



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 102.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, October 22, 2021 at 10.00 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 Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, Minister of Agriculture

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

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

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Minister of Lands

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, Foreign Minister

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. Basil Rohana Rajapaksa, Minister of Finance

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Power

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

Hon. Wimal Weerawansa, Minister of Industries

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera, Minister of Public Security

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. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa**, State Minister of Urban Development, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness
- Hon. Sisira Jayakody**, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine Promotion, Rural and Ayurvedic Hospitals Development and Community Health
- Hon. Piyanaka 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. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva**, State Minister of Coast Conservation & Low-Lying Lands Development
- Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake**, 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 and Palmyrah Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversification
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle**, State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID Disease Control
- Hon. Susil Premajayantha**, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion
- Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**, State Minister of Dhamma Schools, Pirivenas and Bhikkhu Education
- Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**, State Minister of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion
- Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe**, State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government
- Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa**, State Minister of Promoting the Production & Regulating the Supply of Organic Fertilizer, and Paddy and Grains, Organic Foods, Vegetables, Fruits, Chilies, Onion and Potato Cultivation Promoting, 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. 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. 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 and Business Development
- Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**, State Minister of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Material Industries
- Hon. Kanaka Herath**, State Minister of Company Estate Reforms, Tea and Rubber Estates Related Crops Cultivation and Factories Modernization and Tea and Rubber Export Promotion
- Hon. D. B. Herath**, State Minister of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries

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. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
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. Gayantha Karunatileka

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
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. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
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. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
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. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha

Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
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. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
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

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, 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:—



ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජනාධිපති
இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

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

October 12, 2021

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

ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජය
இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Reports of the Condominium Management Authority for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development & Housing.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Highways presented the Performance Report of the Department of the Buddhist Affairs for the year 2020.

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

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Irrigation.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development under Section 61(1)(sa) and (sb) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2126/6 of 03rd June 2019; and
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61(1)(u) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2218/64 of 12th March 2021

and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Highways presented the Performance Report and Annual Accounts of the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department for the year 2019.

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

(7) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation for the year 2017;
- (ii) Annual Report of The Independent Television Network Ltd for the year 2019; and

- (iii) Annual Report of The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd for the year 2019

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mass Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

- (8) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Mass Media for the year 2020.

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

- (9) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the Lanka Mineral Sands Limited for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries.

Question put, and agreed to.

- (10) The Minister of Highways presented—

(i) Annual Report of the Lady Lochore Loan Fund for the year 2018; and

(ii) Annual Report of the Development Lotteries Board for the year 2019

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

- (11) The Minister of Highways presented—

(i) Annual Reports of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017; and

(ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Justice under Section 61 read with Section 45(1A) of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2226/12 of 03rd May 2021

and moved that those Reports and Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Chair of Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on the Estimates for the financial year 2021 in terms of the Standing Order No. 121(4) of Parliament (including whether the allocation of money is in compliance with the policies of the Government) which were referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka presented a petition dated 27.04.2021 from Mrs. S. M. Nayana Nilmini Silva of No. 27, New Colony, Elkaduwa, Matale.

- (2) Hon. Kapila Athukorala presented —
- (i) a petition dated 17.02.2021 from Mr. A. J. Rasool Jaan of Kuruchchankeni - 03, Kinniya; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 30.03.2021 from Mr. K. A. Ranjith Gunathunga of Indinkatuwa, Gomarankadawala, Trincomalee.
- (3) Hon. Ajith Rajapakse presented a petition dated 10.07.2021 from Mrs. E. M. Priyanka Pushpamali of No. 71/2, 'Sanduni', Wakamulla, Hakuruwela.

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

5. Minimum Retirement Age of Workers : The Minister of Labour presented,—Bill to provide for the minimum retirement age at which an employer may retire any worker and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Monday, November 08, 2021, be printed and be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour.

6. Termination of Employment of Workmen (Special Provisions) (Amendment) : The Minister of Labour presented,—Bill to amend the Termination of Employment of Workmen (Special Provisions) Act, No. 45 of 1971.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Monday, November 08, 2021, be printed and be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour.

7. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the Parliament shall sit on Monday, November 08th, 2021.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. 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 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on October 06th, 2020, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on Monday, November 08th, 2021 shall be 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Questions for Oral Answers appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at the Sitting of Parliament on Monday, November 08th, 2021 from the provisions of the Standing Order 35 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. 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 10.00 a.m. on Monday, November 08th, 2021.

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No. 1) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Economic Policies and Plan Implementation under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2238/40 of 30th July 2021, which was presented on 05.10.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No. 2) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Economic Policies and Plan Implementation under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2244/3 of 06th September 2021, which were presented on 05.10.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

13. Adjournment (First and Second Reports of Committee on Public Enterprises of Ninth Parliament) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 12.26 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 12.53 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Foreign Minister moved,— That Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.38 p.m. Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam took the Chair.)

The Minister of Trade moved,— That Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.53 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte took the Chair.)

The Minister of Trade moved,—That Hon. Ajith Rajapakse do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.06 p.m. Hon. Ajith Rajapakse took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.35 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member, without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 21st October 2021.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.00 a.m. on Monday, November 08, 2021 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.