



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 69.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, November 07, 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 and Plantation Industries

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 Industries and Minister of Health

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 Environment

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 Wijesekera, Minister of Power and Energy

Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry, PC, Minister of Foreign 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. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage, State Minister of Tourism

Hon. Siripala Gamalath, State Minister of Highways

Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development

Hon. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Power and Energy

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. 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. Arundika Fernando, State Minister of Urban Development and Housing

Hon. Ashoka Priyantha, State Minister of Home Affairs

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. (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. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, Non Cabinet Minister of State Plantation Enterprises Reforms and State Minister of Finance

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance

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. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
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. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
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. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyanakara Jayaratne
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
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. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharoof

Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
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. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
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. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
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. 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. A. H. M. Fowzie
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Mr. Chaminda Kularathne, Acting Secretary-General of Parliament

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:—

(7)

M. No. 69



ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජනාධිපති
இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

My No. PS/CSA/00/4/5/1

October 21st, 2023

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana
Speaker
Parliament of Sri Lanka

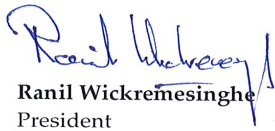
Hon. Speaker,

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 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

ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රජාතාන්ත්‍රික සමාජවාදී ජනරජය
இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
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 the decision of the Supreme Court regarding the petitions filed before Supreme Court pertaining to the ‘Anti-Terrorism’ Bill.

The Supreme Court has communicated that, since the ‘Anti-Terrorism’ bill has not been placed on the Order Paper of the Parliament on 03rd October 2023, the Supreme Court does not have the Jurisdiction to determine the Constitutionality of the said Bill in terms of Article 121(3) of the Constitution and accordingly, proceedings in all ten petitions have been terminated.

I order that the decision of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today’s proceedings.”

II

“I wish to inform Parliament that the Hon. Speaker has received the decision of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill titled ‘Value Added Tax (Amendment)’ which was challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court has communicated that the petition on the above Bill has been dismissed as the petitioner has made an application to withdraw the petition on the Bill.

I order that the decision of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today’s proceedings.”

III

“I wish to inform Parliament that the Hon. Speaker has received the Determination of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bill titled ‘Online Safety’ which was challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

The determination of the Supreme Court as to the constitutionality of the Bill concludes as follows:—

If Clauses 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 42, 45, 53 and 56 are required to be passed in Parliament by a special majority as required by Article 84(2) of the Constitution.

However, if Clauses 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 42, 45, 53 and 56 are amended at the Committee Stage of the Bill in Parliament, subject to the determinations made in respect of several Clauses referred to above, this Bill may be passed in Parliament with the simple majority.”

Subject to the above, the Supreme Court is of the opinion that, none of the provisions in the Bill are inconsistent with the Constitution. Therefore, the Bill can be passed by a simple majority in Parliament, subject to the amendments stated in the Determination.

I order that the Determination of the Supreme Court be printed in the Official Report of today's proceedings of the House.

IV

"I wish to inform that in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the Hon. Speaker has endorsed the certificate on the Bills titled 'Balapitiya Sri Rahularama Purana Viharastha Samanera Akalpa Sangwardena Bikshu Vidyalaya (Incorporation)' and 'Conferring the Honour of Senior Instructing Attorneys - at- Law' on 01st November 2023."

V

"I wish to inform Parliament that the Hon. Speaker has received copies of three petitions filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled 'National Hydrographic'."

VI

"A motion may be moved to refer the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar, M.P. in Parliament on 03rd October 2023 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges."

VII

"A motion may be moved to refer the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law, M.P. in Parliament on 06th October 2023 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges."

VIII

"I wish to inform that, the Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at law and the Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola, have also been nominated to serve in the Committee of Parliament appointed by the Hon. Speaker to look into the incident that took place on 20th October 2023 in the Parliamentary premises."

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

- (i) Ninth Installment – Part XVIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015;
- (ii) Second Installment – Part LII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2019;
- (iii) Second Installment – Part XLIII and Ninth Installment – Part XXXIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2021; and
- (iv) Second Installment – Parts XX, XXI and XXII, Third Installment – Parts XI and XII and Ninth Installment – Parts IX and X of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2022

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

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

(2) The Deputy Speaker presented the First Installment – Parts XXI, XXII, XXIII, XXIV and XV, Fourth Installment – Parts VII and VIII, Fifth Installment – Parts VI and VII and Sixth Installment – Parts VI, VII and VIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2022 in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(3) The Deputy Speaker presented the—

- (i) Eighth Installment – Part III of the Report of the Auditor-General on Performance Audit on Management of Overcrowding in Prisons; and
- (ii) Tenth Installment – Part IV of the Special Audit Report of the Auditor-General on the Admission of Students to Intermediate Grades in National Schools during the Period from 01st January 2020 to 31st May 2022.

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 be printed.

(4) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the 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), 6 and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2353/16 of 09th October 2023 and moved that those Regulations 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 01.09.2023 to 30.09.2023 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 43 of 2022.

Ordered that, the said papers do lie upon the **Table**.

(6) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the University of Jaffna for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Buildings for the year 2022 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation presented the—

(i) Annual Report of the Jaya Container Terminals Limited for the year 2022;
and

(ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the year 2022.

