



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 54.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, January 05, 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

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

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

Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera, 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. Siripala Gamalath, State Minister of Highways

Hon. Sivanethurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development
Hon. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Power and Energy
Hon. Sisira Jayakody, Attorney at Law, 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. 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. 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. Indika Anuruddha Herath, State Minister of Power and Energy
Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan
Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Kapila Athukorala
Hon. Sampath Athukorala
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
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. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka
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. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
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. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Palani Thigambaram

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa

Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
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. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
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, Attorney at Law
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Acting Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

1. Messages from the President : The Deputy 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

December 26 , 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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இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

2. Announcements by the Speaker : The Deputy Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the Hon. Speaker has endorsed the certificates on the Bill entitled ‘Value Added Tax (Amendment)’ on 14th December 2022 and the Bill entitled ‘Inland Revenue (Amendment)’ on 19th December 2022.”

II

“I wish to inform Parliament that the Hon. Speaker has received a copy of a petition filed at the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill entitled ‘Regulation of Election Expenditure’.”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Report of the National Building Research Organization for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) 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. 2307/12 of 23rd November 2022;
- (ii) 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. 2308/26 of 01st December 2022; and
- (iii) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 29 read with Section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2308/51 of 02nd December 2022

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Education presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 120(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on Sri Lanka Social Security Board of the Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment in the report of the Committee on Public Enterprises which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Enterprises.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Supplementary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities Project appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.11.2022 to 30.11.2022 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 30 of 2021; and
- (ii) Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2313/25 of 03rd January 2023 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979

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

(5) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Annual Reports of the National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority for the years 2015, 2018 and 2019;
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Arthur C Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies for the year 2020;
- (iv) Annual Report of the Postgraduate Institute of Pali & Buddhist Studies of University of Kelaniya for the year 2020;
- (v) Annual Report & Accounts of the Postgraduate Institute of Science of University of Peradeniya for the year 2020;
- (vi) Annual Report of the Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka for the year 2020;
- (vii) Annual Report of the Open University of Sri Lanka for the year 2020; and
- (viii) Annual Report of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka for the year 2020

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Education presented the Report on the submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Office of the Leader of the House of Parliament in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1) read with Section 21 and Section 139 of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of Departments of Scientific Computing, Information Systems Engineering and Informatics, and Knowledge Engineering and Communication of the Faculty of Computing of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2285/09 of 22nd June 2022;

- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1) read with Section 21 and Section 139 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 Facilities Management of the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2290/30 of 28th July 2022;
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Computer Science, Software Engineering and Information Technology Degrees awarded by Seagis Campus (Pvt) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2268/88 of 25th February 2022;
- (iv) Orders made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Chemical Science Degree awarded by Institute of Chemistry, Ceylon, Bachelor of Business Management Degree awarded by Esoft Metro Campus (Private) Limited, Bachelor of Science Honours in Computer Science and Bachelor of Education Honours in Information Technology Degrees, awarded by Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Guarantee) Limited, Bachelor of Arts in English Degree awarded by Seagis Campus (Pvt) Limited and an Amendment to the abbreviation for Degrees awarded by the said Institute, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2293/25 of 17th August 2022;
- (v) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Doctor of Philosophy in Management Degree awarded by National School of Business Management Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2294/52 of 25th August 2022;
- (vi) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science in Fashion Merchandise Management and Bachelor of Applied Information Technology Degrees awarded by SLT Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2296/08 of 07th September 2022;
- (vii) Orders made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Software Engineering Degree awarded by Benedict XVI Catholic Institute of Higher Education (Private) Limited, Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Accounting Degree awarded by CINEC Campus (Private) Limited, Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Tourism and Hospitality Management Degree awarded by Seagis Campus (Pvt) Limited, and Bachelor of Science Honours in Information Technology Degree awarded by Nagananda International Institute for Buddhist Studies (Pvt) Limited (NIIBS), and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2301/19 of 10th October 2022; and

- (viii) Orders made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Applied Accounting Honours and Bachelor of Applied Accounting Degrees awarded by Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL), Bachelor of Science Honours in Software Engineering Degree awarded by International College of Business and Technology Limited, Bachelor of Science Honours in Computer Systems Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration Degrees awarded by Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Guarantee) Limited, and Bachelor of Management Honours in Business Analytics and Bachelor of Management Honours in Applied Economics Degrees awarded by National School of Business Management Limited, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2302/17 of 19th October 2022.

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

(8) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Annual Reports of the Hotel Developers (Lanka) PLC for the years 2017 and 2018; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Housing Development Authority for the year 2018

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development and Housing.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Education presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Office of the Chief Government Whip of Parliament in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the Ceylon Shipping Corporation Limited for the year 2019/2020; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the year 2021

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports, Shipping and Aviation.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Report of the Selacine Television Institute for the year 2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mass Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Transport Board for the year 2019 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways.

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply presented the Annual Report of the Water Resources Board for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Water Supply.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) The Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply presented the Performance Report of the Department of Ayurveda for the year 2020.

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

(15) The Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Wildlife Conservation presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Ltd for the year 2019/2020;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy for the year 2020; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the National Institute of Post Harvest Management for the year 2020

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(16) The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Superior Courts Complex Board of Management for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms.

