



(Ninth Parliament - Fifth Session)

No. 10.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 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. 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. (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. (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. (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. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage, State Minister of Tourism
Hon. Sivaneshathurai 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. Premalal Jayasekara, State Minister of Ports and Aviation
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. Rohana Dissanayaka, State Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs
Hon. Anupa Pasqual, State Minister of Social Empowerment
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion
Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera, State Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises Development
Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Higher Education
Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa, State Minister of Irrigation and Water Supply
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura, State Minister of Provincial Councils, Local Government and Environment
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. Indika Anuruddha Herath, State Minister of Power and Energy
Hon. Kanaka Herath, State Minister of Technology
Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan
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. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
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. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban

Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
Hon. Duminda Dissanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Dhammika Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. Jagath Priyankara
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana

Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law
Hon. S. C. Muthukumarana
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
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. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
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. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna 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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

1. Announcements by the Speaker : The Deputy Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform Parliament that Hon. Speaker has received copies of two petitions filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled ‘Penal Code (Amendment)’.”

II

“The matters under the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam, M.P. in Parliament on 07 November 2023 have been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

III

“The matters under the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe, M.P. in Parliament on 16 November 2023 have been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

IV

“The matters under the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, M.P. in Parliament on 20 November 2023 have been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

V

“The matters under the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law, M.P. in Parliament on 22 November 2023 have been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

VI

“The matters under the question of privilege raised by the Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera, M.P. in Parliament on 10 December 2023 have been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

VII

“The matters under the question of privilege raised by the Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC, M.P. in Parliament on 08 February 2024 have been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

2. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Deputy Speaker presented the Second Installment – Part XLII and Ninth Installment – Parts XXV and XXVI 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 —

- (i) Fourth Installment – Part XXVIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2019;
- (ii) Fourth Installment – Part XXVI of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2020; and
- (iii) First Installment – Parts XL and XLI and Fourth Installment – Parts XXIII, XXIV and XXV 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, Reports do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

(3) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka for the year 2022; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accounting and Auditing Standards Monitoring Board for the year 2022

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion, having considered the recommendations of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission and upon the approval of the Cabinet Ministers under Section 53 of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act, No. 11 of 2021 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2366/13 of 09th January 2024;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion, having considered the recommendations of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission and upon the approval of the Cabinet Ministers under Section 53 of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act, No. 11 of 2021 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2366/14 of 09th January 2024; and
- (iii) Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Development Activities Programme appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.01.2024 to 31.01.2024 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 34 of 2023.

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

(5) The Minister of Education presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Business Management Honours in Human Resource Management Degree awarded by Benedict XVI Catholic International Institute of Higher Education and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2356/31 of 03rd November 2023;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Business Management Degree awarded by Business Management School (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2358/69 of 17th November 2023.
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Education Honours in Teaching English as a Second Language Degree awarded by Benedict XVI Catholic International Institute of Higher Education and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2359/14 of 21st November 2023;
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science in Maritime Operations and Bachelor of Science

Honours in Chemistry Degrees awarded by CINEC Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2360/25 of 28th November 2023;

(v) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Degree awarded by CINEC Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2362/46 of 13th December 2023; and

(vi) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Education Honours in Primary Education Degree awarded by The Lyceum Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2362/47 of 13th December 2023.

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

(6) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Reports 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 Ministry of Irrigation and the Institutions coming under its purview in the reports of the Committee on Public Accounts which were presented to Parliament and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the National Livestock Development Board for the year 2018 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Food Security & Agriculture.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Thurusaviya Fund for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Industrial Development Board of Ceylon for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Health under Section 82 read with Sections 7(g), 10 and 77 and Part VI of the Ayurveda Act, No. 31 of 1961 regarding the Ayurveda Code on 24th January 2024 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Hon. Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Lalith Athulathmudali Mahapola Higher Education Scholarship Trust Fund for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Committee Reports: The Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on the Regulations under the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act No.11 of 2021 which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. D. B. Herath presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 19.11.2023 from Mr. D.M. Wijesinghe of Mailewa, Thambutta, Galgamuwa; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 01.11.2023 from Mr. T.M. Senarathna of Dalupotha,, Kalugamuwa Road, Wariyapola.
- (2) Hon. Anupa Pasqual presented a petition dated 19.12.2023 from Mr. K.G. Vijayakumara of No. 254, Thennapita Road, Pimbura, Agalawatta.
- (3) Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar presented a petition dated 07.02.2024 from Mrs. M.Z.F. Suhayria of No. 22, Yorn Street, Kalutara South.
- (4) Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 09.02.2024 from Mrs. K.R.P. Lalitha of Usketiya Watta, Habaraduwa.
- (5) Hon. Imran Maharoof presented a petition dated 18.11.2023 from Dr. M.S.M. Zamry of 187/16 F3, Jayasamagi Mawatha, Kalubowila.
- (6) Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura presented a petition dated 16.01.2024 from Mr. M. N. Hemantha Salgado of No. 34, Athkam Niwasa, Madakissa Road, Horethuduwa, Kesek Watta.

