



*(Ninth Parliament - First Session)*

No. 97.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, October 05, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

### PRESENT :

**Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana**, Speaker

**Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya**, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

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**Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana**, Minister of Ports & Shipping

**Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma**, Minister of Mass Media

**Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**, Minister of Agriculture

**Hon. Udaya Gammanpila**, Minister of Energy

**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. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris**, Foreign Minister

**Hon. Johnston Fernando**, Minister of Highways and Chief Government Whip

**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. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi**, Minister of Transport

**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. 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. Arundika Fernando**, State Minister of Coconut, Kithul and Palmyrah Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversification
- 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. Prasanna Ranaweera**, State Minister of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion
- 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan**  
**Hon. Milan Jayathilake**  
**Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**  
**Hon. Premalal Jayasekara**  
**Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban**  
**Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. M. S. Thowfeek**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva**  
**Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake**  
**Hon. Palani Thigambaram**  
**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. (Dr.) 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. Niroshan Perera**  
**Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam**  
**Hon. Nalin Fernando**  
**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. S. M. Marikkar**  
**Hon. K. Kader Masthan**  
**Hon. Imran Maharoof**  
**Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar**  
**Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma**  
**Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff**  
**Hon. Mohomad Muzammil**  
**Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**  
**Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara**  
**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. Gamini Waleboda**  
**Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe**  
**Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Madhura Withanage**  
**Hon. Hesha Withanage**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana**  
**Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC**  
**Hon. D. Weerasingha**  
**Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe**  
**Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**  
**Hon. Kumara Welgama**  
**Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan**  
**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. H. M. M. Harees**

**Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath**

**Hon. Vijitha Herath**

**Hon. Samanpriya 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 Annual Reports of the Urban Settlement Development Authority for the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 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 Performance Report of the National Police Commission for the year 2020.

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

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Economic Policies and Plan Implementation under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2238/40 of 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021; and
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Economic Policies and Plan Implementation under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2244/3 of 06<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the National Insurance Trust Fund for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance 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 03.08.2021 to 21.09.2021 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**.

(6) The Minister of Plantation presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Plantation for the year 2020.

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

**2. Presentation of Reports from Committees :** Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Member of the Committee on behalf of the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence presented the Report of the said Committee on Immigrants and Emigrants (Amendment) Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

**3. Presentation of Public Petitions :**

- (1) Hon. Nimal Lanza presented a petition dated 15.03.2021 from Mr. R. B. Dissanayaka of No. 247/E, Police Lane, Ragama.
- (2) Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara presented a petition dated 19.08.2021 from Mr. Sanjaya Irasinghe of No. 565/12, Galedandugoda, Horana.

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

**4. Regulations under the Value Added Tax Act :** The Minister of Trade on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 75 of the Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002 regarding Value Added Tax and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2228/33 of 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021, which were presented on 20.07.2021, be approved.

(At 12.17 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Ports & Shipping moved,— That Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.30 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene took the Chair.)

The Minister of Power moved,— That Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.52 p.m. Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam took the Chair.)

(At 4.25 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

**5. Order under the Value Added Tax Act :** The Minister of Trade on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 75 of the Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002 prescribing the Information Technology and Enabled Services exempted from Value Added Tax and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2234/7 of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021, which was presented on 06.09.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**6. Order under the Inland Revenue Act :** The Minister of Trade on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 194 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 prescribing the Information Technology and Enabled Services exempted from Income Tax and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2234/6 of 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021, which was presented on 06.09.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**7. Regulations under the Inland Revenue Act :** The Minister of Trade on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 194 of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 regarding the Transfer Pricing Regulations and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2217/7 of 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, which were presented on 06.09.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**8. Order under the Finance Act :** The Minister of Trade on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 6(2) read with Section 8 of the Finance Act, No. 11 of 2006 regarding Teledrama, Film and Commercials Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2227/2 of 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021, which was presented on 06.09.2021, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**9. Adjournment (Provision of Services by Local Authorities Through Digitalized/ Online Methods) :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Public Security moved,— That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.41 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.31 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member, without Question put.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 06, 2021.