



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No.12.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, September 25, 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Power

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

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

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

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

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Tourism

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. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Transport

Hon. Wimal Weerawansa, Minister of Industries

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

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

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

- Hon. Sanath Nishantha**, State Minister of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle**, State Minister of Prison Reforms & Prisoners' Rehabilitation
- Hon. Susil Premajayantha**, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion
- Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa**, State Minister of Paddy and Grains, Organic Food, Vegetables, Fruits, Chillies, Onion and Potato Cultivation Promotion, Seed Production and Advanced Technology Agriculture
- 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 Wikramanayaka**, State Minister of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion
- Hon. S. Viyalanderan**, State Minister of Postal Services and Professional Development of Journalists
- Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera**, 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

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- Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**
- Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah**
- Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala**
- Hon. Kapila 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. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan**
- Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura**
- Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda**
- Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna**
- Hon. Akila Ellawala**
- Hon. Govindan Karunakaram**
- Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka**
- Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam**
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**

Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Jagath Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
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. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. Sujith Perera
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara

Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

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

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, 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:—



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

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

September 21, 2020

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana
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

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இலங்கைச் 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 Parliament that I have received copies of nine petitions filed at the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill entitled ‘**Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution**’, in addition to the receipt of a petition mentioned in the announcement made by me on 24th September 2020”

II

“I wish to inform Parliament that the following Members have been nominated by the Committee of Selection, to serve in the Committee on Public Petitions, in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 122(1) of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 28th August 2020:—

Hon. Kumara Welgama

Hon. Waruna Liyanage

Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff”

III

“I wish to inform Parliament that the following Members have been nominated, with Chief Government Whip as the Chair and the Chief Opposition Whip, by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Backbencher Committee during the First Session of the Ninth Parliament in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 126(1) and (2) of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 28th August 2020:—

Hon. S. Noharathalingam

Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren

Hon. Kapila Athukorala

Hon. M. Udayakumar

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna

Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku

Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda

Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya

Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena

Hon. Kins Nelson

Hon. Rohana Bandara

Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam

Hon. D. Weerasingha

Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake”

IV

“I wish to inform that the following Members have also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Ministerial Consultative Committees during the First Session of the Ninth Parliament in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 112 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08th September 2020:—

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance

Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva

3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana

Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff

4. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Mano Ganesan

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman

5. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice

Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam

Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran

6. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Foreign

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam

7. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Naseer Ahamed

8. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan

Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya

9. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health

Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne

Hon. Abdul Haleem

10. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Velu Kumar
11. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Environment
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. Kins Nelson
12. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Wildlife & Forest Conservation
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
13. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
14. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Irrigation
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
15. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Lands
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan
16. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
17. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
18. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Water Supply
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
19. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem

20. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Energy
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Hesha Withanage
21. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports & Shipping
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Sujith Perera
22. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Highways
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
23. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
24. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth & Sports
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
25. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Tourism
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
26. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade
Hon. Nirosan Perera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
27. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
28. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mass Media
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the—

- (i) Performance Report of the Finance Commission for the period (01.01.2019 - 31.12.2019) of 2019 in terms of Article 41B(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; and

- (ii) Performance Reports of the Audit Service Commission for the Fourth quarter (01.10.2019 - 31.12.2019) of 2019 and First quarter (01.01.2020 - 31.03.2020) of 2020 in terms of Articles 41B(6) and 153H of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic and Policy Development under Section 20 read with Sections 4(3) and 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by the Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987, published in the Extraordinary Gazettes No. 2171/5 of 16th April 2020, No. 2176/19 of 22nd May 2020, No. 2182/10 of 30th June 2020 and No. 2184/21 of 16th July 2020.

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

(3) The Minister of Highways 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 National Procurement Commission in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Irrigation and State Minister of Internal Security, Home Affairs and Disaster Management presented the Annual Performance Report of the Irrigation Sector of the Ministry of Mahaweli, Agriculture, Irrigation and Rural Development for the year 2019.

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

(5) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Vocational Training & Skills Development Division of the Ministry of Industry & Commerce, Resettlement of Protracted Displaced Persons, Co-operative Development and Vocational Training & Skills Development for the year 2019; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Probation and Child Care Services for the year 2019.

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

(6) The Minister of Highways presented the Performance Report of the Land Use Policy Planning Department for the year 2019.

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

(7) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Performance Report of the City Planning and Water Supply Division of the Ministry of City Planning, Water Supply and Higher Education for the year 2019.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 22.08.2020 from Mr. I. C. Perera of No. 372 A, Diganathuduwa, Alubomulla, Panadura; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 22.08.2020 from Mr. S. M. W. Pathiratne of No. 170 A, Dediawala, Waskaduwa.
- (2) Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 21.08.2020 from Mr. W. M. K. Jayawardene of No. 162/121/18, Nilmini Uyana, Madola, Avissawella; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 21.08.2020 from Mr. W. M. Y. S. K. Jayawardene of No. 162/121/18, Nilmini Uyana, Madola, Avissawella.
- (3) Hon. Nimal Piyathissa presented a petition dated 21.08.2020 from Mr. R. M. L. W. Anurudda Labuthala of “Asiri”, Ladupita, Padiyapelella.

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

5. Votes of Condolence : The Minister of Foreign moved the Vote of Condolence on the late Hon. R. M. K. B. Ratnayake, ex-Member of Parliament.

The State Minister of Rural Roads and other Infrastructure moved,— That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 11.19 a.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe announced that the Speaker and himself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the death of Hon. R. M. K. B. Ratnayake, ex-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.

6. Adjournment : The Minister of Highways moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 11.59 a.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 06, 2020.