



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 36.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, December 01, 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. Rohitha Abegunawardhana, Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Power

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, Minister of Agriculture

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. 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 National Security, Home Affairs and Disaster Management

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Transport

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

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

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. 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. 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 Production and Supply of Fertilizer and Regulation of Chemical Fertilizer and Insecticide Use
- 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. (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. Lohan Ratwatte**, State Minister of Gem & Jewellery related Industries and State Minister of Prison Management & Prisoners' Rehabilitation
- 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. Kanchana Wijsekera**, State Minister of Ornamental Fish, Inland Fish & Prawn Farming, Fishery Harbour Development, Multi day Fishing Activities and Fish Exports
- 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
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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. 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. 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. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
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. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake

Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
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. 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. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Harin Fernando
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. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
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. 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.) V. Radhakrishnan
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. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. John Seneviratne

Hon. Rauff Hakeem

Hon. Abdul Haleem

Hon. (Prof.) Charitha 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. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Financial Statements of the Auditor-General, Independent Auditor's Report and the Management Audit Report of the National Audit Office of the Audit Service Commission from 01.08.2018 to 31.12.2018 in terms of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

Ordered that the said Reports do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

(2) The Minister of Highways presented the Performance Report on the Buddhasasana and Wayamba Development Division of the Ministry of Buddhasasana, Cultural & Religious Affairs for the year 2019.

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

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

(1) Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage presented —

- (i) a petition dated 26.08.2020 from Mr. J. R. A. R. Ranatunga of “Wijaya Sri Niwasa”, Malangamuwa, Meethalawa;
- (ii) a petition dated 26.09.2020 from Mrs. K. W. H. M. Saman Kumari of No.175/1, Galagoda, Marassana;
- (iii) a petition dated 22.08.2020 from Mrs. S. L. Pathima Riyana of No. 54, Baily Road, Nawalapitiya; and
- (iv) a petition dated 26.09.2020 from Mrs. W. G. C. S. Mangala Kumari of No. 67/A, Gallanamulla, Kapuliyadda.

(2) Hon. Susil Premajayantha presented a petition dated 04.09.2020 from Mr. Wijedasa Nawagamuwa of No. 390/5, Eksath Mawatha, 1st Lane, Kalapaluwawa, Rajagiriya.

- (3) Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka presented a petition dated 16.09.2020 from Mr. K. K. Mervin Shantha Kumara of No. 194/1, Kanampella, Kosgama.
- (4) Hon. Chandima Weerakkody presented a petition dated 10.09.2020 from Mr. Wijayapala Manawadu of “Wijayani”, Kurusagoda, Gonapeenuwala.
- (5) Hon. Niroschan Perera presented a petition dated 26.10.2020 from Mrs. D. M. Priyanka Hemamali Dasanayaka of W/ Galkuliya, Andigama.
- (6) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented a petition dated 27.10.2020 from Mrs. E. Laisina of Udarangalawila, Kolawenigama, Deniyaya.
- (7) Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake presented a petition dated 15.10.2020 from Mr. A. A. D. Ajantha Nelum Kumara of No. TQ 04, Hatton Road, Vidulipura, Norton Bridge.
- (8) Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera presented a petition dated 28.09.2020 from Mrs. I. M. Sirima Gunawardena of Meepitikanda Road, Gomaduwa, Yatiyanthota.
- (9) Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda presented a petition dated 26.10.2020 from Mr. S. A. William Indrarathna of No. 371/28, Adhikaram Tenna, Embilmeegama, Pilimathalawa.
- (10) Hon. Nimal Piyathissa presented a petition dated 19.11.2020 from Mrs. N. V. Sirimallee of No. 143, Rahathungoda, Hewaheta.
- (11) Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 04.10.2020 from Mr. K. Paduma Mangala Ubayasinghe of Gorakagahawatta, Udukawa, Denipitiya; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 25.08.2020 from Mrs. Kamalawathie Munasinghe Vitharana of No. 223/6, Rathnehera, Kanaththagoda, Matara.

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

3. Appropriation (2021) Bill — (Twelfth Allotted Day) : Considered further in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 126

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.40 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte took the Chair.)

(At 1.21 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 2.34 p.m. Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam took the Chair.)

(At 4.04 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

(At 5.28 p.m. Hon. Ajith Rajapakse took the Chair.)

(At 6.00 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,911,300,000 for Head 126, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,350,000,000 for Head 126, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 41,612,300,000 for Head 126, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 12,610,000,000 for Head 126, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 212

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,072,000,000 for Head 212, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 400,000,000 for Head 212, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 213

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 79,400,000 for Head 213, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 210,000,000 for Head 213, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 214

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 53,995,000,000 for Head 214, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 8,300,000,000 for Head 214, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 403

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 17,896,250,000 for Head 403, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 49,900,000 for Head 403, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 6,521,550,000 for Head 403, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,576,900,000 for Head 403, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 217

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 39,050,000 for Head 217, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 850,000 for Head 217, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 297,450,000 for Head 217, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 68,350,000 for Head 217, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 404

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 620,000,000 for Head 404, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,400,000,000 for Head 404, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 335

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 41,000,000 for Head 335, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,000,000 for Head 335, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing proposed an amendment to leave out line 5 in page 34 and substitute the following:—

“Recurrent 9,267,200,000”

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 421

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,524,700,000 for Head 421, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 542,800,000 for Head 421, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing proposed an amendment to leave out line 11 in page 34 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities 1,355,100,000 2,714,500,000”

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 215

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 282,400,000 for Head 215, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 100,000,000 for Head 215, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,105,000,000 for Head 215, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 442,700,000 for Head 215, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 422

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 86,000,000 for Head 422, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 30,000,000 for Head 422, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,404,000,000 for Head 422, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 200,000,000 for Head 422, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 7.02 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Wednesday, December 02, 2020.

4. Adjournment (A Ministry for Women and Child Affairs) : The Minister of Highways moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Education moved,—That Hon. Hesha Withanage do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 7.04 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 7.35 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 02, 2020 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 20th November, 2020.