



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 10.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, September 06, 2022 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

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

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

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

Hon. Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment

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

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment

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

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. 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. Wajira Abeywardana

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
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. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne
Hon. Piyankara 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. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Sanath Nishantha
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam

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. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
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. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
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. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya
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. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. D. B. Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath

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 announcements:—

I

“I wish to announce to Parliament that I have received the Determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Twenty Second Amendment to the Constitution’ which was challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

On an overall consideration of the provisions of the Bill, the Supreme Court has made the following Determination:—

The Supreme Court states that the Bill complies with the provisions of Article 82 (1) of the Constitution and requires to be passed by the special majority specified in Article 82(5) of the Constitution.

Clause 2 of the Bill contains provisions inconsistent with Article 3 read together with Article 4(b) of the Constitution and as such may be enacted only by the special majority required by Article 82(5) and upon being approved by the People at a Referendum by virtue of Article 83. However, the necessity for a Referendum shall cease if the proposed Articles 41A(6) and 41B(4) in Clause 2 are suitably amended to remove the deeming provision set out therein.

Clause 3 of the Bill contains provisions inconsistent with Article 3 read together with Article 4(b) of the Constitution and as such may be enacted only by the special majority required by Article 82(5) and upon being approved by the People at a Referendum by virtue of Article 83.

However, the necessity for a Referendum shall cease:

- (a) if the proposed Article 44(2), the proviso to Article 44(3), Articles 45 (1), 46(1), 47(3)(a), 48(3) and 50 in Clause 3 are suitably amended by deleting the reference to “the President acting on the advice of the Prime Minister” and replacing instead with “the President acting in consultation with the Prime Minister”; and
- (b) if the provisions of Article 47(2)(a) are restored in the proposed Article 47(2) in Clause 3.

I order that the Determination of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today’s proceedings of the House.”

II

“I wish to inform that in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled ‘Sisira Jayakody Siyapatha Foundation (Incorporation)’ on this day, i.e. 06th September 2022.”

III

“I wish to inform that, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 121 of Parliament and the resolution adopted by Parliament on 10th August 2022, the following Members have also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Committee on Public Finance, as per the resolution adopted by Parliament on 29th August 2022:—

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake”

IV

“I wish to inform this House that the names of the Members nominated by the Committee of Selection for 09 Committees out of the 29 Ministerial Consultative Committees appointed in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 112 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 10th August 2022, will be tabled and published in the Hansard Report in all three languages.

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda

2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies

Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara

3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports, Shipping and Aviation

Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Sivanethurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. Hesha Withanage

4. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways

Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Dilum Amunugama
Hon. Kanaka Herath
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara

5. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mass Media

Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna

6. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha

7. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Anupa Pasqual

8. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power and Energy

Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegodra

9. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour and Foreign Employment

Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. D. B. Herath
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC"

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Business Management for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the—

- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61 of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2255/22 of 24th November 2021;
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61(1)(b) read with Section 64(a) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2266/6 of 07th February 2022; and
- (iii) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61 of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2277/04 of 25th April 2022

and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the State Development & Construction Corporation for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation presented the Annual Report of the Agricultural and Agrarian Insurance Board for the year 2018 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of National Archives for the year 2020.

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

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 which were referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri presented —

- (i) a petition dated 30.03.2022 from Mr. B. M. D. D. Kandulawa of No. 621/11, Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura; and

- (ii) a petition dated 29.06.2022 from Mr. D. M. Aruna Randenigama of No. 528/19, Stage II, Anuradhapura.

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

5. Sittings of the Parliament : 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 10.45 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.

6. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 2 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sittings from the provisions of the Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies 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) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2291/44 of 05th August 2022, which were presented on 31.08.2022, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (Malnutrition among Children and Mothers in Sri Lanka) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 1.01 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana seconded by Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage moved,— That Hon. Hesha Withanage do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.47 p.m. Hon. Hesha Withanage took the Chair.)

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena seconded by Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.39 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

And it being 5.30 p.m. debate stood adjourned; Debate to be resumed on Wednesday, September 07, 2022.

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 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 07, 2022.