



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 2.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, August 21, 2020 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. Angajan Ramanathan, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana, Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Power

Hon. Udaya Gammanpila, Minister of Energy

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Foreign and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Trade

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Minister of Lands

Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon, Minister of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Labour

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara, Minister of Water Supply

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Plantation

Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris, Minister of Education

Hon. Johnston Fernando, Minister of Highways and Chief Government Whip

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Tourism

Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Minister of Irrigation and State Minister of Internal Security, Home Affairs and Disaster Management

Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Minister of Youth & Sports

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Transport

Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Minister of Health

Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry, Minister of Justice

Hon. Dilum Amunugama, State Minister of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola, State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Co-operative Services, Marketing Development and Consumer Protection

Hon. Ajith Nivard Cabraal, State Minister of Money & Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms

Hon. Siripala Gamalath, State Minister of Canals and Common Infrastructure Development in Settlements in Mahaweli Zones

Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa, State Minister of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness

Hon. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Aviation and Export Zones Development

Hon. Sisira Jayakody, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine Promotion, Rural and Ayurvedic Hospitals Development and Community Health

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, State Minister of Tanks, Reservoirs and Irrigation Development related to Rural Paddy Fields

Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification

Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana, State Minister of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, State Minister of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products

Hon. Jeevan Thondaman, State Minister of Estate Housing & Community Infrastructure

Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, State Minister of Women and Child Development, Preschools & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, State Minister of Solar Power, Wind and Hydro Power Generation Projects Development

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka, State Minister of Wildlife Protection, Adoption of Safety Measures including the Construction of Electrical Fences and Trenches and Reforestation and Forest Resource Development

Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development

Hon. Arundika Fernando, State Minister of Coconut, Kithul, Palmyrah and Rubber Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversification

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle, State Minister of Prison Reforms & Prisoners' Rehabilitation

- Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**, State Minister of Regional Co-operation
- Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**, State Minister of Dhamma Schools, Bhikkhu Education, Piriven and Buddhist Universities
- Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe**, State Minister of Land Management, State Enterprises Land and Property Development
- Hon. Lohan Rathwaththe**, State Minister of Gem & Jewellery related Industries
- Hon. Nimal Lanza**, State Minister of Rural Roads and other Infrastructure
- Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**, State Minister of Development of Minor Crops including Sugarcane, Maize, Cashew, Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Betel Related Industries and Export Promotion
- Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka**, State Minister of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion
- Hon. Kanchana Wijsekera**, State Minister of Ornamental Fish, Inland Fish & Prawn Farming, Fishery Harbour Development, Multi day Fishing Activities and Fish Exports
- Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage**, State Minister of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Improvement
- Hon. S. Viyalanderan**, State Minister of Postal Services and Professional Development of Journalists
- Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekara**, State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government
- Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**, State Minister of Warehouse Facilities, Container Yards, Port Supply Facilities and Boats and Shipping Industry Development
- Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**, State Minister of Samurdhi, Household Economy, Micro Finance, Self Employment, Business Development and Underutilized State Resources Development
- Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**, State Minister of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Material Industries
- Hon. D. B. Herath**, State Minister of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries

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- Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**
- Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah**
- Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala**
- Hon. Kapila Athukorala**
- Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala**
- Hon. Sampath Athukorala**
- Hon. Tissa Attanayake**
- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
- Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**
- Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya**

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Tiran Alles
Hon. Naseer Ahamed
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila Ellawala
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Jagath Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmalee Kumarasingha
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegodra
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardhana
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. Sujith Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Harin Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Susil Premajayantha
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Uddika Premarathna
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen

Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. C. V. Wigneswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC

Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavaritham Sampanthan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel
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. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's Sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Committee of Selection (No.1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 114 of the Parliament, the Committee of Selection shall consist of the Speaker as the Chair and twelve (12) Members which shall include the Leaders of political parties or their nominees to be nominated by Parliament to serve during the First Session of the Ninth Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Committee of Selection (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That in terms of the motion agreed to by Parliament this day, the undermentioned twelve (12) Members do serve in the Committee of Selection during the First Session of the Ninth Parliament:—

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Johnston Fernando

Hon. Douglas Devananda

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Wimal Weerawansa

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka

Hon. Rauff Hakeem

Hon. Vijitha Herath

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan

Question put, and agreed to.

4. 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 Parliament shall sit on Thursday, 27th and Friday, 28th August, 2020.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : 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 Thursday, 27th and Friday, 28th August, 2020 shall be 9.30 a.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.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 3) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 27th August, 2020.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Statement of Government Policy : Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka seconded by Hon. Shehan Semasinghe moved,— That this Parliament resolves that the Statement of Government Policy made by His Excellency the President on 20th August 2020 in terms of Articles 32(4) and 33(2) (a) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka be debated.

(At 11.26 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 12.31 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 2.17 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 3.07 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 3.56 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 4.29 p.m. adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2020 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.