



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 28.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, April 22, 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. 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. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, Minister of Ports & Shipping

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

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. Kanaka Herath, Minister of Highways

Hon. Kapila Athukorala, State Minister of Development of Minor Crops Plantation

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

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

Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage, State Minister of Transport

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. Rohana Dissanayaka, State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government
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. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Highways
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. Lohan Ratwatte, State Minister of Gem & Jewellery related Industries and State Minister of Urban Development
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. Sampath Athukorala
Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Tiran Alles
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
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 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. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara

Hon. M. S. Thowfeek

Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban

Hon. Jeevan Thondaman

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. 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. Johnston Fernando

Hon. Nalin Fernando

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle

Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. Uddika Premarathne

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen

Hon. Sudath Manjula

Hon. Imran Maharoof

Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar

Hon. Mohomad Muzammil

Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa

Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara

Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka

Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe

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. Nimal Lanza

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. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Abdul Haleem
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. Messages from the President: The Speaker read the following message received from the President:—



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

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

April 21, 2022

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

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இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

2. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“I wish to inform to this House that special attention was paid at the Meetings of the Committee on Parliamentary Business held on 16.03.2022 and 08.04.2022 respectively regarding the requests made on the Floor of the House as well as those submitted in person to me in writing and orally stating that Backbench Members of Parliament who have submitted questions do not get equal opportunity to ask questions as only a few Members of Parliament get the opportunity to do so on every sitting day of Parliament because of the methodology which is followed at present in scheduling Questions for Oral Answers in the Order Paper of Parliament.

This House is informed that, the Committee on Parliamentary Business, accordingly, made the following guidelines unanimously after long deliberation regarding introduction of new methodology in scheduling of Questions for Oral Answers in the Order Paper of Parliament in future:—

The number of Questions for Oral Answers that are scheduled for a Sitting Day be restricted to ten (10);

According to the chronological order of the Questions for Oral Answers that have been submitted by Members, the first question of each Member be given priority, and on the first sitting day of Parliament ten (10) questions – one question from each of the first ten (10) Members whose names appear in the list – be scheduled in the Order Paper of Parliament;

On the second day, the questions of the next ten (10) Members whose names appear in the list, be scheduled in the Order Paper, and questions be scheduled for other sitting days also following the same procedure;

Giving priority, as appropriate, for the questions for which further time was sought to reply of the relevant Member at the next sitting day of Parliament on which the Member gets his turn;

The aforementioned new methodology will be effective from the first sitting day of Parliament in May 2022.”

Suspension of Sittings

At 10.30 a.m.

The Sitting was then suspended until 10.50 a.m.

At 10.50 a.m.

The Sitting was resumed. The Speaker took the Chair.

3. Presentation of Papers : The Minister of Public Security and Minister of Tourism presented the Annual Report of the Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority for the year 2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth & Sports.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament :

The Minister of Transport and Minister of Industries presented the Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled “Chartered Institute of Transport of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) (Amendment)”.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, May 04, 2022.

5. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 04th May, 2022.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Uddika Premarathne seconded by Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Institution of Building Services Engineering & Technology of Sri Lanka.”

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 Urban Development & Housing for report.

7. Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act (No.1) : The Minister of Transport and Minister of Industries moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 read with Section 213B of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2245/31 of 17th September 2021, which were presented on 08.03.2022, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act (No.2) : The Minister of Transport and Minister of Industries moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 read with Sections 122, 122A and Part VIIA of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2251/63 of 29th October 2021, which were presented on 22.03.2022, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act (No.3) : The Minister of Transport and Minister of Industries moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 read with Sections 5, 19 and 20 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2240/37 of 14th August 2021, which were presented on 23.03.2022, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana seconded by Hon. Kins Nelson moved,—
That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.54 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

10. Adjournment (Issues Faced by Students Sitting for G.C.E. O/L Examination) : The Minister of Public Security and Minister of Tourism moved,—
That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 5.14 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 04, 2022 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.