



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 25.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 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

Hon. Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister
of Mass Media

Hon. Jeevan Thondaman, Minister of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure
Development

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. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

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. Sivanesathurai 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. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, State Minister of Fisheries
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. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Piriven Education
Hon. K. Kader Masthan, State Minister of Rural Economy
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. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, State Minister of Finance
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. 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. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
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. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
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. 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. Sarathi Dushmantha
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. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Nimal Lanza
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. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. W. D. J. Seneviratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathne, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Messages from the President: The Speaker read the following message received from the President:—



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

My No. PS/CSA/00/4/5/1

May 12, 2023

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana
Speaker
Parliament of Sri Lanka

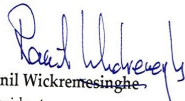
Hon. Speaker,

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

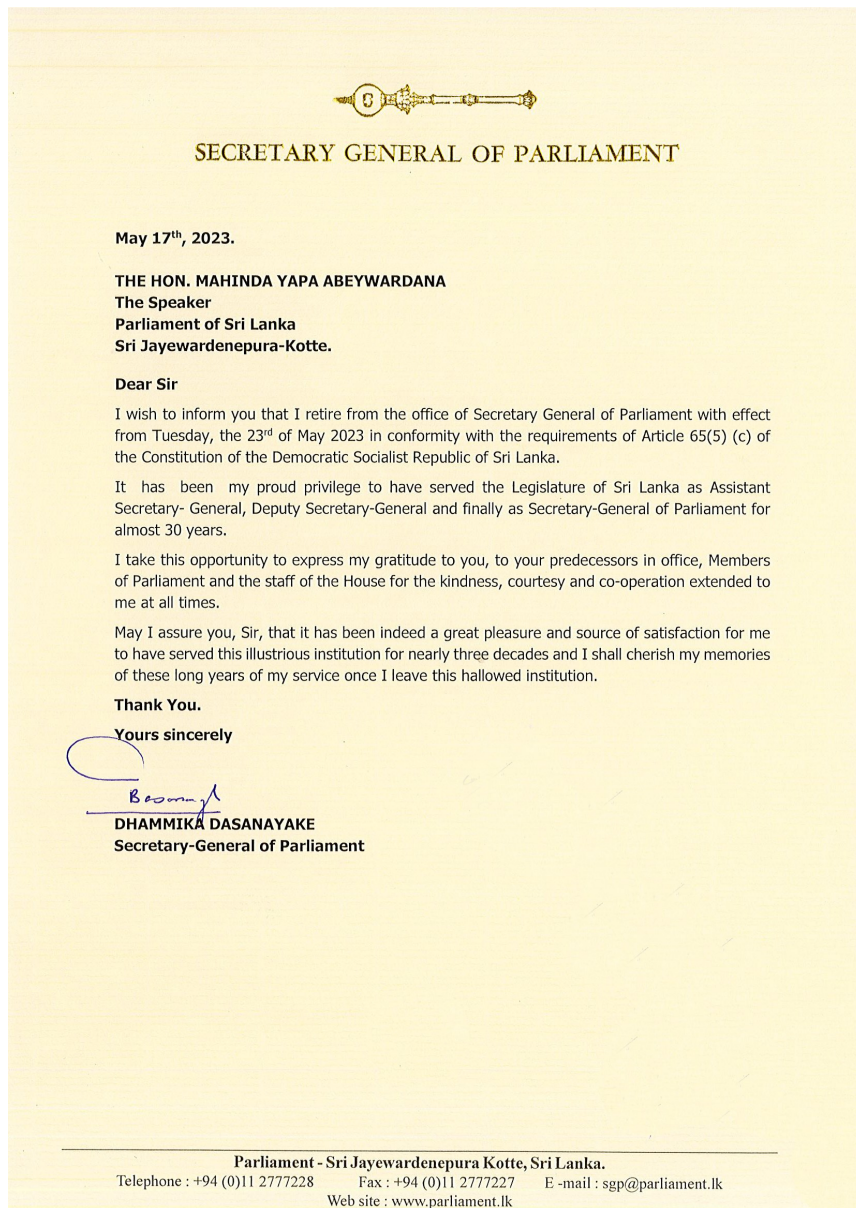
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இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

2. Announcement by the Speaker: The Speaker made the following Announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that in terms of the provisions of Article 65(5)(c) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, who held the post of Secretary-General of Parliament retired from that post with effect from May 23rd, 2023.