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

5. 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 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

Suspension of Sittings

At 11.13 a.m.

The Sitting was then suspended until 11.50 a.m.

At 11.50 a.m.

The Sitting was resumed. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

6. Vote of No Confidence against Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane, the Speaker: Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law, seconded by the Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran moved,— Whereas, by allowing the government to adopt certain Clauses of the Bill titled Online Safety during the Committee of the whole Parliament of the said Bill contrary to the determination of the Supreme Court in respect of that Bill disregarding the strong objections raised by Members of Parliament of the opposition to the effect that some Clauses of the Bill concerned were being passed in contravention of the determination of the Supreme Court regarding the Bill;

Particularly,

(a) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 13 of the aforesaid Bill with a simple majority without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the said Clause was inconsistent with Article 12 (1) of the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if it were to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected;

(b) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 17 of the aforesaid Bill as it was with a simple majority while the Supreme Court had determined that the said Clause was inconsistent with the Constitution and hence should be passed with a special majority and while the Attorney-General had informed the Supreme Court that the Clause concerned would be removed during the Committee of the whole Parliament;

(c) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clauses 20, 33(6), 34(1) and 35(1) of the aforesaid Bill with a simple majority without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the Clauses concerned were inconsistent with the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if they were to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected;

(d) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 21 of the aforesaid Bill as it was with a simple majority without acting in pursuance of the assurance given by the Attorney-General to the Supreme Court that the amendments necessary to pass the Clause concerned with a simple majority would be moved during the Committee of the whole Parliament when the Supreme Court determined that the said Clause was inconsistent with the Constitution and hence should be passed with a special majority;

(e) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 22 of the Bill as it was with a simple majority, without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the Clause concerned was inconsistent with the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if it was to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected; and

(f) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 31 of the Bill as it was with a simple majority, without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the Clause concerned was inconsistent with the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if it was to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected;

And whereas it has been stated in the letter dated 08th February 2024, sent to the Speaker of Parliament by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, confirming this, and pointing out that the Supreme Court determination has not been followed with pertinence to passing certain Clauses of the said Bill and therefore, that there are serious concerns regarding the fact whether the number of votes required to pass the Bill as it is, has been received in Parliament;

And whereas at the same time, whereas by allowing the Bill to be passed at the third reading without calling for a division, despite the request made by the Chief Opposition Whip calling for a division, at the third reading of the Online Safety Bill;

And whereas and by endorsing the certificate on the said Bill, ignoring the request made by a group of Opposition Members from the speaker at the special meeting of the Party Leaders which was held on the 01st of February 2024, not to endorse the Bill until it is seriously scrutinized, as certain Clauses have been passed by the government contravening the determination issued by the Supreme Court at the Committee of the whole Parliament of the Online Safety Bill;

And whereas, when the name for the post of Inspector-General of Police, recommended by the Hon. President was considered at the meeting of the Constitutional Council held on the 26th of February 2024, 4 members of the Constitutional Council voted for the appointment of that recommended person for the said post and 2 members voted against while 2 members abstained from voting and as such while the said recommended name for the post of Inspector-General of Police remained unapproved as per the provisions of the Constitution, the Speaker has unlawfully aided and abetted and sponsored the President to appoint the person recommended by the President to the post of Inspector-General of Police in an illegal and unconstitutional manner by stating in paragraph 4 of the letter dated 26th February 2024 that intimated to the President that,

“However, as there are no provisions with regard to abstaining from voting at a meeting of the Constitutional Council as per Article 41(e) of the Constitution and if abstaining from voting is deemed as being opposed to, before the law and in relation to the aforementioned issue if it is deemed as a tie in voting as per Article 41(e)(5) of the Constitution, I hereby inform that I exercise my casting vote as the Chair.”

And whereas, the Speaker has acted in a manner in blatant violation of the Constitution in handling the affairs of Parliament;

And whereas, the Speaker has acted in a manner that public confidence in the supreme institutions of Parliament and the Constitutional Council would be eroded;

And whereas, the Speaker has blatantly violated the Standing Orders of Parliament;

And whereas, the Speaker has blatantly desecrated the independence and dignity of the office of the Speaker by clearly exhibiting that he acts partially;

And whereas, the Speaker who is bound to protect the rights and privileges of the Members of Parliament impartially, has himself violated the rights and privileges of Members of Parliament; and

And whereas, the Speaker has neglected to perform the functions and responsibilities of the office of the Speaker;

That this Parliament resolves that it has no confidence in Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane, the Speaker any longer.

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

Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put and agreed to.

(At 2.25 p.m. Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff, Attorney at Law, took the Chair.)

State Minister of Livestock Development moved,— That Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama do take the Chair.

Question put and agreed to.

(At 3.12 p.m. Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama took the Chair.)

And it being 5.30 p.m. the debate stood adjourned; debate to be resumed on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

7. Adjournment: And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned 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 Wednesday, March 20, 2024.