



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 100.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, October 08, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana, Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Mass Media

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. 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. 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. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Co-operative Services, Marketing Development and Consumer Protection

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. 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. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva**, State Minister of Coast Conservation & Low-Lying Lands 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. Prasanna Ranaweera**, State Minister of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion
- 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. Kanchana Wijesekera**, State Minister of Ornamental Fish, Inland Fish & Prawn Farming, Fishery Harbour Development, Multi day Fishing Activities and Fish Exports
- 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

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan

Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah

Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala

Hon. Sampath Athukorala

Hon. Tissa Attanayake
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. Naseer Ahamed
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila 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. Gevindu Cumaratunga
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. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
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. M. S. Thowfeek
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. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara

Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
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. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha 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 announcement:—

“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 ‘Petroleum Resources’ on 08 October 2021.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the—

- (i) Second Instalment– Part XXIX, Third Instalment – Part XII, Ninth Instalment– Part XXI of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2017;
- (ii) Second Instalment – Part XXXIV and Ninth Instalment– Parts XXV and XXVI of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2018;
- (iii) Second Instalment – Parts XXIV, XXV and XXVI, Third Instalment – Part XII and Ninth Instalment – Parts XVII and XVIII of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2019; and
- (iv) Second Instalment – Parts I and II and Third Instalment – Part I of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2020

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Lands under Section 63(2)(f) of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2244/13 of 08th September 2021 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Plantation presented the Annual Report of the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka—Talawakelle for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Tourism under Section 117(2)(q) of the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2192/21 of 08th September 2020 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Tourism.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle presented a petition dated 27.04.2021 from Mr. A. P. Fernando of No. 249/2, Katuwapitiya, Negombo.
- (2) Hon. Sanath Nishantha presented a petition dated 27.01.2021 from Mr. N. A. M. D. N. Nawarathne of “Bo Sevana”, Haldanduwana, Dankotuwa.
- (3) Hon. Sisira Jayakody presented a petition dated 12.07.2021 from Mr. B. A. G. Perera of No. 590/82, Sri Bodhigrama Lane, Wedamulla, Kelaniya.
- (4) Hon. Vijitha Herath presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 10.07.2021 from Mr. K. Dumindu Kalyan of P 108, Torrington Housing Scheme, Torrington Avenue, Colombo 05; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 20.02.2021 from Mr. M. Shanmuganaathan of No. 19, Ariyagama, Fruithill, Hatton.
- (5) Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe presented a petition dated 09.07.2021 from Mr. D. A. S. D. Weerasinghe of No. 441/5/1, Maligathenna, Kadugannawa.

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

4. 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 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 06th October 2020, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.. At 11.00 a.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 4.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 06th October 2020, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on Thursday, October 21st, 2021 shall be 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.. At 3.00 p.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. 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 Thursday, October 21st, 2021.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Privilege : Hon. Lakshman Kiriella seconded by Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, M.P. on 07th September, 2021 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges under the provisions of Standing Order 118 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (Mid - Year Fiscal Position Report - 2021) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 11.43 a.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara seconded by Hon. Abdul Haleem moved,— That Hon. Ajith Rajapakse do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.30 p.m. Hon. Ajith Rajapakse took the Chair.)

The Minister of Plantation moved,—That Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.57 p.m. Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake took the Chair.)

And it being 4.30 p.m. Parliament was 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 Thursday, October 21, 2021 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.