



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 45.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, July 16, 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, Acting President, 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. Tiran Alles, Minister of Public Security

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. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment

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

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 Rajapakshe, Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms

Hon. Vidura Wikramanayaka, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs

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. Lasantha Alagiyawanna

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura

Hon. (Dr.) (Major) Pradeep Undugoda

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna

Hon. Akila Ellawala

Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam

Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda

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. Mano Ganesan

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. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
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. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
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. 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. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston 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. 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. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte

Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
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. 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. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. D. B. Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
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 the Notification of the Secretary-General of Parliament in terms of Section 4 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981.

The Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcement by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“Hon. Members, His Excellency the President, Gotabaya Rajapaksa has resigned from the office of the President with effect from 14th July 2022 in terms of Article 38(1)(b) of the Constitution, and the Secretary-General of Parliament will now present the announcements to this House.”

Accordingly, the Secretary-General of Parliament made the following announcements:—

I

“Hon. Members, In terms of Section 4 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981, given that the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of President shall, when Parliament has not been dissolved, operate as a summoning of Parliament to meet within three days of such occurrence, as the Secretary-General of Parliament, first of all I would like to read to this august assembly, the Gazette Extraordinary Notification issued by me for the purpose of informing you.”



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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2288/27 - 2022 ජූලි මස 15 වැනි සිකුරාදා - 2022.07.15
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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

NOTIFICATION BY THE SECRETARY — GENERAL OF PARLIAMENT

Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981 Notification in terms of Section 4

Summoning of Parliament of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Saturday, the 16th of July, 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

I, Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary - General of Parliament, do hereby inform the Members of Parliament that the Parliament will meet on Saturday, the 16th of July, 2022 at 10.00 a. m. as the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of President shall, when Parliament has not been dissolved, operate as a summoning of Parliament to meet within three days of such occurrence, in terms of Section 4 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981.

DHAMMIKA DASANAYAKE,
Secretary-General of Parliament.

At Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte,
Friday, the 15th of July, 2022.

EOG 07-0072



II

“Hon. Members, I wish to announce to this House that according to Section 5 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981, due to the resignation of His Excellency President, Gotabaya Rajapaksa with effect from 14th July 2022, a vacancy has occurred in the office of President. Accordingly, in terms of Article 38 (1) (b) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, I would now like to read to this august assembly, the letter dated 14th July 2022 sent by His Excellency President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to the Honourable Speaker informing of the resignation from the office of President.”



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

2022 ජූලි මස 1෪ වන දින

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ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජයේ හත්වන විධායක ජනාධිපතිවරයා වශයෙන් ආණ්ඩුක්‍රම ව්‍යවස්ථානුකූලව ප්‍රතිඥාවන් දී 2019 නොවැම්බර් මස 18 වන දින මා විසින් එම ධුරයේ රාජකාරි භාරගන්නා ලදී.

ජනාධිපති ධුරයේ රාජකාරි ආරම්භ කර මාස තුනක් ගතවීමටත් පෙර ළමු මහත් ලෝකයටම බලපෑ කොවිඩ් - 19 මාරාන්තික වසංගත තත්ත්වයට ශ්‍රී ලංකා දීමට අප රටට ද සිදුවූ අතර, එවන විටත් ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පවතින ආර්ථික අර්බුදය හමුවේ වුවද එකී වසංගත තත්ත්වයෙන් ජනතාව ආරක්ෂා කරගැනීමට මා සාධාරණව සිහිවීම සතුටට කරුණකි.

එමෙන්ම, කොවිඩ් - 19 වසංගත තත්ත්වයෙන් ජනතාව ආරක්ෂා කර ගැනීමට 2020 සහ 2021 වර්ෂවල වරින්වර රට වසා ඇමීමට සිදුවීම හේතුවෙන් වසර ගණනාවක් තිස්සේ වර්ධනය වෙමින් පවතින ආර්ථික අර්බුදය තවදුරටත් වර්ධනය වීම සහ විදේශ විනිමය හිඟයකට ශ්‍රී ලංකා දීමට අප රජයට සිදු විය.

