant, an extension of time till 12 July 2020 to present the Final Report.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 1.30 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 07, 2020.