



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 11.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, March 10, 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. 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. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment

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. Kanchana Wijesekera, Minister of Power and Energy

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. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development
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. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Arundika Fernando, State Minister of Urban Development and Housing
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha, State Minister of Home Affairs
Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Piriven Education
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte, State Minister of Plantation Industries
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Higher Education
Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage, State Minister of Urban Development and Housing
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. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
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. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Imran Maharoof

Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
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. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel

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. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Reports of the National Building Research Organization for the years 2019 and 2020 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Transport Commission for the year 2021; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Transport Medical Institute for the year 2021

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Reports of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020 and moved that those Reports be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Education presented the Rules made by the Incorporated Council of Legal Education with the concurrence of the Minister of Justice under Section 7 of the Council of Legal Education Ordinance (Chapter 276) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/13 of 30th December 2020 and moved that those Rules be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Wajira Abeywardana presented a petition dated 02.12.2022 from Mr. Ajith Ranjan Weerasuriya of No. 33/11, W.T. Wijekulasuriya Mawatha, Magalle, Galle.
- (2) Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera presented a petition dated 18.11.2022 from Mrs. U. K. D. Manjula Deepani Suradasa of No. 169E, Thuruliya Sevana, Ariyawansa Mawatha, Molligoda, Wadduwa.

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

3. Adjournment (Postponement of Local Government Election and Economic Hardships Faced by the People) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Order read for resuming; Adjourned debate on question (09th March 2023).

Question again proposed and debate resumed.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 11.00 a.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

(At 12.35 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena seconded by Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe moved,— That Hon. Samanpriya Herath do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.40 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

The Minister of Power and Energy moved,— That Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.30 p.m. Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.33 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member without question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.