



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 36.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, June 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. Naseer Ahamed, Minister of Environment

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

Hon. Nalin Fernando, Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Urban Development and Housing and Chief
Government Whip

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. 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. Sisira Jayakody, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake, State Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Water Supply

Hon. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment

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. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises
Development

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura, State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local
Government

Hon. S. Viyalanderan, State Minister of Trade

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance

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. Rohitha Abegunawardhana

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe

Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna

Hon. Lalith Ellawala

Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren

Hon. Govindan Karunakaram

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney at Law

Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law

Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda

Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara

Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku

Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
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. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathna, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the—

- (i) 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 Administrative Appeals Tribunal in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament; and
- (ii) 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 National Police Commission in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Account.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the National Science Foundation for the year 2021.
- (ii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka for the year 2021.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing 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 the Faculty of Medicine of the Uva Wellassa University of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2324/12 of 20th March 2023.

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

(4) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of National Zoological Gardens for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Natural Resources & Sustainable Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) The Hon. Ajith Rajapakse the Chair of the Legislative Standing Committee presented the Report of the Legislative Standing Committee on the Bill entitled, “Chartered Institute of Transport of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) (Amendment)” together with the Minutes of proceedings.

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

Bill, as reported by Legislative Standing Committee, to be considered on Tuesday, 04th July 2023.

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 23.04.2023 from Mr. H. M. P. Perera of No. 09, Hallla Junction, Welipitiya, Weligama.
- (2) Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara presented a petition dated 27.03.2023 from Mr. D. T. R. Gunawardana of No 28/3 A, 4th Lane, Epitamulla Road, Pita Kotte.
- (3) Hon. Sampath Athukorala presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 26.02.2023 from Mr. S. D. Leelarathna of 'Sisira', Dikhen Junction, Amugoda; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 24.04.2023 from Mr. Sujeewa Priyankara Sumanasekara of 15/64, First Lane, Maaitipe, Galle.

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

4. Sittings of the Parliament : The Minister of Housing and Urban Development on behalf of 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 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, an agreed to.

5. Votes of Condolence : The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. (Mrs.) Larine Perera, late Hon. Reginold Cooray, late Hon. Buddhika Kurukularatne and late Hon. Muthu Sivalingam ex-Members of Parliament.

(At 11.03 a.m. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Hon. Hector Appuhamy seconded by Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala moved,— That Hon. Nimal Piyathissa do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 12.54 p.m. Hon. Nimal Piyathissa took the Chair.)

The Presiding Member announced that the Speaker and himself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the deaths of the late Hon. (Mrs.) Larine Perera late, the late Hon. Reginold Cooray, the late Hon. Buddhika Kurukularatne and the late Hon. Muthu Sivalingam, ex-Members of Parliament and directed the Secretary-General of Parliament to send copies of the Official Report (Hansard) containing proceedings of this day to the members of their bereaved families.

6. Adjournment : The Minister of Trade Commerce and Food Security moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 5.00 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 04, 2023.