



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 22.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, October 07, 2022 at 9.30 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. 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. (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. 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. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply

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

Hon. Kanchana Wijsekera, Minister of Power and Energy

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. Dilum Amunugama, State Minister of Investment Promotion

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. Sivanethurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development
Hon. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Power and Energy
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. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, State Minister of Agriculture
Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Water Supply
Hon. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion
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. Lohan Ratwatte, State Minister of Plantation Industries
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. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, State Minister of Finance
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath, State Minister of Power and Energy
Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Kapila Athukorala
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila Ellawala

Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. Shan Vijayalal 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. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Waruna Liyanage

Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
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. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
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. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha 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. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have received the Determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Poisons, Opium and Dangerous Drugs (Amendment)’ which was challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has made the following Determination:—

The Petitioner has failed to comply with the mandatory provisions of Article 121(1) of the Constitution and thereby failed to duly invoke the jurisdiction of the Court to make a determination in the instant matter under Article 123 of the Constitution and therefore the Court proceed to reject the petition.

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

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Health for the year 2021.

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

(2) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Rules made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 94 of the Prisons Ordinance (Chapter 54) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2288/15 of 12th July 2022 and moved that those Rules be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report of the Sri Lanka Survey Department for the year 2021; and
- (ii) Performance Report of the Land Use Policy Planning Department for the year 2021.

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

(4) The Minister of Power and Energy presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board for the year 2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power and Energy.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Performance Report and Annual Accounts of the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Department for the year 2020.

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

(6) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the National Youth Services Council for the year 2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Sports and Youth Affairs.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power and Energy presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Petroleum Products (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation for the year 2020; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited for the years 2020

which were referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Udaya Gammanpila presented a petition dated 22.06.2022 from Mr. D. T. R. Gunawardane of No. 28/3 A, 4th Lane, Epitamulla Road, Pita Kotte.
- (2) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented a petition dated 25.07.2022 from Mrs. M. A. Pemawathie of No. 55/A, Lakmali Niwasa, Mulatiyana Junction, Mulatiyana.
- (3) Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera presented a petition dated 22.08.2022 from Mr. V. M. N. Perera of No. 54, Mahindarama Road, Ratmalana.
- (4) Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda presented a petition dated 15.08.2022 from Mrs. R. A. D. T. N. Rajapaksha of No. 100, Dangolla, Kandy.

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, 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 9.30 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.

6. Adjournment (Special Statement Made by the Honourable President on 06.10.2022) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Order read for resuming; Adjourned debate on question (06th October 2022).

Question again proposed and debate resumed.

The Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security moved,— That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 11.44 a.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

(At 1.05 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman seconded by Hon. Rauff Hakeem moved,— That Hon. Imran Maharooof do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.13 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharooof took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Women and Child Affairs moved,— That Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.18 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte 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 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2022.