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy & Transport.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Environment presented the Annual Report of the Central Environmental Authority for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Natural Resources & Sustainable Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the National Food Promotion Board for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Food Security & Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Order made by the Minister of Plantation Industries under Sections 13(1)(a) and 13(1)(b) of the Sri Lanka Tea Board law, No. 14 of 1975, relating to CESS Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2339/07 of 04th July 2023 and moved that the Order be referred to the relevant Ministerial Consultative Committee.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 120(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority of the Ministry of Tourism and Lands in the report of the Committee on Public Enterprises which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Enterprises.

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs presented the Performance Report of the Department of Cultural Affairs for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage and New Citizen.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) 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 Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment of the Ministry of Labour and Foreign Employment 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.

(15) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Labour for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Foreign Employment & Labour.

Question put, and agreed to.

(16) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Report on the submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 124(6) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Public Security in the report of the Committee on Ways and Means which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Question put, and agreed to.

(17) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Food Security & Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports under S.O. 52(6) : The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs presented the Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill titled “Dedigama Sri Maithri Pragnartha Bouddha Educational Daham Sabhawa (Incorporation)”

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, November 08, 2023.

5. Presentation of Public Petition:

(1) Hon. Vijitha Herath presented—

- (i) A petition dated 02.08.2023 from Mr. C.W Liyanage of No. 217/2, Sithumina Mawatha, Borella Road, Godagama, Homagama ;
- (ii) A petition dated 05.09.2023 from Mrs. S.M Bandara of No. 265, Kirula Road, Narahenpita, Colombo 05. ; and
- (iii) A petition dated 29.05.2023 from Mr. Sisira Kumara Jayawardana of No17/25, Thalpitaya South, Wadduwa.

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

6. The Recognition and Enforcement of International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation: The Minister of Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented,— Bill to give effect to the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements resulting from Mediation known as the Singapore Convention on Mediation; to make provisions for the Recognition and Enforcement of International Settlement Agreements; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Just and Law-Abiding Society.

7. Dassana Bauddha Sanvidhanaya (Incorporation) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Urban Development and Housing moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and referred by the Deputy Speaker to the Legislative Standing Committee under Standing Order 53(3) of the Parliament

8. Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Bill— Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Fisheries moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 1.00 p.m. Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Fisheries moved,—That Hon. Imran Maharroof do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.09 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharroof at Law took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Irrigation moved,—That Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.23 p.m. Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama at Law took the Chair.)

(At 4.39 p.m. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries proposed an amendment to leave out lines 24 and 25 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“Provided however, any such person shall not be deemed to be guilty of”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries proposed another amendment to leave out line 1 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“of such person and that he exercised all due”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clause 3

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries proposed an amendment to leave out lines 20 and 21 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“Provided however, any such person shall not be deemed to be guilty of”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries proposed another amendment to leave out line 24 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“of such person and that he exercised all due”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clause 4 to 6 were agreed to.

Clause 7

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries proposed an amendment to leave out lines 22 to 35 (both inclusive) in page 5 and substitute the following:—

““Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Operations mean -

With regard to Illegal Fishing, Fishing Operations conducted by-

- (a) local or foreign fishing boats in Sri Lanka Waters in contravention of any law or any regulation made under this Act;
- (b) any local fishing boat in the High Seas in contravention of any laws or any regulation made under this Act, including any regulation made to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or other Fisheries Management Organization to which Sri Lanka is a party;
- (c) any local fishing boat in waters under the jurisdiction of another State, without the permission of such State;
- (d) any fishing boat flying the flag of any foreign State, which is a party to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or another Regional Fisheries Management Organization to which Sri Lanka is also a party, in Sri Lanka Waters, operating in contravention of regulations made under this Act implementing-
 - (i) the conservation and management measures adopted by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or such other Regional Fisheries Management Organization, or
 - (ii) the relevant provisions of any international agreement or obligations undertaken by Sri Lanka,

as the case may be;

with regard to Unreported Fishing, Fishing Operations -

which have not been reported, or have been misreported to the Director-General in contravention of the prescribed reporting procedures under this Act or any regulation made hereunder, including any regulation that may be made by the Minister under this Act implementing any reporting procedures of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or any other Regional Fisheries Management Organization to which Sri Lanka is a party or the relevant provisions of any international agreement or obligations undertaken by Sri Lanka, in the area of competence of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or any other Regional Fisheries Management Organization or such other area, as the case may be;

with regard to Unregulated Fishing, Fishing Operations —

- (a) in the area of competence of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or any other Regional Fisheries Management Organization to which Sri Lanka is a party conducted by a fishing boat without nationality or flying the flag of a State that is not a party to Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or such other Regional Fisheries Management Organization, in a manner that is not consistent with or contravenes the conservation and management measures of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission or such other Regional Fisheries Management Organization, implemented by any regulation made under this Act;
- (b) in areas or for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures and where such fishing activities are conducted in a manner inconsistent with the responsibilities of Sri Lanka for the conservation of living marine resources under international law to the extent set out in any regulation made under this Act;”;

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries proposed another amendment to leave out lines 1 to 10 (both inclusive) in page 6.

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Clause 8 was agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries moved,— That the Bill, as amended be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended accordingly read the third time and passed.

9. Adjournment: The Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question put and agreed to; Parliament was at 5.19 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Speaker until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 08, 2023.