



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 79.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, June 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 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. 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. 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. (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. Chamal Rajapaksa, Minister of Irrigation and State Minister of National Security & Disaster Management and State Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Minister of Youth & Sports and State Minister of Digital Technology and Enterprise Development

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 and State Minister of Community Police Services

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. Piyankara 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 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. 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. Roshan Ranasinghe**, State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government
- 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 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. 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. (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. Tiran Alles
Hon. Naseer Ahamed
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
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. 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. (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. 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. Sarathi Dushmantha
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. Manusha Nanayakkara
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. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
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. (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. C.V. Wigneswaran
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. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
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. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that I have under the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled ‘Fiscal Management (Responsibility) (Amendment)’ on the 14th of June 2021.”

II

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have received a copy of the petition filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19)(Temporary Provision)’ ”.

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the Ministry of Finance for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) 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 presented the Supplementary Estimate No. 01 of 2021 and moved that the Supplementary Estimate be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) 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 presented the Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.04.2021 to 30.04.2021 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 7 of 2020.

Ordered that the said Note on Supplementary Allocations do lie upon the **Table**.

(4) The Minister of Highways presented the—

- (i) Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2232/31 of 17th June 2021 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979; and

- (ii) Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2232/40 of 18th June 2021 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979.

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

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Lands presented the Report of the said Committee on the Regulations under the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) which was referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Premalal Jayasekara presented a petition dated 09.04.2021 from Mr. K. M. Ajitha Dasanayeka of Elambalanda, Udamakadawara, Hingula.
- (2) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented a petition dated 05.04.2021 from Mr. G. Wickramasinghe of No. 346/3A, Ananda Maithriya Lane, Habarakada, Homagama.
- (3) Hon. S. M. Marikkar presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 08.02.2021 from Mr. K. B. Sirisoma of No. 333/H/1, Kuda Buthgamuwa, Angoda; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 25.01.2021 from Mr. L. P. Jayasundara of No. 14/3, Isurupura, Kesbewa, Piliyandala.

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

5. Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Lands moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.32 p.m. Hon. Ajith Rajapakse took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Presiding Member took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 6 were agreed to.

Clause 7

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands proposed an amendment to leave out line 17, in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“or (5) of section 4A or subsection (2) of section 20C shall be supported by an”;

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

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands proposed another amendment to leave out line 25, in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“section 4A or subsection (2) of section 20C, may make an interim order”;

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

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands proposed another amendment to leave out lines 29 and 30, in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“the provisions of subsection (4) or (8) or is set aside under the provisions of subsection (8).”;

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

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands proposed another amendment to leave out line 5, in page 11 and substitute the following:—

“section 4A or subsection (2) of section 20C has been made to appear and show”;

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

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

Clauses 8 and 9 were agreed to.

Clause 10

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands proposed an amendment to leave out line 15, in page 21 and substitute the following:—

“assigned under Article 44 or 45 of the”;

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

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

Clauses 11 and 12 were agreed to.

New Clause

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands proposed an amendment to insert the following immediately after line 3 in page 18:—

“Amendment 8. Section 20C of the principal enactment is hereby of section 20C amended by the substitution for the words, “application of the principal being made by the Corporation” of the words” enactment application being made by the Chief Executive Officer”.

Question that the Clause be read a second time, put and agreed to.

Question that the Clause be added to the Bill, put and agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

6. Regulations under the Lands Acquisition Act : The Minister of Foreign on behalf of the Minister of Lands moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Lands under Section 63(2)f of the Lands Acquisition Act, No. 09 of 1950 (Chapter 460) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2219/56 of 18th March 2021, which were presented on 08.06.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Adjournment (Mechanism for a Productive Online Education Process) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.32 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member, without Question put.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2021.