



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 34.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, November 17, 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. 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. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Attorney at Law, 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. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha, Attorney at Law, Minister of Education and Leader of the House of Parliament

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

Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe, Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs and Minister of Irrigation

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply

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

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

Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera, Minister of Power and Energy

Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry, PC, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

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, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, State Minister of Justice and Prison Affairs

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake, State Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Water Supply

Hon. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment

Hon. Arundika Fernando, State Minister of Urban Development and Housing

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. Lohan Ratwatte, State Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Higher Education

Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa, State Minister of Irrigation

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. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, State Minister of Finance

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance

Hon. Kanaka Herath, State Minister of Technology

Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan

Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Kapila Athukorala
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law
Hon. Sampath Athukorala
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
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, Attorney at Law
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana

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. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
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. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil

Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law

Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka

Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka

Hon. C. B. Rathnayake

Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem

Hon. Ishak Rahuman

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman

Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa

Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa

Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha

Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan

Hon. Waruna Liyanage

Hon. Gamini Lokuge

Hon. Gamini Waleboda

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne

Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri

Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana

Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law

Hon. Hesha Withanage

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law

Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC

Hon. D. Weerasingha

Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera

Hon. Kumara Welgama

Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan

Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama

Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera

Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan

Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi

Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne

Hon. (Prof.) Charitha 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 adjournment. The Speaker took the Chair.

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

“I wish to announce to Parliament that I have received the Determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Inland Revenue (Amendment)’ 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 held that subject to the amendments as proposed by the Attorney-General being moved at the Committee Stage of the Bill in Parliament, the Bill as a whole is not inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution.

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

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (1) Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under Section 14(2) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979, relating to CESS Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2300/15 of 05th October 2022; and
- (2) 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. 2302/31 of 21st October 2022

and moved that the Order and the Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(a) read with Sections 21 and 139 of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of the Departments of Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan Faculty of Performing and Visual Arts and the Departments of Faculty of Arts of the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2293/22 of 16th August 2022; and
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1) read with Section 21 of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of a Department of Information and Communication Technology of the Faculty of Technological Studies of the Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2294/43 of 25th August 2022.

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

(3) The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs presented the Performance Report of the Department of Archeology for the year 2021.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya presented a petition dated 15.09.2022 from Mr. K. A. K. Saman Dharmasiri of No. 2/106, Ma Oya Road, Andirimada, Hiriwadunna.
- (2) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 25.10.2022 from Mr. K. A. Lalith Kumara of No. 11/7A, Alubogahawatta, Pinwala, Panadura; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 22.08.2022 from Mr. P. W. K. Karunadasa of River Valleys Development Board Houses, 1st Lane, Udawalawa.

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

4. Appropriation Bill — (Third Allotted Day) : Order read for resuming adjourned debate on question (14th November 2022),—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question again proposed, and debate resumed.

(At 11.04 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Trade moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.07 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya took the Chair.)

The Minister of Plantation Industries and Minister of Industries moved,—That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.57 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Security moved,—That Hon. Samanpriya Herath do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.00 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

The Minister of Urban Development and Housing moved,—That Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.36 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

And it being 5.30 p.m. the debate stood adjourned; debate to be resumed on Friday, November 18, 2022.

5. Adjournment (Programme to Distribute Social Welfare Allowances to Beneficiary Households) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The Minister of Education moved,—That Hon. Samanpriya Herath do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.32 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

And it being 6.00 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Friday, November 18, 2022 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 10th November, 2022.