



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 38.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday July 05, 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. 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. 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. M .U. M. Ali Sabry, PC, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola, State Minister of Health

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Transport

Hon. (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. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, State Minister of Fisheries
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Agriculture
Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka, State Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs
Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Water Supply
Hon. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion
Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Private Education
Hon. K. Kader Masthan, State Minister of Rural Economy
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises Development
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. 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. Kapila Athukorala
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law
Hon. Sampath Athukorala
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
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. 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. Piyanara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon

Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha 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. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
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. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara

Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
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. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
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. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath

Hon. Samanpriya Herath

Hon. Marjan Faleel

Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathne, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“The Leader of the Opposition and the Chief Opposition Whip brought to my notice at the Parliament Business Committee held on 30.06.2023 and in the Chamber of the House on 01.07. 2023 that the Leader of the Opposition participated at the meeting of the Committee on Public Finance held on 29.06.2023 and he was not given an opportunity to express his views in that and a decision in that regard was sought from me.

I made a study of the Standing Orders and the Parliamentary tradition in that regard. Accordingly, I wish to inform that, whereas the positions of the Speaker of Parliament, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairman of Committees, the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition are entitled to special privileges within the Parliament structure and the Chamber and, whereas the Hon Members of Parliament who hold such positions have broad access and opportunity to information on the matters of the Committees and, whereas a Member of Parliament who represent the opposition has been appointed to the post of Chair of the Committee on Public Finance in terms of Standing Order 121(1), it is not prudent to make arrangements to summon the Leader of the Opposition or the aforementioned responsible persons to such meetings and the Chair of the Committee should make arrangements to furnish the details of the said meeting to the Leader of the Opposition.”

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Official Languages Commission for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Reconciliation and National Unity.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Performance Report of the Ministry of Defence for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Performance Report of the Department of Public Enterprises for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Alleviating the Impact of the Economic Crisis.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Resolution under Section 10 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties (Gazette Extraordinary No. 2325/07 of 28th March 2023) and moved that the Resolution be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the 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 01.05.2023 to 31.05.2023 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 43 of 2022.

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

(6) The Minister of Education presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the National Engineering Research and Development Centre of Sri Lanka for the year 2020;
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Ocean University of Sri Lanka for the years 2020 and 2021;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka for the year 2021;
- (iv) Annual Report of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for the year 2021;
- (v) Annual Report of the Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2021; and
- (vi) Annual Report of the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Modern Technologies for the year 2021.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Performance Report the Office of the Leader of the Opposition of Parliament for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on An Open & Accountable Government.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report the Condominium Management Authority 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.

(9) The Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation presented the Annual Report of the State Timber Corporation for the year 2021 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Natural Resources & Sustainable Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Fisheries presented the—

- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61(1) (sg), (sh) and (t) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2310/37 of 15th December 2022;
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61 read with Sections 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2317/59 of 01st February 2023;
- (iii) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61(1) (se) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2319/19 of 13th February 2023;
- (iv) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61 of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2319/20 of 13th February 2023; and
- (v) Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries under Section 61(1) (u) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2319/21 of 13th February 2023.

and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Agriculture presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Agriculture for the year 2022 and moved that this Report 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 —

- (i) Annual Reports and Financial Statements of the Land Reform Commission for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Land Use Policy Planning Department for the year 2022; and

(iii) Performance Report of the Land Title Settlement Department for the year 2022.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the present the Regulations made by the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs under Section 47(1) read with Section 46 of the Antiquities Ordinance No. 9 of 1940 (Chapter 188) and made on 25th May 2023 and moved that the Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) The Hon. Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Manpower and Employment for the year 2022 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(15) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Co-operative Employees Commission for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Youth Services Council for the year 2020; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Sports Development for the year 2022.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage and New Citizen.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) The Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture presented the Report of the said Committee on —

- (i) Annual Report of the Paddy Marketing Board for the year 2018;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka National freedom from Hunger Campaign Board for the year 2017; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the National Livestock Development Board for the year 2017

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) The Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, Member of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries on behalf of the Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, the Chair of the said Committee presented the Report of the above Committee on —

- (i) Annual Report of the Gem and Jewellery Research and Training Institute for the year 2021;
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Crafts Council for the year 2021;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board for the year 2018;
- (iv) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Textile & Apparel for the year 2019;
- (v) Annual Report of the National Gem and Jewellery Authority for the year 2021; and
- (vi) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Lanka Cement Corporation for the year 2020

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(3) The Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Chair of the Committee on Public Accounts presented the First Report of the Committee on Public Accounts for the Fourth Session of the Ninth Parliament. which were referred to the Committee.

