



(Eighth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 8.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, January 24, 2020 at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

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. 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 Mass Media and Minister of Higher Education, Technology and Innovation

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. Vasudeva Nanayakkara, State Minister of Water Supply Facilities

Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Social Security

Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, State Minister of Railway Services

Hon. Nimal Lanza, State Minister of Community 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. Mahinda Samarasinghe, State Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs
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. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara
Hon. John Amaratunga
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare
Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thuraiyrenasingam
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Navin Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. S. B. Nawinne

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Indika Bandaranayake
Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Malik Samarawickrama
Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa
Hon. D. M. Swaminathan

Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. D. B. 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 adjournment. The Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“I wish to inform that as per the provisions of the Resolution adopted by Parliament on 22 January 2020 and in addition to the Members announced by me on the same day the Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka has also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Committee on Parliamentary Business.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker present the—

- (i) Ninth Instalment – Part XV of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2016;
- (ii) Second Instalment – Part XXIV and Third Instalment – Part X of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2017;
- (iii) Second Instalment – Part XXII and Third Instalment – Part XI of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2018; and
- (iv) Eighth Instalment – Part I and Tenth Instalment – Parts I and IV of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2020

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

(2) The Speaker presented the Performance Report of the Finance Commission for the Third quarter (01.07.2019 - 30.09.2019) of 2019 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**.

3. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1) : 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 6.30 p.m.. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 05th February, 2020.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Ministerial Consultative Committees : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— Twenty nine (29) Ministerial Consultative Committees be appointed to be designated as follows:—

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence
2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Economy and Policy Development
3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Buddhasasana, Cultural and Religious Affairs
4. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development, Water Supply and Housing Facilities
5. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mahaweli, Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Development
6. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Internal Trade, Food Security and Consumer Welfare
7. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Human Rights & Legal Reforms
8. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Foreign Relations
9. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations
10. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Roads and Highways
11. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports & Shipping
12. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport Service Management
13. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power & Energy
14. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Community Empowerment and Estate Infrastructure Development
15. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Women & Child Affairs and Social Security
16. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Healthcare and Indigenous Medical Services

17. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries & Aquatic Resources
18. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Information and Mass Media
19. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Higher Education, Technology and Innovation
20. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government
21. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education
22. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Sports & Youth Affairs
23. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Small & Medium Business and Enterprise Development
24. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries and Supply Chain Management
25. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Environment and Wildlife Resources
26. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Lands & Land Development
27. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation Industries and Export Agriculture
28. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industrial Export and Investment Promotion
29. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Tourism and Civil Aviation

Each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall consist of the Cabinet Minister in charge of the relevant subject as the Chair, State Minister, Deputy Minister and seven (07) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to discuss and report upon such matters as are referred to the Committee notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 112 of the Parliament;

The quorum of each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall be three (03) Members.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Committee on Public Finance : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 121 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Finance shall consist of thirteen (13) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Votes of Condolence : The Minister of Foreign Relations and Minister of Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa, Member of Parliament.

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

The Deputy Speaker announced that the Speaker and himself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the death of Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa, Member of Parliament and directed the Secretary-General of Parliament to send a copy of the Official Report (Hansard) containing proceedings of this day to the members of his bereaved family.

8. Adjournment : The Minister of Roads and Highways and Minister of Ports & Shipping moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 3.48 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 05, 2020 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.