



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 43.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, November 28, 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, Attorney at Law, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment

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

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. A. Aravindh Kumar, State Minister of Education

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

Hon. Siripala Gamalath, State Minister of Highways
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development
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. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, State Minister of Fisheries
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Agriculture
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. Jagath Pushpakumara, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion
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. (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. 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. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Kapila Athukorala
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila Ellawala
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. Velu Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
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. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya

Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Waruna Liyanage

Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Attorney at Law
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. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
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. Presentation of Papers : The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the National Crafts Council for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Regulations made under Section 237 read with Section 126 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2273/76 of 31st March 2022; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the State Development & Construction Corporation for the year 2020

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways presented the Report of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways on the Annual Report of the National Transport Medical Institute for the year 2018 which was referred to the Committee.

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

(3) Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Appropriation (Amendment) Bill;
- (iii) Orders under the Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002;
- (iv) Regulations under the Finance Act, No. 12 of 2012;
- (v) Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969; and
- (vi) Resolution under the Local Treasury Bills Ordinance

which were referred to the Committee.

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

3. Appropriation Bill — (Twelfth Allotted Day) : Considered further in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 112

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 10.37 a.m. Hon. Imran Maharoof took the Chair.)

(At 12.39 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi seconded by Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa moved,—That Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.49 p.m. Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera took the Chair.)

(At 3.05 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

(At 4.41 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

(At 6.05 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Question that the sum of Rs. 131,650,000 for Head 112, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 7,000,000 for Head 112, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 18,468,350,000 for Head 112, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 393,000,000 for Head 112, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Ministry of Transport and Highways

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies proposed an amendment to leave out line 9 in page 17 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 325,249,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 117

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 933,000,000 for Head 117, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 28,100,000 for Head 117, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies proposed an amendment to leave out line 13 in page 17 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities 16,200,000,000 302,392,100,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 306

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 30,280,000,000 for Head 306, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 21,563,300,000 for Head 306, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 307

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,081,000,000 for Head 307, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,265,500,000 for Head 307, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 105

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 413,000,000 for Head 105, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 136,000,000 for Head 105, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 511,000,000 for Head 105, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 388,000,000 for Head 105, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 210

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 394,000,000 for Head 210, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 221,000,000 for Head 210, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 211

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,842,000,000 for Head 211, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 235,000,000 for Head 211, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 308

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 18,200,000,000 for Head 308, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,800,000,000 for Head 308, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 7.10 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Tuesday, November 29, 2022.

4. Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media moved,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 read with Section 126 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203), and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2273/76 of 31st March 2022, which were presented on 29.08.2022, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Adjournment : And it being past 7.00 p.m. Parliament was at 7.11 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Speaker without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2022 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 19th November 2022.