



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 72.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, November 10, 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. 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. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Industries and Minister of Health

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. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakse, 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. Dilum Amunugama, State Minister of Investment Promotion
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. 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. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake, State Minister of Primary Industries
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. 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. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media
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. (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. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan
Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah
Hon. Kapila Athukorala
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law

Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
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. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
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. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoo
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa

Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Nimal Lanza
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. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
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. 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. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel
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 Urban Development and Housing on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the Supplementary Estimate No. 02 of 2023 and moved that the Supplementary Estimate be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Galle Heritage Foundation for the year 2020 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage and New Citizen.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of the Public Security presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Public Security under Section 52 read with Section 23 of the Immigrants and Emigrants Act, (Chapter 351) on 07th November 2023 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Security.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : The Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on —

(i) Appropriation Bill for the year 2024; and

(ii) Annual Work Programme of the National Audit Office - 2024

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

(1) Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga presented a petition dated 14.08.2023 from Mr. K.S.R Weerasingha of No. 403/1, Jaya Mawatha, Polpitimukalana, Kandana.

(2) Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 14.08.2023 from Mr. K.V.V.C.K Vithanage of No. 225, Universal City, Batuwanthudawa Road, Hapugala.

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

4. Business of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the Government Business shall have precedence this day.

Question put and agreed to.

5. Sittings of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 12.00 noon on Monday, November 13th, 2023.

Question put and agreed to.

6. Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Bill : Order for consideration read.

Bill, as amended in the Legislative Standing Committee Considered.

The Minister of Education moved,— That the amendments made by the Legislative Standing Committee be agreed to.

Question put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Education 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.

7. Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Speaker to the Legislative Standing Committee under Standing Order 53(3) of the Parliament.

8. Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment) Bill: Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Speaker to the Legislative Standing Committee under Standing Order 53(3) of the Parliament.

9. Galaha Bhaddrawathie National Bhikkhu Care Centre Trust Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Health moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 12.00 noon Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The State Minister of Health moved,—That Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.13 p.m. Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

The Hon. Dilan Perera, seconded by the Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala moved,—That Hon. Samanpriya Herath do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.12 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Health 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 Presiding Member took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 4 were agreed to.

Clause 5

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Health proposed an amendment to leave out lines 24 to 27 (both inclusive) in page 3 and substitute the following:—

- “(vi) the Public Trustee or his representative;
- (vii) the Provincial District Secretary of the Kandy District;
- (viii) the Provincial Director of Health Services of the Central Province;
- (ix) the Divisional Secretary of Divisional Secretary’s Division of Doluwa;
and
- (x) the Diyawadana Nilame of Sri Dalada Maligawa or his representative; and”.

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 6 to 9 were agreed to.

Clause 10

The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Health an amendment to leave out line 29 in page 6 and substitute the following:—

“ eleven members”.

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 11 to 25 were 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 Education on behalf of the Minister of Health moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

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

9. Adjournment (Resettlement of Protracted Muslim IDPs in Northern Province) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourned.

Question proposed and, debated

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.55 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 12.00 noon on Monday, November 13, 2023 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on Thursday, November 09, 2023.