Question put, and agreed to.

(17) The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented the—

- (i) Performance Report of the Attorney General's Department for the year 2021; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Community Based Corrections for the year 2021.

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

(18) The Minister of Plantation Industries and Minister of Industries presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the National Institute of Plantation Management for the year 2020;

- (ii) Regulations made by the Sri Lanka Tea Board and approved by the Minister of Plantation under Section 25 read with Section 4 of the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2245/29 of 17th September 2021;
- (iii) Regulations made by the Sri Lanka Tea Board and approved by the Minister of Plantation under Section 25 of the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2248/36 of 06th October 2021;
- (iv) Regulations made by the Sri Lanka Tea Board and approved by the Minister of Plantation under Section 25 read with Sections 4(2)(f) and 8 (1) of the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2248/37 of 06th October 2021;
- (v) Regulations made by the Sri Lanka Tea Board and approved by the Minister of Plantation under Section 25 of the Sri Lanka Tea Board Law No. 14 of 1975 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2258/14 of 14th December 2021; and
- (vi) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 527 read with Section 477 of the Companies Act, No. 07 of 2007 and under Section 19 of the Societies Ordinance No. 16 of 1891 (Chapter 123) read with the Societies (Amendment) Ordinance No. 11 of 2005 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2303/07 of 25th October 2022

and moved that the Report and those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation Industries.

Question put, and agreed to.

(19) The Minister of Power and Energy presented the Annual Reports of the Lanka Coal Company (Pvt) Ltd for the years 2017 and 2020 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power and Energy.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament :

(1) The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled “Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)” of the Minister of Housing Construction and Cultural Affairs.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

(2) The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled “Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)” of the Minister of Housing Construction and Cultural Affairs.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

5. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakse, PC, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented the Report of the said Committee on Recovery of Possession of Premises Given on Lease Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

6. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne presented a petition dated 15.11.2022 from Mrs. V. Darshani of Levallon Tea Estate, Pupuressa.
- (2) Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 31.08.2022 from Mr. D. M. G. Susil Wijesekara of “Sewwandi”, Baddegama Road, Gonapinuwala.
- (3) Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 28.11.2022 from Mr. G. G. Chamal Sanjeewa of No. 233, Matara Road, Tangalle; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 08.11.2022 from Mrs. U. G. P. Abeyrathna of No. 67/64, Namal Uyana, Niyandagala, Pannipitiya.
- (4) Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi presented a petition dated 05.09.2022 from Mrs. Wickrama Arachchige Piyaseeli of No. 45/B, Aranya Mawatha, Miriswatta, Puwakpitiya, Avissawella Road.
- (5) Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 17.11.2022 from Mr. Uditha Missaka Jayawardane of No. 08/04, Sirimora Uyana, Moragasmulla, Rajagiriya.

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

7. Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators (Amendment) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation presented,—“Bill to amend the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act, No. 10 of 1972.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Friday, January 20, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports, Shipping and Aviation.

8. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17th, 2023.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath seconded by Hon. Gamini Waleboda moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Association of Professional Bankers-Sri Lanka.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament to the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies for report.

10. Recovery of Possession of Premises Given on Lease Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 1.14 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.09 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya took the Chair.)

The Minister of Health and Minister of Water Supply moved,— That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.57 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

(At 4.07 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 4 were agreed to.

Clause 5

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 14 in page 3 and substitute the following:—

“(i) is properly executed and the stamp fees are duly paid as”;

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

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

Clauses 6 to 17 were agreed to.

Clause 18

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 13 in page 13 and substitute the following:—

“returned to the relevant party after such examination.”;

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

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

Clause 19 was agreed to.

Clause 20

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 14 in page 14 and substitute the following:—

“and conditions of settlement. Where the defendant acts in breach of such terms and conditions, the plaintiff”;

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

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

Clause 21 was agreed to.

Clause 22

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 3 in page 15 and substitute the following:—

“shall not be stayed except as provided for in subsection (4) of this section and subsection (2) of section 20.”;

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

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

Clauses 23 and 24 were agreed to.

Clause 25

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 7 in page 18 and substitute the following:—

“may prefer an appeal in terms of the provisions of subsection (1) of section”;

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

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

Clauses 26 to 30 were agreed to.

Clause 31

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 7 to 11 (both inclusive) in page 21 and substitute the following:—

“shall be entitled to commence proceedings for the recovery of the possession of the premises and the arrears of lease rentals, service charges and liquidated damages under this Act.”.

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

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

Clauses 32 to 37 were agreed to.

Clause 38

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 29 in page 23 and substitute the following:—

“ “lessee” means a person who acquires ”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 1 in page 24 and substitute the following:—

“ “lessor” means a person who transfers”.

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to insert the following immediately after line 6 in page 24:—

“ “Minister” means the Minister assigned the subject of Justice;”.

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

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

Clause 39 was agreed to.

First, Second and Third Schedules were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

11. Adjournment (Mechanism to Address Coordination and Legislative Issues Relating to Agriculture) : The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 4.50 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Speaker until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.