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

(4) The Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy and Transport presented the Report of the said Committee on Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Transport Board for the year 2021 which was referred to the Committee.

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

(5) The Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage & New Citizen presented the Report of the said Committee on —

- (i) Annual Report of the Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority for the year 2020; and
- (ii) Annual Reports of the National Youth Corps for the years 2018, 2019 & 2020

which was referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 10.04.2023 from Mr. U. R. A. Weerasinghe of No.10/C, Palagama, Polgasowita.

- (2) Hon. Gamini Lokuge presented a petition dated 08.03.2022 from Mr. M. Jayasena Kostha of No. 107, Ela Iwura Road, Kalubowila, Dehiwala.
- (3) Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 28.04.2023 from Mr. N. W. A. Jayalal Amarananda Dias of 256/6, Suriyadanawwa, Andurathwila, Poddala.
- (4) Hon. Buddhika Pathirana presented a petition dated 12.05.2023 from Mr. P. M. Jayantha of No. 499, Gahasiripura, Debarawewa, Tissamaharama.
- (5) Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 20.05.2023 from Mrs. H.M.S.L. Nawarathna of 144/3, Ethumalpitiya, Mole watta, Polonnaruwa.

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

5. Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) : The Minister of Fisheries moved,— Bill to amend the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Natural Resources & Sustainable Development.

6. Ayurveda (Amendment) : The Minister of Education on behalf the Minister of Health moved — Bill to amend the Ayurveda Act, No. 31 of 1961.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health.

7. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 21st February 2023, the hours of sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 10.30 a.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. Leave to introduce Bill (No.1) : Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda seconded by Hon. Sanjeewa Edirimanna moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to amend the Pradeshiya Sabha Act, No. 15 of 1987.”

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.

9. Leave to introduce Bill (No.2) : Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda seconded by Hon. Sanjeewa Edirimanna moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to amend the Urban Councils Ordinance (Chapter 255).”

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. Leave to introduce Bill (No.3) : Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda seconded by Hon. Sanjeewa Edirimanna moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to amend the Municipal Councils Ordinance (Chapter 252).”

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.

11. Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges’ Institute for the year (2019) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges’ Institute for the year 2019 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2019 and presented on 09.02.2023 under Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

12. Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges’ Institute for the year (2020) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges’ Institute for the year 2020 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2020 and presented on 21.03.2023 under Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

13. Annual Report of the Office on Missing Persons for the year (2020) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Annual Report of the Office on Missing Persons for the year 2020 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2020 and presented on 17.01.2023 under Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

14. Annual Report of the Office on Missing Persons for the year (2021) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Annual Report of the Office on Missing Persons for the year 2021 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2021 and presented on 17.01.2023 under Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

15. Annual Report of the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses for the year (2021) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Annual Report of the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses for the year 2021 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2021 and presented on 22.02.2023 under Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

16. Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the year (2019) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security moved,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the year 2019 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2019 and presented on 17.01.2023 under the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Act, No. 32 of 2005, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

17. Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the year (2020): The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security moved,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment for the year 2020 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2020 and presented on 22.02.2023 under the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Act, No. 32 of 2005, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

18. Annual Report of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd for the year (2020/2021) : The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security moved,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd for the year 2020/2021 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.03.2021 and presented on 17.01.2023 under the Sri Lanka State Trading Act No. 33 of 1970, be approved.

Question Put, and agreed to.

19. Adjournment (Programme for Handling Court cases within a Specific Time Frame) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question proposed and, debated.

(At 11.45 a.m. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.41 p.m. Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.17 p.m. Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.36 p.m. Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament 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 Thursday, July 06, 2023.