



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 40.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, December 05, 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. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Foreign and Leader of the House of Parliament

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

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Labour

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara, Minister of Water Supply

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

Hon. Gamini Lokuge, Minister of Transport

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

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

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. Dayasiri Jayasekara**, State Minister of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products
- Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**, State Minister of Women and Child Development, Preschools & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services
- 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. Susil Premajayantha**, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion
- Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**, State Minister of Regional Co-operation
- 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. Lohan Rathwaththe**, 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 Wijesekera**, 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. 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. 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. Naseer Ahamed**
- 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 Samanmale Kumarasinghe

Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri

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. 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. S. B. Dissanayake

Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake

Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya

Hon. Isuru Dodangoda

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. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera

Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam

Hon. Nalin Fernando

Hon. Harin Fernando

Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
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. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
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. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi

Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
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. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) Annual Reports of the State Development & Construction Corporation for the year 2014 and 2015; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Construction Industry Development Authority for the year 2016

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—

- (i) Annual Report of the National Institute of Social Development for the year 2018; and
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Social Security Board for the year 2018

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Trade presented the Annual Report of the Consumer Affairs Authority for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Ceylon Electricity Board for the year 2017 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—

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board for the year 2015; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Textile and Apparel for the year 2017

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Justice presented the Annual Reports and the Audited Accounts of the Superior Courts Complex Board of Management for the years 2017 and 2018 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka National Freedom from Hunger Campaign Board for the years 2015 and 2016 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Water Supply presented the Annual Report of the National Water Supply & Drainage Board for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Water Supply.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Ports & Shipping presented the—

- (i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Ceylon Shipping Corporation Limited for the year 2015/2016; and
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jaya Container Terminals Limited for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports & Shipping.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Youth & Sports presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the National Sports Fund for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth & Sports.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Youth & Sports 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 Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Department of Sports Development 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.

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

(1) Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera presented —

- (i) a petition dated 08.09.2020 from Mrs. D. J. M. Kusumawathie of No. 34D, New City Gardens, Rerukana Road, Veedagama, Bandaragama;
- (ii) a petition dated 25.10.2020 from Mr. L. H. Sarath Chandra of No. 105/B/3, Meda Road, Mawala, Wadduwa; and
- (iii) a petition dated 19.10.2020 from Mrs. P. Priyanka Kumudini of No. 258, “Sapumal Uyana”, Mawala South, Wadduwa.

(2) Hon. Tissa Attanayake presented a petition dated 02.10.2020 from Mrs. W. G. Wasantha Kumari Ekanayake of No. 429, Mahayaya, Ulpthagama.

(3) Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna presented a petition dated 29.08.2020 from Mr. A. S. Silva of No. 477/93, St. Anthony Road, Liyanagemulla, Seeduwa.

(4) Hon. Vijitha Herath presented —

- (i) a petition dated 17.08.2020 from Mr. A. B. Davulagala of No. 115/5, Uduvawala, Katugastota;
- (ii) a petition dated 23.09.2020 from Mr. D. A. Kodithuwakku of Kapugama Gedara, Baminiyanwila, Mamadala, Ambalanthota;
- (iii) a petition dated 24.08.2020 from Mr. J. A. Chandra Anura of Kurunegala Road, Wilakatupota, Wariyapola;
- (iv) a petition dated 17.09.2020 from Mr. N. Jothipala of No. 220/01/A, B.D.L. Gunasekara Mawatha, Munagama, Horana; and
- (v) a petition dated 02.09.2020 from Mr. R. M. N. B. Rasnayake of “Wasala”, Walaswewa, Mahawa.

- (5) Hon. Nimal Piyathissa presented a petition dated 02.10.2020 from Mr. S. A. Sujeewa Ruwan Senaweera of No. 269, Kubaloluwa Gama, Pudaluoya.
- (6) Hon. Sudath Manjula presented —
- (i) a petition dated 14.10.2020 from Mr. H. M. Upali Herath Bandara of No. 414/1, Wedagedara Road, Thalduwa, Awissawella; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 01.09.2020 from Mr. T. W. R. S. Deshapriya of No. 85/3, Pahalamulla, Karawanella, Ruwanwella.

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

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

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 176

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Niroshan Perera proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.47 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

(At 3.36 p.m. Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna took the Chair.)

(At 4.58 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene took the Chair.)

(At 5.38 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Question that the sum of Rs. 291,900,000 for Head 176, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 17,050,000 for Head 176, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 354,000,000 for Head 176, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 934,240,000 for Head 176, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 434

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 90,620,000 for Head 434, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 7,080,000 for Head 434, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,157,000,000 for Head 434, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 159

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 207,290,000 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. 15,450,000 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. 519,560,000 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. 540,200,000 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. 575,480,000 for Head 322, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 437

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 172,464,000 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. 13,500,000 for Head 437, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,900,000,000 for Head 437, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 6.58 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Monday, December 07, 2020.

4. Adjournment (Issues Faced by Cattle Farmers in Batticaloa District) : The Minister of Highways moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 7.36 p.m. adjourned by the Speaker without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Monday, December 07, 2020 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 20th November, 2020.