



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 95.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, September 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. 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. 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. 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 Health

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. 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. (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. Siripala Gamalath**, State Minister of Canals and Common Infrastructure Development in Settlements in Mahaweli Zones
- 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. Anuradha Jayaratne**, State Minister of Tanks, Reservoirs and Irrigation Development related to Rural Paddy Fields
- 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. 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. (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
- 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. 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. (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. 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. Akila Ellawala
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
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. 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. (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. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
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. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
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. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Heshu Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. John Seneviratne
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. 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:—



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President of Sri Lanka

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

September 15, 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

2. 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 ‘Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka’ on 21 September 2021.”

II

“I wish to inform that the following Members of Parliament have also been appointed to serve in the Select Committee of Parliament to identify appropriate reforms of the election laws and the electoral system and to recommend necessary amendments, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 101 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 21st September 2021:—

Hon. Basil Rohana Rajapaksa

Hon. Rauff Hakeem”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Labour presented the Annual Reports and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment for the years 2015 and 2017 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Trade presented the Annual Report of the Consumer Affairs Authority for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Consumer Affairs Authority (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Institute of Co-operative Development – Polgolla for the year 2017; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the National Institute of Co-operative Development – Polgolla for the year 2018

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Wildlife & Forest Conservation presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Regulations under Section 22A, read with Section 71 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (Chapter 469);
- (ii) Annual Report of the State Timber Corporation for the year 2017; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the State Timber Corporation for the year 2018

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka presented a petition dated 12.07.2021 from Mrs. W. M. Punchimenike of No. 46/A, Bowatta, Ukuwela.
- (2) Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 14.04.2021 from Prof. Amal Parakrama Rajapaksha of No. 188/13, Sri Rathnapala Mawatha, Pathiragoda Road, Nawinna, Maharagama; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 21.12.2020 from Mr. Dharmalingam Shashi Kumar of No. 33, Nithulemada, Rajawella.
- (3) Hon. Asanka Navarathna presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 16.07.2021 from Mr. B. B. G. Premachandra of No. 101/1/B, Thorana Road, We-uda; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 23.04.2021 from Mr. J. H. Gamini Hemachandra of No. 312/3, Pahala Walakumbura, Alawwa.

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

6. 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, October 04th, 2021.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. 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 06th October 2020, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on Monday, October 04th, 2021 shall be 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.. At 4.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. 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, October 04th, 2021.

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, October 04th, 2021 from the provisions of Standing Order 35 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara seconded by Hon. Buddhika Pathirana moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Indira Cancer Trust”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament to the Minister of Health for report.

11. Consumer Affairs Authority (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

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

(At 12.01 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.25 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice moved,—That Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.02 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

The Minister of Trade moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.25 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

(At 4.17 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Trade moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into a Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 4 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

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

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Trade moved,— That the Bill be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

12. Regulations under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance : The Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation moved,— That the Regulations made by the State Minister of Wildlife Protection, Adoption of Safety Measures including the Construction of Electrical Fences and Trenches and Reforestation and Forest Resource Development under Section 22A, read with Section 71 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (Chapter 469) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2241/41 of 19th August 2021, which were presented on 07.09.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

13. Adjournment (Issues Highlighted Regarding Sri Lanka by United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The State Minister of Regional Co-operation moved,— That Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.54 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.39 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member, without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.00 a.m. on Monday, October 04, 2021 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.