



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 26.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, April 20, 2022 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. Dilum Amunugama, Minister of Transport and Minister of Industries

Hon. Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa, Minister of Mass Media

Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana, Minister of Health

Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Minister of Water Supply

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Education and Minister of Plantation Industries

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

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Public Security, Minister of Tourism and Chief Government Whip

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Irrigation

Hon. Vidura Wikramanayaka, Minister of Labour

Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera, Minister of Energy and Minister of Power

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, Minister of Trade and Minister of Samurdhi Development

Hon. Kanaka Herath, Minister of Highways

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe, State Minister of Cultural & Performing Arts

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar, State Minister of Estate Housing & Community Infrastructure

Hon. Siripala Gamalath, State Minister of Mahaweli
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Roads Development
Hon. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Tourism and State Minister of Fisheries
Hon. Sisira Jayakody, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, State Minister of Irrigation
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, State Minister of Women and Child Development,
Preschools & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda, State Minister of Health
Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Water Supply
Hon. Arundika Fernando, State Minister of Plantation
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha, State Minister of Trade
Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Promoting the Production of Organic
fertilizer and Advanced Technology Agriculture
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hon. K. Kader Masthan, State Minister of Rural Economic Crop Cultivation &
Promotion
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, State Minister of Textile Industry & Local Apparel
Products Promotion
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara, State Minister of Cooperative Services, Marketing
Development and Consumer Protection
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Higher Education
Hon. S. Viyalanderan, State Minister of Youth & Sports
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath, State Minister of Housing
Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan
Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura

Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila Ellawala
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. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda

Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Harin Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
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. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe
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. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe
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. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
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. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna 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. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have received a copy of a petition filed at the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Industrial Disputes (Special Provisions)’.”

Suspension of Sittings

At 10.07 a.m.

The Sitting was then suspended until 10.30 a.m.

At 10.30 a.m.

The Sitting was resumed. The Speaker took the Chair.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Anura Priyadarshana Yapa, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Resolution under the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235); and
- (ii) Orders under the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007

which were referred to the Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera presented a petition dated 22.12.2021 from Mr. L. M. V. Damitha Sampath of Pitawagurawa Watta, Makalandawa, Walallawita.
- (2) Hon. M. S. Thowfeek presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 13.07.2021 from Mr. Kugathas Pragash of No. 44/45V, Krishnapuram, Kandy Road, Trincomalee; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 26.01.2022 from Mr. R. Abhilan of No. 23/10, Sivan Street, Trincomalee.

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

4. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item Nos. 4 to 8 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.1) : The Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 32 read with Sections 8 and 30 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) amended, regarding Security Features and Security Features Management System, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2249/50 of 16th October 2021, which was presented on 24.03.2022, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 10/2021)

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.2) : The Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) amended from time to time, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2260/78 of 01st January 2022, which was presented on 24.03.2022, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 01/2022)

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.3) : The Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) amended from time to time, regarding Annual Liquor License Fees, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2260/79 of 01st January 2022, which was presented on 24.03.2022, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 02/2022)

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Resolution under the Customs Ordinance : The Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils & Local Government on behalf of the Minister of Finance moved,— That the Resolution under Section 10 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties, which was presented on 05.04.2022, be approved.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and State Minister of Defence moved,—That Hon. Ajith Rajapakse do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.11 p.m. Hon. Ajith Rajapakse took the Chair.)

9. Adjournment (Reports Regarding Transporting US Dollars to Uganda by a Srilankan Airlines Aircraft) : The Minister of Public Security and Minister of Tourism moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Transport and Minister of Industries moved,—That Hon. Hesha Withanage do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.04 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

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

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, April 21, 2022.