



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 17.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, September 23, 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

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

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment

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

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

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

Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms

Hon. Kanchana Wijsekera, Minister of Power and Energy

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola, State Minister of Health

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Transport

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe, State Minister of Women and Child Affairs

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar, State Minister of Education

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

Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development

Hon. Sisira Jayakody, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, State Minister of Justice and Prison Affairs
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon, State Minister of Defence
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake, State Minister of Primary Industries
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka, State Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs
Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Water Supply
Hon. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha, State Minister of Home Affairs
Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Piriven Education
Hon. K. Kader Masthan, State Minister of Rural Economy
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises
Development
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Higher Education
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura, State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local
Government
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage, State Minister of Urban Development and Housing
Hon. S. Viyalanderan, State Minister of Trade
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath, State Minister of Power and Energy
Hon. Kanaka Herath, State Minister of Technology
Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan
Hon. Sampath Athukorala
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila Ellawala
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
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. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna 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

September 11, 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,


Ranil Wickremesinghe
President

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Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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

“I wish to inform this House, that in terms of the resolution approved by Parliament on 20.09.2022 for the constitution of National Council, the following Members of Parliament have been nominated by the respective political parties, with Speaker as the Chair, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House of Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and the Chief Government Whip, to serve in the National Council:—

Hon. Douglas Devananda
 Hon. Naseer Ahamed
 Hon. Tiran Alles
 Hon. Sisira Jayakody
 Hon. Sivanessathurai Santhirakanthan
 Hon. Johnston Fernando
 Hon. Rauff Hakeem
 Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
 Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
 Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
 Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
 Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
 Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
 Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
 Hon. Palani Thigambaram
 Hon. Mano Ganesan
 Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
 Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana
 Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
 Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
 Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
 Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
 Hon. Asanka Navarathna
 Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
 Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
 Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
 Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the—

- (i) Fifth Instalment – Part IX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2019;
- (ii) Fifth Instalment – Part VIII and Sixth Instalment – Parts XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX and XX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2020; and

- (iii) First Instalment – Parts II and III and Fourth Instalment – Parts IV and V of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2021

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.

(2) The Speaker presented the Eighth Instalment – Part X of the Performance Report of the Auditor-General on Fulfillment and Utilization of Building Requirements for the Government Institutions 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.

(3) The Speaker presented the—

- (i) Eleventh Volume – 02 of the Triennial Report of the Auditor-General on State Banks, in terms of Section 14 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018; and
- (ii) Eleventh Volume – 09 of the Triennial Report of the Auditor-General on Public Companies, in terms of Section 14 of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018

received to the National Audit Office, 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.

(4) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Reports of the Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA) for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Technology.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Ranaviru Seva Authority for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Animal Production and Health for the year 2021.

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

(7) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Tourism and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Shrama Vasana Fund for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour and Foreign Employment.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Ajith Rajapakse presented a petition dated 28.08.2022 from Mr. M. K. Jayarathne of No. 282/3, Kulasiri Kumarage Mawatha, Katuwana, Homagama.
- (2) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented a petition dated 02.07.2022 from Mrs. K. P. E. Perera of No. 203/4, Walapala, Panadura.
- (3) Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera presented a petition dated 25.08.2022 from Mr. M. L. P. Samarasinghe of “Jayantha”, Dedigama, Nelundeniya.
- (4) Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda presented a petition dated 22.08.2022 from Mr. W. P. Wimalasena of No. 31/5, Wata Mawatha, Navinna, Maharagama.

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

5. Bureau of Rehabilitation : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented,—“Bill to provide for the establishment of a Bureau to be called and known as the Bureau of Rehabilitation; to regulate its powers, duties and functions and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Monday, October 03, 2022, be printed and be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No.1) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament and the motions agreed to by Parliament on 09th and 12th August 2022, the hours of sittings of Parliament on this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Business of the Parliament (No.1) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day’s sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Sittings of the Parliament (No.2) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the Parliament shall sit on Monday, October 03rd, 2022.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Sittings of the Parliament (No.3) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the hours of sittings of Parliament on Monday, October 03rd, 2022 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.. At 4.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Business of the Parliament (No.2) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Questions for Oral Answers appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at the sittings of Parliament on Monday, October 03rd, 2022 from the provisions of Standing Order 35 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Sittings of the Parliament (No.4) : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Monday, October 03rd, 2022.

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Votes of Condolence— Her Majesty, the Queen Elizabeth II : The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,—That this Parliament resolves that Parliament of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka pays its deepest sympathies to His Majesty King Charles III and the Royal family and People of Great Britain on the demise of world's immensely respected Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Question put, and agreed to, *Nemine Contradicente*.

13. Votes of Condolence : Appropriate Speeches on the death of the late Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala, Member of Parliament of the Ninth Parliament continued. (Adjourned Vote of Condolence -10.06.2022).

(At 11.08 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Deputy Speaker announced that the Speaker and himself associated with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the death of the late Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala, Member of Parliament of the Ninth Parliament and directed the Secretary-General of Parliament to send a copy of the Official Report (Hansard) containing proceedings of this day to the members of his bereaved family.

14. Amendment to the Resolution for the constitution of the National Council :

The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of the resolution adopted by Parliament on 20th September 2022, the Parliament Committee designated “National Council” shall consists of the Hon. Speaker as the Chair, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House of Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, the Chief Government Whip, the Chief Opposition Whip and not more than thirty five (35) Members of Parliament representing the Ninth Parliament from recognized Political Parties in Sri Lanka as determined by the Leaders of the Political Parties.

Question put, and agreed to.

15. Adjournment : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 12.51 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Speaker until 9.30 a.m. on Monday, October 03, 2022 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.