ඒ තුළින් ඇතිවූ අස්ථාවරත්වයන්ට විසඳුම් සෙවීම සඳහා පාර්ලිමේන්තුව නියෝජනය කරන සියලුම සභාපාලන පක්ෂ නායකයින්ට ආරාධනා කරමින් සර්ව පාක්ෂික හෝ පාතික ආණ්ඩුවක් පිහිටුවීමට මවිසින් භාණ්ඩ සාම්ප්‍රදායිකයක්ම ගන්නා ලද අතර ඒ සඳහා ගතහැකිව තිබූ හොඳම පියවරයන් ගන්නා ලද බව මාගේ පෞද්ගලික විශ්වාසය වේ.

පොදු ජනතාවගේ ඉල්ලීම සහ 2022 ජූලි මස 09 දිනැති ලිපිය මගින් බහාලුමා විසින් මා වෙත දැනුම් දුන් පාර්ලිමේන්තුවේ පක්ෂ නායකයින්ගේ ඉල්ලීම අනුව, ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජයේ ආණ්ඩුක්‍රම ව්‍යවස්ථාවේ 38 (1) (අ) ව්‍යවස්ථාව ප්‍රකාරව ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජයේ ජනාධිපති ධුරයෙන් 2022 ජූලි මස 1෪ වන දින සිට ක්‍රියාත්මක වන පරිදි ඉල්ලා අස්වන බව මෙයින් දැනුම් දෙමි. ඒ අනුව, ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජයේ ආණ්ඩුක්‍රම ව්‍යවස්ථාව අනුව ඉදිරිපියවර ගන්නා ලෙසත් බහාලුමාගෙන් ඉල්ලා සිටිමි.

තවද, මේ දක්වා මා රජයේ මවිසීමට මාගේ උපරිම යත්න ප්‍රමාණයෙන් සේවය කළ පරිදිම ඉදිරියටත් ඒ සඳහා මාගේ උපරිම දායකත්වය ලබා දීමට අප කැපවී සිටින බව වැඩිදුරටත් දන්වා සිටිමි.

මෙයට - නිතවත්

Gotabaya Rajapaksa

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III

“Hon. Members, In terms of Section 5 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981, given that I should fix a date and time at which nominations shall be received by me being a date not earlier than forty-eight hours and not later than seven days from the date of such meeting, I would like to inform to this august assembly that the said date and time is fixed for Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 10.00 a.m. where Parliament shall meet for the receipt of nominations.”

IV

“Hon. Members, Finally, I would like to present the following facts regarding the receipt of nominations in terms of the provisions of Section 6 of the Act, for your convenience:—

On the date fixed for the receipt of nominations Parliament shall meet and the Secretary-General of Parliament shall act as the returning officer.

A member who wishes to propose any other member for election to the office of President shall obtain prior written consent of the member whom he wishes to propose indicating that such member is willing to serve if elected. I kindly request that a copy of the same be handed over to me on Tuesday, 19th July 2022 at the time of receiving nominations.

A Member addressing himself to the Secretary-General of Parliament shall propose some other member who is necessarily be present in the Chamber to the office of President and the proposal shall be seconded by another member, but no debate shall be allowed.

However, If only one member be so proposed and seconded to the office of President on the 19th of July 2022, he shall be declared by me to have been elected by Parliament to such office.

If more than one member be so proposed and seconded on Tuesday, the 19th of July 2022, in terms of the provisions of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981, Parliament shall fix a date and time for the holding of the election, such date being a date not later than forty-eight hours from the time of receiving nominations.

Accordingly, as currently intended, a meeting of Parliament can be held on Wednesday, July 20th, 2022 fixed by Parliament and the election of the President can be conducted.

Similarly Honourable Members, I would like to inform that when nominating the name of a member of Parliament for the vacated office of President, it is essential to consider the disqualifications mentioned in Article 92 of the Constitution of whom to be elected as a President.”

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

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 10.13 a.m. adjourned by the Speaker until 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.