



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 76.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, November 16, 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 and Plantation Industries

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

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

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Transport

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar, State Minister of Education

Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage, State Minister of Tourism
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. 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. Ashoka Priyantha, State Minister of Home Affairs
Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hon. K. Kader Masthan, State Minister of Rural Economy
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises
Development
Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa, State Minister of Irrigation
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. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Wajira Abeywardana
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
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. 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. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula 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. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
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. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
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. 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. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna 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 Committee Reports: The Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health presented the Report of the Committee on Annual Report of the National Medicine Regulatory Authority for the year 2021 which was referred to the said Committee.

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

2. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka presented a petition dated 13.05.2023 from Mrs. A. P Indrani Wijesingha of No. 37/1, Kuruwawa, Raththota.

- (2) Hon. Wajira Abeywardana presented a petition dated 03.04.2023 from Mr. Bandula Silva of Kamburugoda, Meegama, Darga Town.

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

3. Select Committee of Parliament to study the practical problems and difficulties in relation to preparation for the proposed 'Business Ready (B-READY) Index' in Sri Lanka and make its proposals and recommendations:

The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the time period granted to the Select Committee of Parliament to study the practical problems and difficulties in relation to preparation for the proposed 'Business Ready (B-READY) Index' in Sri Lanka and make its proposals and recommendations as specified in the Resolution passed by Parliament on 11th May 2023 be extended up to 22nd January 2024 in terms of Standing Order 102 of the Parliament as the Committee needs further time to report its observations to Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Appropriation Bill—(Third Allotted Day) : Order read for resuming adjourned debate on question (13th November 2023),—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question again proposed, and debate resumed.

(At 11.51 a.m. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

The Minister of Industries and Minister of Health moved,—That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.20 p.m. the Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

Hon. Gayantha Karunathilake, seconded by Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma moved,— That Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.25 p.m. the Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

The Minister of Education moved,—That the debate be now adjourned.

Question put, and agreed to.

Debate to be resumed on Friday, November 17, 2023.

5. Adjournment (Implementation of Budget Proposal on Renovation of Tanks) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and, debated.

The Minister of Education moved,— That Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law took the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.58 p.m. the Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; at 6.19 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member until 9.30 a.m. on Friday, November 17, 2023 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 09th November, 2023.