



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 34.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Ajith Rajapakse, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. Angajan Ramanathan, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister

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

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

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Urban Development and Housing and Chief
Government Whip

Hon. Kanchana Wijsekera, Minister of Power and Energy

Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah

Hon. Kapila Athukorala

Hon. Sampath Athukorala

Hon. Tissa Attanayake

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Naseer Ahamed

Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi

Hon. M. Udayakumar

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. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
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. Manusha Nanayakkara

Hon. Sanath Nishantha
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. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Harin 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. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
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. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero

Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
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. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi

Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. D. B. 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. Official Oath or Affirmation by new Members : Hon. S. Jagath Samarawickrama, Member of Parliament for Polonnaruwa Electoral District, made and subscribed the Affirmation required by Law and signed the Book at the **Table**.

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

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have nominated the following Members of Parliament to serve in the Panel of Chairs with effect from 19.05.2022 for the Second Session of the Ninth Parliament, in terms of Standing Order 140 of the Parliament:—

Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya.”

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana presented a petition dated 10.01.2022 from Mr. W. W. M. Saman Sisira Kumara Weerakoon of No. 28, Jayanthipura, Dutuwewa, Galenbindunawewa.
- (2) Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna presented a petition dated 18.03.2022 from Ms. A. M. Maheshi Hasinika Aththanayaka of No. 155, Kusumpokuna, Diulankadawala.
- (3) Hon. Uddika Premarathne presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 07.03.2022 from Mr. Rashmika Gamaarachchi of No. 768, Second Step, Anuradhapura; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 06.02.2022 from Mr. Saimange Rajakaruna of Mahawewa, Pandukabhayapura, Anuradhapura.

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

4. Sitzings of the Parliament : 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 19th January 2022, 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 5.30 p.m.. At 11.00 a.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Select Committee of Parliament to identify appropriate reforms of the election laws and the electoral system and to recommend necessary amendments : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the time period granted to the Select Committee of Parliament to identify appropriate reforms of the election laws and the electoral system and to recommend necessary amendments as specified in the Resolution passed by Parliament on 05th April 2021 be extended up to 30th June 2022 in terms of Standing Order 102 of the Parliament as the Committee needs further time to report its observations to Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Adjournment (A Select Committee to Look into the Riotous Incidents on 09th May, 2022) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Order read for resuming; Adjourned debate on question (17th May 2022).

Question again proposed and debate resumed.

Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda seconded by Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 12.01 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan took the Chair.)

(At 1.29 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene seconded by Hon. Imran Maharoof moved,—That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.21 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

Debate to be resumed on Friday, May 20, 2022.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 5.11 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 10.00 a.m. on Friday, May 20, 2022.