



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 46.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, July 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, 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 and Leader of the House of Parliament

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

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 Wijesekera, 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. (Dr.) 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. 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. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
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. Nimal Siripala de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena

Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Sanath Nishantha
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
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. 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. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
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. 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. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan

Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
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. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. D. B. Herath
Hon. Vijitha 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. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“The Honourable Members, I wish to inform this House that the Secretary-General of Parliament, as the Returning Officer, will now begin the work pertaining to receiving of nominations to elect a suitable Member by Parliament for the office of President vacant at present, as it was informed to you on Saturday 16th July 2022 in terms of the provisions of the relevant Act.”

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

“I wish to announce to Parliament the relevant provisions with regard to the receiving of nominations for the office of President.

Honourable Members, In terms of Section 6 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act No. 2 of 1981, any member shall rise from his seat and address the Secretary-General to propose the name of any Member now present in the Chamber for the vacant office of President and the proposal shall be seconded by another Member. I would also like to mention that no debate shall be allowed.

Please be informed that if the MP who is expected to be proposed is so elected, the written consent that he wishes to serve in the office of President should be taken first and a copy must be handed over to me today.

Honourable Members, I kindly inform this august assembly that you now have the opportunity to submit nominations.”

2. Receiving of Nominations by the Secretary-General of Parliament to the office of President under Section 6 of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981 : Accordingly, addressing the Secretary-General of Parliament,

- (i) Hon. Sajith Premadasa proposed the name of the Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma for the office of President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which was seconded by Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris.
- (ii) Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena proposed the name of the Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe for the Office of President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which was seconded by Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara.
- (iii) Hon. Vijitha Herath proposed the name of the Hon. Anura Dissanayaka for the office of President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka which was seconded by Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya.

Thereafter, the Secretary-General of Parliament made the following announcement:—

“I would like to inform this august assembly that the receiving of nominations for the election of a Member of Parliament for the office of President in accordance with the procedure mentioned in the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act No. 2 of 1981 is concluded.

Accordingly, I inform Parliament that I have received the nominations of the following Members of Parliament:—

Member of Parliament, Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Member of Parliament, Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe

Member of Parliament, Hon. Anura Dissanayaka

Honourable Members, I hereby declare to Parliament that I have accepted those 3 nominations as per the provisions of the relevant Act.”

“Honourable Members, pursuant to Section 6(4) of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act No. 2 of 1981, the names of more than one Member of Parliament have been proposed and confirmed for the currently vacant office of President, subject to Section 3(2) of the said Act, Parliament shall fix a date and time for the election. Therefore, as previously agreed by the Party Leaders and the members of the Committee on Parliamentary Business met on Monday, July 11, 2022, the proposal that the Parliament should convene and hold the election on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 10.00 a.m. will now be moved by the Hon. Leader of the House of Parliament.”

3. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That Parliament shall sit on Wednesday, 20th July 2022 at 10.00 a.m., since a date and time for the holding of the election of President shall be fixed by Parliament in terms of Section 6(4) of the Presidential Elections (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 1981.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 10.10 a.m. adjourned by the Speaker until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.