



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 17.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, April 25, 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

Hon. Tiran Alles, Minister of Public Security

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. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

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

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health

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

Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Attorney at Law, Minister of Wildlife
and Forest Resources Conservation

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. Dilum Amunugama, State Minister of Investment Promotion

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. Siripala Gamalath, State Minister of Highways

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. 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. 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. 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. 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. Sampath Athukorala

Hon. Tissa Attanayake

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. Akila Ellawala

Hon. Lalith Ellawala

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. 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. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
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. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera

Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
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. (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. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe

Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
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. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
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

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathne, 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/00/4/5/1

April 21, 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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Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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

I

“I wish to inform Parliament that the Hon. Speaker has received a copy of the petition filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Private Members’ Bill entitled ‘Penal Code (Amendment)’.”

II

“A motion may be moved to refer the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, M.P. in Parliament on 10th March 2023 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

III

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan, Member of Parliament and the Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe, Member of Parliament have been nominated to serve in the Committee on Public Accounts by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancies occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Hesha Withanage, Member of Parliament and the Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

IV

“I wish to inform that the Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Committee on Parliamentary Business by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law, from the Membership of the said Committee.”

V

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Kanaka Herath, Member of Parliament, the Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Member of Parliament and the Hon. M. Rameshwaran, Member of Parliament have been nominated to serve in the Committee on Economic Stabilization by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancies occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Attorney at Law, Member of Parliament, the Hon. Harin Fernando, Member of Parliament and the Hon. Jeevan Thondaman, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

VI

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Member of Parliament has been nominated to serve in the Committee on Ways and Means by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Attorney at Law, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

VII

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Velu Kumar, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Religious Affairs and Co-existence by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. M. Udayakumar, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

VIII

“I wish to inform that the Hon. M. Rameshwaran, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Alleviating the Impact of the Economic Crisis by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Jeevan Thondaman, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

IX

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

X

“I wish to inform that the Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

XI

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Committee Public Petitions by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Mohomad Muzammil, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

XII

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Hesha Withanage, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Committee on Public Enterprises by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

XIII

“I wish to inform that the Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda, Member of Parliament and the Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene, Member of Parliament have been nominated to serve in the Committee on Public Finance by the Committee of Selection on 04th April 2023, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130(3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancies occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka, Member of Parliament and the Hon. Nalin Fernando, Member of Parliament from the Membership of the said Committee.”

3. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Deputy Speaker presented the —

- (i) Second Installment – Part XXVI of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2012;
- (ii) Second Installment –Part XII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2013;
- (iii) Second Installment – Part XXX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2014;
- (iv) Ninth Installment – Part XVII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015;
- (v) Ninth Installment – Part XXX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2017;
- (vi) Second Installment – Part XLVI and Third Installment – Part XIX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2018;
- (vii) Second Installment – Parts XLV, XLVI, XLVII and XLVIII, Third Installment – Parts XVIII, XIX and XX and Ninth Installment – Parts XXXVI, XXXVII and XXXVIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2019;
- (viii) Second Installment – Parts XLIII, XLIV, XLV, XLVI and XLVII, Third Installment – Parts XX, XXI and XXII and Ninth Installment – Parts XXXIV, XXXV and XXXVI of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2020; and
- (ix) Second Installment – Parts XXIX, XXX, XXXI, XXXII, XXXIII and XXXIV, Third Installment – Parts XV and XVI and Ninth Installment – Parts XXII, XXIII, XXIV and XXV of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2021

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Ordered that the said Reports do lie upon the **Table** and to be printed.

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

- (i) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Accounting and Auditing Standards Monitoring Board for the years 2019 and 2020; and

- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation for the year 2020.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

- (3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing 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. 2324/45 of 24th March 2023;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under Section 14 of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 regarding CESS levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2325/06 of 28th March 2023; and
- (iii) 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. 2326/02 of 03rd April 2023.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

- (4) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2328/02 of 17th April 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**.

