



(Eighth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 11.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, February 07, 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. 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. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon, Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government

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. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena, State Minister of Information and Communication Technology

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Public Management and Accounting

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, State Minister of Youth Affairs

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka, State Minister of Wildlife Resources

Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha, State Minister of International Co-operation
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, State Minister of Internal Trade and Consumer Welfare
Hon. Nimal Lanza, State Minister of Community Development
Hon. Gamini Lokuge, State Minister of Urban Development
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka, State Minister of Agriculture
Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, State Minister of Technology and Innovations
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. John Amaratunga
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare
Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare
Hon. (Dr.) S. M. Mohamed Ismail
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. Piyasena Gamage
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera

Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Saman Rathnapriya
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Mangala Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne
Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Vijitha Herath

Hon. Manoj Hewagampalage

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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Deputy Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that, in terms of Standing Order 113(2) of the Parliament, the Speaker has nominated the following Co-opted Members to serve on the Legislative Standing Committee for the consideration of the Bill entitled ‘Institute of Environmental Professionals, Sri Lanka (Incorporation)’:—

Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya

Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera

Hon. Vijitha Herath

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma

Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana

Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna”

II

“I wish to inform that, in terms of Standing Order 113(2) of the Parliament, the Speaker has nominated the following Co-opted Members to serve on Legislative Standing Committee for the consideration of the Bill entitled ‘Sri Shakyasinharama Viharastha Karyasadhaka Sanvidanya (Incorporation)’:—

Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe

Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera

Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody

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

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Roads and Highways and Minister of Ports & Shipping presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the University of Peradeniya for the year 2018; and
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Postgraduate Institute of English - The Open University of Sri Lanka for the year 2018

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Roads and Highways and Minister of Ports & Shipping presented the Annual Reports and Accounts of the Mantai Salt Limited for the years 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Performance Report of the Ministry of Ports & Shipping and Southern Development for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Telecommunication, Foreign Employment and Sports for the year of 2018;
- (iii) Performance Reports of the Ministry of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure for the years 2016 and 2017;
- (iv) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Highways & Road Development and Petroleum Resources Development for the year 2018;
- (v) Annual Report of the Road Development Authority for the year 2015;
- (vi) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the year 2017;
- (vii) Performance Report of the Department of Sri Lanka Railway for the year 2018;
- (viii) Annual Report of the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2017;
- (ix) Performance Report of the Department of Motor Traffic for the year 2018;
- (x) Annual Reports of the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka for the years of 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017; and
- (xi) Annual Report of the National Transport Commission for the year 2016

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Vijitha Herath, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Ajith P. Perera, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti-corruption) and Media presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Performance Report of the Ministry of Justice and Prison Reforms for the year 2018;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Attorney General's Department for the year 2017;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Legal Draftsman's Department for the year 2018;
- (iv) Performance Report of the Department of Public Trustee for the year 2018;
- (v) Annual Report of the Department of Debt Conciliation Board for the year 2018;
- (vi) Performance Report of the Department of the Law Commission for the year 2018;
- (vii) Performance Report of the Government Analyst's Department for the year 2017;
- (viii) Annual Report of the Superior Courts Complex Board of Management for the year 2016;
- (ix) Annual Report of Ministry of Mass Media for the year 2018;
- (x) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015;
- (xi) Annual Report of the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. for the year 2016;
- (xii) Annual Report & Statement of Accounts of Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation for the year 2015;
- (xiii) Annual Report of Selacine Television Institute for the year 2016;
- (xiv) Annual Reports of State Printing Corporation for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015; and
- (xv) Annual Reports of National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka for the years 2013 and 2014

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(3) Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna, Member of the Committee on behalf of 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, "Establishment of the Sri Lanka In-Service Advisors' Service".

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

4. Ports and Airports Development Levy (Amendment) : The Minister of Foreign Relations and Minister of Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations on behalf of the 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 presented,—“Bill to amend the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

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 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.

(At 11.30 a.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

6. Votes of Condolence : The 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 moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. C. Nanda Mathew, the late Hon. (Dr.) Ranjith Atapattu, the late Hon. Prince Casinader and the late Hon. M. S. Themis, ex-Members 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 deaths of the late Hon. C. Nanda Mathew, the late Hon. (Dr.) Ranjith Atapattu, the late Hon. Prince Casinader and the late Hon. M. S. Themis, ex-Members 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 their bereaved family.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 3.11 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2020.