



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 126.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, December 06, 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

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. Rohitha Abegunawardhana, Minister of Ports & Shipping

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. 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. (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. Namal Rajapaksa, Minister of Youth & Sports, Minister of Development Co-ordination and Monitoring and State Minister of Digital Technology and Enterprise Development

Hon. Basil Rohana Rajapaksa, Minister of Finance

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Power

Hon. Wimal Weerawansa, Minister of Industries

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

- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola**, State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation
- Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa**, State Minister of Urban Development, 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. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva**, State Minister of Coast Conservation & Low-Lying Lands Development
- Hon. Duminda Dissanayake**, State Minister of Solar Power, Wind and Hydro Power Generation Projects Development
- Hon. Sanath Nishantha**, State Minister of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle**, State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID Disease Control
- Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha**, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion
- 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. Lohan Ratwatte**, State Minister of Gem & Jewellery related Industries
- 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. 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. S. Viyalanderan**, State Minister of Backward Rural Areas Development and Promotion of Domestic Animal Husbandary & Minor Economic Crop Cultivation
- 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. A. L. M. Athaullah**
- Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala**
- Hon. Kapila Athukorala**
- Hon. Sampath Athukorala**
- Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal**
- 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. Sagara Kariyawasam**
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**
- Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda**
- Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda**
- Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara**
- Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga**
- Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri**
- Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**

Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel

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. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) 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 Department of Buildings in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament;
- (ii) 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 State Ministry of Rural Housing & Construction and Building Materials Industries Promotion in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament;

- (iii) 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 Physical Planning Department in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament;
- (iv) 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 Department of Government Factory in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament;
- (v) 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 Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament;
- (vi) 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 Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament; and
- (vii) 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 State Ministry of Estate Housing and Community Infrastructure in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the University of the Visual and Performing Arts for the year 2019;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Postgraduate Institute of Pali & Buddhist Studies (University of Kelaniya) for the year 2019;
- (iii) Annual Report of the National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (University of Colombo) for the year 2019;
- (iv) Annual Report of the Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies (Eastern University, Sri Lanka) for the year 2019;
- (v) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education for the year 2019;
- (vi) Annual Report of the University of Colombo for the year 2019; and
- (vii) Annual Report of the Institute of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (University of Colombo) for the year 2019

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

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 which were referred to the Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 04.04.2021 from Mr. D. D. U. Subasinghe of No.79, Paniyandoowa, Ambalangoda; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 24.10.2021 from Ms. Sudanthi Miranda Samaranayake of Karawagoda, Rathgama.
- (2) Hon. D. V. Chanaka presented a petition dated 12.10.2021 from Mr. W. G. P. Epa of Rohana Watta, Dehigahalanda, Ambalanthota.
- (3) Hon. Sisira Jayakody presented a petition dated 08.07.2021 from Mr. D. K. K. Ariyapala of No. 302/12, “Sisil Sewana” Housing Scheme, Gonamadiththa Road, Piliyandala.
- (4) Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 06.10.2021 from Mrs. M. A. Vinitha Sandyani of No. 74-01, Palagolla, Makkanigoda, Pasyala; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 03.04.2021 from Mrs. T. A. Hansani Lakshika of No.50/03, Dola Para, Maligathenna, Veyangoda.

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

4. Appropriation Bill — (Nineteenth Allotted Day) : Considered further in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Ministry of Urban Development & Housing

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 22 in page 29 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 15,867,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 123

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 267,125,000 for Head 123, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,850,000 for Head 123, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 4 in page 30 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities — 15,663,490,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 311

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 170,840,000 for Head 311, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 227,660,000 for Head 311, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 411

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 263,575,000 for Head 411, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 6,050,000 for Head 411, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 155,000,000 for Head 411, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,993,950,000 for Head 411, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Material Industries

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 5 in page 23 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 11,915,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 415

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 371,225,000 for Head 415, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 21,850,000 for Head 415, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 9 in page 23 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities 87,290,000 11,762,800,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

(At 11.13 a.m. Hon. Shantha Bandara took the Chair.)

Head 309

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 133,600,000 for Head 309, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,600,000 for Head 309, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 355,460,000 for Head 309, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 23,950,000 for Head 309, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 310

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 138,480,000 for Head 310, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 102,800,000 for Head 310, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

State Ministry of Estate Housing & Community Infrastructure

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 8 in page 31 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 2,525,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 417**Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)**

Question that the sum of Rs. 445,705,000 for Head 417, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 14,600,000 for Head 417, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 12 in page 31 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities — 2,510,400,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 443**Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)**

Question that the sum of Rs. 119,772,000 for Head 443, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,300,000 for Head 443, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 100,000,000 for Head 443, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,875,000,000 for Head 443, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 291**Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)**

Question that the sum of Rs. 307,360,000 for Head 291, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 374,700,000 for Head 291, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 159

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 174,920,000 for Head 159, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,050,000 for Head 159, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 69,700,000 for Head 159, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 322

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 503,400,000 for Head 322, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 171,150,000 for Head 322, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

State Ministry of Aviation and Export Zones Development

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 9 in page 41 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 5,507,100,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 437

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 106,850,000 for Head 437, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 7,100,000 for Head 437, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 13 in page 41 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities — 5,500,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Whereupon the Minister of Education proposed that the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Question put, and agreed to.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Tuesday, December 07, 2021.

5. Regulations under the Civil Aviation Act : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Tourism moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Tourism under Section 117(2)(q) of the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2192/21 of 08th September 2020, which were presented on 08.10.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 12.30 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 07, 2021 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 20th November 2021.