- (5) The Minister of Education presented the—

- (i) Annual Report of the University of Colombo School of Computing for the year 2020; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for the year 2021.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Education presented the 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 Departments of Software Engineering, Data Science and Computing and Information Systems of the Faculty of Computing and the establishment of Departments of Natural Resources, Physical Sciences and Technology, Food Science and Technology and Sport Sciences and Physical Education of the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2312/14 of 27th December 2022.

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

(7) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Reports 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 Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation, Department of Wildlife Conservation, Department of Forest Conservation and Department of National Zoological Gardens in the reports of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Performance Report of the Department of Forest Conservation for the year 2021.

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

(9) The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media the—

- (i) Annual Reports of the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka for the years 2015, 2016 and 2017; and
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Institute of Printing for the years 2016, 2017, 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.

(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 the Ministry of Health 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 —

- (i) Annual Report of the Sugarcane Research Institute for the year 2020; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Tea Board for the year 2021.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Food Security & Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Ceylon Electricity Board for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy & Transport.

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Labour Studies for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Foreign Employment & Labour.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health.

Question put, and agreed to.

(15) The Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security presented the Annual Report & Accounts of the Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Trust Fund for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(16) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Anti-Doping Agency for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) 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 —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 7(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 2013, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2317/28 of 30th January 2023;

- (ii) Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the Rehabilitation Authority for the year 2018;
 - (iii) Annual Reports and Statements of Accounts of the Office for Reparations for the years 2019 and 2020;
 - (iv) Annual Reports of the Office on Missing Persons for the years 2020 and 2021;
 - (v) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges' Institute for the year 2019;
 - (vi) Annual Report of the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses for the year 2021; and
 - (vii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges' Institute for the year 2020
- which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Nalin Fernando, Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce and Food Security presented the Report of the said Committee on —

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the year 2019;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd for the year 2020/2021; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the year 2020

which were referred to the Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented a petition dated 06.02.2023 from Mr. Anura Weerasinghe of No. 106 A, Hewage Watta, Hiththetiya Meda, Matara.
- (2) Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 07.03.2023 from Mr. K. G. Saman of No. 01, 'Ranawiru Niwasa', Minnerithenna, Kithulawa, Kaluthara.

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

6. Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses : The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented,—“Bill to provide for the setting out of rights and entitlements of victims of crime and witnesses and the protection and promotion of such rights and entitlements; to give effect to appropriate international norms, standards and best practices relating to the assistance to and protection of victims of crime and witnesses; to provide for the establishment of the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses, the Victims of Crime and Witnesses Assistance and Protection Division and the Victims of Crime and

Witnesses Assistance and Protection Fund; to provide for the payment of compensation to victims of crime; to repeal the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act, No. 4 of 2015; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto,”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, May 09, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Just and Law-Abiding Society.

7. 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 25th Tuesday, 26th Wednesday, 27th Thursday, 28th Friday, April, 2023 shall be from 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 5.00 p.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.

8. Privileges : Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law seconded by Hon. Gayantha Karunathilake moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, on 04th April, 2023 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 118 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran seconded by Hon. Mano Ganesan moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to amend the Provincial Councils Elections Act, No. 2 of 1988.”

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 Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government for report.

10. Order under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act : The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That the Order made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 7(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 2013, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2317/28 of 30th January 2023, which was presented on 21.03.2023, be approved.

(At 1.22 p.m. Deputy Chairman of Committees took the chair.)

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.00 p.m. Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Indigenous Medicine moved,—That Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.19 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Indigenous Medicine moved,—That Hon. Samanpriya Herath do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.24 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi seconded by Hon. Ishak Rahuman moved,—That Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.44 p.m. Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Adjournment (Introduction of standard method for Hotels and Bakeries) :

The leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question proposed, and debated

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned at 6.12 p.m. by the Presiding Member without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on April 04, 2023.