I would like to read out the letter dated 17th May 2023 received from Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, to Parliament.”



II

“I wish to inform that in terms of the provisions of Article 65(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Honourable President has appointed Mrs. Kushani Anusha Rohanadeera, Chief of Staff and the Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament as the Secretary-General of Parliament with effect from May 23rd, 2023.”

III

“In terms of Standing Order 113(2), I have nominated the following Co-opted Members to serve in the Legislative Standing Committee for the consideration of the Bill titled ‘Sri Lanka Institute of Taxation (Incorporation) (Amendment)’ :-

Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya

Hon. Anupa Pasqual

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe

Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi

Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe

Hon. Samanpriya Herath”

IV

“In terms of Standing Order No. 113(2), I have nominated the following Members of Parliament as the Co-opted Members to serve in the Legislative Standing Committee for consideration of the Bill titled ‘Kelaniya Buddhist Women’s Charitable Society (Incorporation)’:-

Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka

Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera

Hon. Gayantha Karunathileka

Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana

Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera

Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha

Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana

Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake”

V

“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 ‘Rathanatissa Peace Foundation (Incorporation)’ on 23rd May 2023.”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Order made by the Minister of Defence under Section 2 of the Extradition Law, No. 8 of 1977 relating to declaration of designated Commonwealth Countries published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2319/30 of 14th February 2023 and moved that the Order be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Proclamation made and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2332/12 of 17th May 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 paper do lie upon the **Table**.

(4) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Report of the University of Vocational Technology for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) 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 Software Engineering Degree awarded by Lanka Nippon BizTech Institute (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2286/08 of 27th June 2022;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A read with Section 27(1)(b) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Master of Science in Network Engineering and Master of Philosophy in Business Administration Degrees awarded by Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Guarantee) Limited (SLIIT) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/47 of 29th December 2022;
- (iii) 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 Amendment to the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2286/08 of 27th June 2022 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2313/51 of 05th January 2023;

- (iv) 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 Bachelor of Arts Honours in Applied Archaeology Degree awarded by Nagananga International Institute for Buddhist Studies (Pvt) Limited (NIIBS) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2316/25 of 25th January 2023;
- (v) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Business Management Honours and Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Engineering Degrees awarded by International College of Business and Technology Limited (ICBT) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2317/67 of 02nd February 2023; and
- (vi) 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 Master of Public Financial Management Degree awarded by Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2321/64 of 02nd March 2023.

Ordered that those said papers do lie upon the **Table**.

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

- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/49 of 06th January 2022;
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/50 of 06th January 2022;
- (iii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/51 of 06th January 2022;
- (iv) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/52 of 06th January 2022;
- (v) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/53 of 06th January 2022;

- (vi) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/54 of 06th January 2022;
- (vii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/55 of 06th January 2022;
- (viii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/56 of 06th January 2022;
- (ix) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2261/57 of 06th January 2022;
- (x) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 44 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/31 of 13th January 2022;
- (xi) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Section 321 read with Sections 126 and 127 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2292/18 of 09th August 2022;
- (xii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2298/32 of 22nd September 2022;
- (xiii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Sections 126 and 321 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2303/16 of 26th October 2022; and
- (xiv) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Section 10 read with Section 3(5) of the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act, No. 10 of 1972 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2287/24 of 07th July 2022.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation for the year 2016 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Food Security & Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Plantation Industries and Minister of Industries presented the Annual Report of the Chilaw Plantation Ltd for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment 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 Bureau of Foreign Employment of the Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment 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.

(10) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing 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 Sri Lanka Police 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.

(11) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Reports of the National Youth Corps for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage and New Citizen.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

The Minister of Education presented the Minister's Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled "Balapitiya Sri Rahularama Purana viharastha Samanera Akalpa Sangwardena Bikshu Vidyalyaya (Incorporation)".

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, May 24, 2023.

5. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) The Hon. Nalin Fernando, the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce and Food Security presented the Report of the said Committee on Annual Report of the Lanka Sathosa Limited for the year 2019 which was referred to the Committee.

