



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 60.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, September 22, 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Ajith Rajapakse, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration,
Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. Tiran Alles, Minister of Public Security

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

Hon. Vidura Wikramanayaka, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural
Affairs

Hon. Kanchana Wijsekera, 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. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development

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

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. 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. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Piriven Education
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises
Development
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. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan
Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Kapila 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. M. Udayakumar
Hon. Akila Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
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. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha 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. H. Nandasena
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. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
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. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
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. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. W. D. J. Seneviratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Chaminda Kularathne, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary -General of Parliament

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathne, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Education presented the Annual Report of the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka 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.

(2) The Minister of Education—

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka for the year 2022; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Educational Publications Department for the year 2022.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries presented the Report of the said Committee on Regulations made by the Minister of Industries under Section 527 read with Section 222 of the Companies Act, No. 07 of 2007, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2323/41 of 17th March 2023 which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi, on behalf of the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health presented the Report of the said Committee on National Eye Bank Trust of Sri Lanka Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Shantha Bandara presented a petition dated 20.06.2023 from Mr. M. P. Dias of Gettuwana, Dambulla Road, Kurunegala.
- (2) Hon. Wajira Abeywardana presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 08.03.2023 from Mr. D.S. Peramunugama of No 97/C, Paththaduwana, Minuwangoda; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 10.07.2023 from Mr. W. S. Kelum of No 13A, Temple Road, Galwadugoda, Galle.
- (3) Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya presented a petition dated 06.07.2023 from Mrs. D.M. kamalawathie of Udagirilla, Mahagirilla, Nikaweratiya.

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

4. 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 sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 9.30 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.

5. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Asanka Navarathna, seconded by Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law moved,—That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Susarana Lanka Foundation.”

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 Education for report.

6. Resolution for the Temporary Suspension of Representing Committees of Parliament by the Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem, Member of Parliament : Hon. Sajith Premadasa, seconded by the Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law moved,—Whereas the illegal act of misconduct committed by the Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem, Member of Parliament of Puttalam district, has been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges of Parliament for an investigation at present, and whereas the involvement of the relevant Member of Parliament in the Committees of Parliament creating a problematic situation in relation to the conduct of Members of Parliament, this Parliament resolves that the Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem should not represent the Committees of Parliament until the said investigation is over. P.55/2023

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Adjournment (Easter Sunday Attack and National Security at Present) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—That this Parliament do now adjourn. Order read for resuming the adjourned debate on question (21st September, 2023).

Question again proposed; and debate resumed.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,—That Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 10.37 a.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 12.30 p.m. Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasinghe took the Chair.)

The Minister of Power and Energy moved,—That Hon. Imran Maharoof do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.59 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharoof took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,—That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.11 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned at 6.40 p.m. by the Presiding Member without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 03, 2023.