



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 36.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, June 07, 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 and Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation

Hon. Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment

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

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment

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

Hon. Nalin Fernando, Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

Hon. Harin Fernando, Minister of Tourism and Lands

Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Education

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

Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe, Minister of Irrigation and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply

Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakse, Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms

Hon. Kanchana Wijsekera, Minister of Power and Energy

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan
Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala
Hon. Sampath Athukorala
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
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. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
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. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Siripala Gamalath
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
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. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte

Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
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. Arundika Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
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. Tharaka Balasuriya
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. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
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. Shasheendra Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
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. Basil Rohana Rajapaksa
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. S. Viyalanderan

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan
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. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. D. B. 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. 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

May 17, 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 announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have received copies of five petitions filed at the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Private Members’ Bill entitled ‘Twenty First Amendment to the Constitution’ and copies of four petitions in respect of the Private Members’ Bill entitled ‘Twenty Second Amendment to the Constitution’.”

II

“I wish to inform that, in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 112 (1) of the Parliament and the resolution adopted by Parliament on 18th May 2022, the following Members have been nominated by the Committee of Selection, to serve in the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power and Energy, during the Second Session of the Ninth Parliament:—

Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake

Hon. Kabir Hashim

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha

Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegodra”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Fifth Installment – Parts IV and V and Sixth Installment – Parts VIII, IX and X 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 Report do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

(2) The Speaker presented the—

- (i) Eighth Installment – Part VI of the Performance Report of the Auditor-General on the Regulation of the prevention and control of non-communicable chronic diseases in Sri Lanka; and
- (ii) Eighth Installment – Part VII of the Performance Report of the Auditor-General on the Conservation of Coastal and Marine National Parks in Sri Lanka

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.

(3) The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies presented the—

- (i) Supplementary Estimate No. 01 of 2022; and
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 29 read with Section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2273/06 of 28th March 2022

and moved that the Supplementary Estimate and those Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies presented the—

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 19(A) of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) as amended by the Customs (Amendment) Law No. 35 of 1974 and the Customs (Amendment) Act No. 83 of 1988 relating to payment of the Customs Import Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2273/74 of 31st March 2022; and
- (ii) Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.04.2022 to 30.04.2022 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2021.

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

(5) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Performance Report of the State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Materials Industries Promotion for the year 2021.

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

(6) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Performance Report of the State Ministry of Women and Child Development, Pre-Schools & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services for the year 2021; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the State Ministry of Dhamma Schools, Pirivenas and Bhikku Education for the year 2021.

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

(7) The Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply presented the—

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Water Supply for the year 2021; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the State Ministry of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development for the year 2021.

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

(8) The Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment presented the Annual Performance Report of the State Ministry of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification for the year 2021.

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

4. 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) Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969; and
- (ii) Resolution under the Local Treasury Bills Ordinance (Chapter 417)

which were referred to the Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage presented a petition dated 27.02.2022 from Mr. D. M. Anura Mahasekara of No. 41/A, Nawashantha Janapadaya, Balanthota, Nawalapitiya.
- (2) Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma presented a petition dated 23.03.2022 from Mrs. M. K. M. Dharmasiri of No. 329/A, Mudungoda, Gampaha.
- (3) Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake presented a petition dated 29.11.2021 from Mr. W. I. M. Jayathilaka of Randenigama Road, Weliyaya - Bogas Handiya, Mahawa.

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

6. 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 11.30 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.

7. Ministerial Consultative Committees (No.1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the designations of the following Ministerial Consultative Committees shall be re-designated as per the decision taken by the Committee of Selection on 02nd June 2022:—

- 1. The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies”;

2. The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms”;
3. The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour and Foreign Employment”;
4. The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports and Shipping as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports, Shipping and Aviation”;
5. The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth and Sports as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Sports and Youth Affairs”; and
6. The Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade as the “Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce and Food Security”.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Ministerial Consultative Committees (No.2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 112(1) of the Parliament, the following Ministerial Consultative Committees be appointed to be designated as per the decision taken on 02nd June, 2022 by the Committee of Selection:—

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways
2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Tourism and Lands

Above each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall consist of the Cabinet Minister in charge of the relevant subject as the Chair, State Minister, Deputy Minister and five (5) other Members of Parliament to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to discuss and report upon such matters as are referred to it.

The quorum of the above each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall be three (3) Members.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Leave to withdraw a Bill : The Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That leave be granted to withdraw the following Bill introduced on 17th May 2022:—

“Bill to amend the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act : The Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1), 6 and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2274/42 of 09th April 2022, which were presented on 06.05.2022, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Resolution under the Local Treasury Bills Ordinance : The Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies moved,— That this Parliament resolves that a sum not exceeding Rupees One Thousand Billion (Rs. 1,000 Billion) may, in addition to sum authorized by the resolutions in that behalf, be borrowed by the issue in Sri Lanka, of Sri Lanka Government Treasury Bills and that, for such purpose, the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies be granted all requisite authority under Section 2(1) of the Local Treasury Bills Ordinance (Chapter 417).

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Adjournment (Support for Programme Initiated by Hon. Prime Minister to Overcome the Economic Crisis) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 12.42 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan seconded by Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala moved,— That Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.02 p.m. Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara took the Chair.)

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman seconded by Hon. Kins Nelson moved,—That Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.58 p.m. Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala took the Chair.)

Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha seconded by Hon. Kins Nelson moved,—That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.28 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

And it being 5.30 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 Wednesday, June 08, 2022.