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

(2) The Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, Member of the Committee, on behalf of the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies presented the Report of the said Committee on —

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accounting and Auditing Standards Monitoring Board for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2019;
- (iii) Annual Report of the HDFC Bank of Sri Lanka for the year 2019;
- (iv) Annual Reports of the State Mortgage & Investment Bank for the years 2019 and 2020;
- (v) Annual Report of the National Lotteries Board for the year 2020;
- (vi) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Limited for the year 2020;
- (vii) Annual Report of the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2019;
- (viii) Annual Report of the Bank of Ceylon for the year 2021;
- (ix) Annual Report of the Employees' Trust Fund Board for the year 2021; and
- (x) Annual Report of the People's Bank for the year 2021

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(3) The Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law Member of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on—

- (i) Betting and Gaming Levy (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Notification under the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52);
- (iii) Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989;
- (iv) Order under the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006;
- (v) Regulation under the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Act, No. 19 of 2021;
- (vi) Orders under the Finance Act, No. 25 of 2003;
- (vii) Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011; and
- (viii) Regulations under the Tobacco Tax Act, No. 8 of 1999

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

6. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Vidura Wikramanayaka presented a petition dated 06.04.2023 from Mrs. N. L. Chandrasekara of No. 28/9, Khemananda Mawatha, Muwagama, Rathnapura.
- (2) Hon. Shantha Bandara presented a petition dated 18.01.2023 from Mr. W. N. U. L. Karunarathna of School Road, Polipitiya, Metikumbura, Polgahawela.
- (3) Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara presented a petition dated 17.01.2023 from Mr. T. B. Dissanayake of No. 205, Gammedda Road, Kaluwamodara, Aluthgama.

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

7. Banking (Special Provisions) : The Minister Education on behalf of the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies moved,— “Bill to provide for the Resolution Authority of the Central Bank, the resolution measures that can be implemented by the Central Bank and the Government of Sri Lanka to resolve a licensed Bank subject to capital, liquidity, insolvency or any other risk in a timely manner; to revive such Bank as a going concern to ensure the interests of the depositors and creditors thereof ensuring the financial system stability; to provide for a deposit insurance scheme and winding up process for such licensed Banks; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 06, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

8. Parliamentary Budget Office: The Minister Education on behalf of the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies moved,— “Bill to provide for the establishment of the Parliamentary Budget Office; to specify the powers, duties and functions of the Parliamentary Budget Officer; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 06, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

9. Carriage by Air (Amendment) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation moved,— “Bill to amend the Carriage by Air Act, No.29 of 2018.”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 06, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy & Transport.

10. Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy 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 Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/67 of 31st December 2022, which was presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

(At 11.47 a.m. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera seconded by Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.09 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Mass Media moved,—That Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.18 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Finance moved,—That Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.23 p.m. Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Tourism moved,—That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.07 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

The Minister of Education moved,—That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.38 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) 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 Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/68 of 31st December 2022, which was presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Notification under the Excise Ordinance : 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 Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) as amended from time to time, regarding Excise duty on liquor, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/70 of 31st December 2022, which was presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 07/2022)

Question put, and agreed to.

13. Regulations under the Tobacco Tax (Amended) 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 21 of the Tobacco Tax Act, No. 8 of 1999 amended by the Act, No. 9 of 2004 read with Section 2 of the aforesaid Act regarding imposition of Tobacco Tax on Beedi and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/71 of 31st December 2022, which were presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

14. Order under the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) 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 Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 5 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 relating to Stamp Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/73 of 31st December 2022, which was presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

15. Regulation under the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka 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 Regulation made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 155(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka Act, No. 19 of 2021 relating to the rate of CESS to be charged and levied on every Repurchase transaction in Corporate Debt Securities carried out on the “Over the Counter Platform” of the Colombo Stock Exchange and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2316/32 of 26th January 2023, which was presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

16. Order under the Finance 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 Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2(1) of the Finance Act, No. 25 of 2003 regarding Embarkation Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2309/37 of 09th December 2022, which was presented on 09.05.2023, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

17. Adjournment : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 4.57 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 24, 2023.