



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 21.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, April 05, 2022 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 Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Education and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris, Minister of Foreign Affairs

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

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

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola, State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation

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. 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. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana, State Minister of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals

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. 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. 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. Chamal Rajapaksa**, State Minister of Defence and State Minister of Home Affairs
- 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. 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. Kapila Athukorala

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala

Hon. Sampath Athukorala

Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala

Hon. Tissa Attanayake

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. Dilum Amunugama
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Tiran Alles
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
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. Gayantha Karunatilleka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
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. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka

Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Douglas Devananda
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. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Niroschan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
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. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
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. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Basil Rohana Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa,
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
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. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
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. (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, in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled ‘Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) (Amendment)’ on 29th March 2022, and on the Bill entitled ‘Value Added Tax (Amendment)’ on 31st March 2022.”

II

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, M.P., as the Leader of the House of Parliament and the Hon. Johnston Fernando, M.P., as the Chief Government Whip have been appointed with effect from the 04th of April 2022 for the Second Session of the Ninth Parliament.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka for the year 2017 and moved that the Report 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 Lanka Coal Company (Pvt) Ltd for the year 2019; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Ceylon Electricity Board for the year 2020

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Co-operative Wholesale Establishment for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Language Education and Training for the year 2017 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Finance presented the—

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Sections 2 and 5 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2255/8 of 23rd November 2021;
- (ii) Order made by the Acting Minister of Finance under Sections 2(3) and 5 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2259/9 of 21st December 2021;
- (iii) Order made by the Acting Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2260/72 of 31st December 2021;
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/15 of 11st January 2022; and

- (v) Resolution under Section 10 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties

(Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/14 of 11th January 2022)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Finance presented the Report of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of 2021 under Article IV of the IMF's Articles of Agreement in English language only with special leave of the House.

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

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) The Leader of the House of Parliament, on behalf the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Regulations under Section 72 read with section 19 (a) of Medical Ordinance (Chapter 105)
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital for the year 2016;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol for the years 2016 and 2017;
- (iv) Annual Report of the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation of Sri Lanka for the year 2016;
- (v) Annual Report of the Ayurveda Medical Council for the year 2017;
- (vi) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ayurvedic Drugs Corporation for the year 2015;
- (vii) Annual Report of the Wijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital - Seeduwa for the year 2016;
- (viii) Annual Report of the National Council for Elders for the year 2017;
- (ix) Annual Report of the Wijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital for the year 2019;
- (x) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ayurvedic Drugs Corporation for the year 2019;
- (xi) Annual Report of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital and Postgraduate Medical Training Center for the year 2019;
- (xii) Annual Reports of the National Council for Elders for the years 2018 and 2019; and
- (xiii) Annual Report of the Ayurveda Medical Council for the year 2020

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) The Leader of the House of Parliament, on behalf the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth & Sports presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Regulations made under Section 34 read with Section 3 of the Convention against Doping in Sport Act No. 33 of 2013;
- (ii) Annual Reports of the National Youth Services Council for the years 2015 and 2016;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Anti-Doping Agency for the year 2019;
- (iv) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Anti-Doping Agency for the year 2017; and
- (v) Annual Report of the Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority for the year 2016

which were referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented a petition dated 01.11.2021 from Mr. R. Mahinda of Perupalla, Maliboda, Deraniyagala.
- (2) Hon. Vijitha Herath presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 10.02.2022 from Mr. Kahandawala Arachchige Gamini of No. 130, Kelanimulla, Mulleriyawa New Town; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 02.02.2022 from Mr. W. G. Jayarathna of No. 117/2, Ananda Mawatha, Kithulampitiya.
- (3) Hon. Nalin Fernando presented a petition dated 25.12.2021 from Mr. E. S. M. S. D. Priyadarshana of No. 122/A, Batuwatta, Ragama.

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

The Minister of Education moved,— That Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.01 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte took the Chair.)

5. Adjournment : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 2.14 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 06, 2022.