



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 186.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, August 08, 2017 at 1.00 p. m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees

Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan, Deputy Chairman of Committees

Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale, Minister of Foreign Employment

Hon. John Amaratunga, Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignment

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms and the Chief Government Whip

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Education

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Minister of Higher Education and Highways and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife

Hon. A. D. Susil Premajyantha, Minister of Science, Technology and Research

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce

Hon. (Mrs.) Chandrani Bandara, Minister of Women and Child Affairs

- Hon. Tilak Marapana**, Minister of Development Assignments
- Hon. Faiszer Musthapha**, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Chandima Weerakkody**, Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**, Minister of Ports and Shipping
- Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**, Ministry of Labour, Trade Union Relations and Sabaragamu Development
- Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne**, Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
- Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management
- Hon. Rauff Hakeem**, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply
- Hon. Kabir Hashim**, Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- Hon. P. Harrison**, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development
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- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. Palitha Range Bandara**, State Minister of Irrigation
- Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs
- Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan**, State Minister of Education
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance
- Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene**, State Minister of Defence
- Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, State Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations
- Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe**, State Minister of International Trade
- Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne**, State Minister of Science, Technology and Research
- Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah**, State Minister of Rehabilitation and Resettlement
- Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie**, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation
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- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**, Deputy Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage**, Deputy Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

- Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena**, Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife
- Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma**, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs
- Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva**, Deputy Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs
- Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana**, Deputy Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training
- Hon. Susantha Punchinilame**, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and Management
- Hon. Ajith P. Perera**, Deputy Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
- Hon. Arundika Fernando**, Deputy Minister of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs
- Hon. Indika Bandaranayake**, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction
- Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka**, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
- Hon. Nimal Lanza**, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs
- Hon. Duleep Wijesekera**, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs
- Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen**, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. H. M. M. Harees**, Deputy Minister of Sports
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- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
- Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana**
- Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**
- Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma**
- Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare**
- Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**
- Hon. Velu Kumar**
- Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran**
- Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera**
- Hon. Chandima Gamage**
- Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**
- Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Edward Gunasekara
Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Malith Jayathilake
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. Arumugan Thondaman
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan

Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavaritham Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti

Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi

Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath

Hon. Kanaka Herath

Hon. Vijitha Herath

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Assistant Secretary-General

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Presentation of Papers : (1) Hon. Speaker presented,—

The Second Instalment of the Report of the Auditor – General for the Financial Year 2002 to 2006;

The Second Instalment – Parts XIII and XIV of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2007;

The Second Instalment – Parts X and XI of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2008;

The Second Instalment – Parts XIII and XIV of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2009;

The Second Instalment – Parts XV and XVI of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2010;

The Second Instalment – Part XVI of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2011;

The Second Instalment – Part XXIII of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2012;

The Second Instalment – Part XXIII of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2013;

The Second Instalment – Part XXI, Third Instalment – Part VII of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2014; and

The Second Instalment – Parts VI, VII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII and XVIII, Third Instalment – Parts III, V and VI, Ninth Instalment – Parts I, II and III of the Report of the Auditor–General for the Financial Year 2015;

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 to be printed .

(2) The Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife presented the Annual Report of the Botanical Garden Trust Fund for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of Social Services for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —

- (i) Regulation made by the Minister of Finance under Section 5 of the Stamp duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 with regard to Stamp Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2007/24 of 21st February 2017; and
- (ii) 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 01.06.2017 to 30.06.2017 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016.

and moved that this Regulation and Note on Supplementary Allocations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 20(4) (b) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978, with regard to the appointment of a Competent Authority in lieu of Director of Gampaha Wickramarachchi Ayurvedic Institute with effect from February 27, 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2025/32 of 29th June 2017; and
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 20(4) (b) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978, with regard to the appointment of a Competent Authority in lieu of Director of Gampaha Wickramarachchi Ayurvedic Institute with effect from May 27, 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2025/33 of 29th June 2017.

and moved that these Orders be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Thripasha Ltd for the years 2011 and 2012 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Savings Bank for the year 2014 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administrations for the year 2014 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Thilanga Sumathipala, the Chairman of the Select Committee of Parliament on the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presented the Interim Report of the Select Committee of Parliament on the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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

(2) Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna, Member of the Committee on behalf of the Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Youth, Sports, Arts and Heritage presented the Report of the said Committee on,—

- (i) Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority for the year 2013; and
- (iii) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Sports for the year 2016

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

(3) Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Vadivel Suresh, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development presented the Report of the said Committee on,—

- (i) Ceylon German Technical Training Institute Bill;
- (ii) Order under Section 20(4) (b) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978;
- (iii) Order under Section 25(A) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978;
- (iv) Orders under Section 27 (1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978; and
- (v) Order under Section 27(1) (b) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

(4) Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development presented the Report of the said Committee on,—

- (i) Annual Reports of the Employees' Trust Fund Board for the years 2012, 2013 and 2015;
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Human Resources Development Council of Sri Lanka for the year 2013;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015;
- (iv) Annual Reports of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015;
- (v) Performance Report of the Department of Census and Statistics for the year 2016;
- (vi) Performance Report of the Department of National Planning for the year 2016;
- (vii) Performance Report of the Department of External Resources for the year 2016; and
- (viii) Performance Report of the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs for the year 2016

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

3. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 06.05.2017 from Mr. K. Ranasingha of No. 151, Nayadola, Mahagama; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 07.05.2017 from Mr. M.M.M. Yusuf Ali of No. 50, Kaluthara South.
- (2) Hon. Mujibur Rahuman presented a petition dated 21.03.2017 from Mr. M.S.M. Rasheed of No. 39/11 A, Saviya Church Road, Dematagoda, Colombo.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order No. 25A of the Parliament, to the Committee on Public Petitions.

4. Prevention of Crimes (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana presented,— That the Bill to amend the Prevention of Crimes Ordinance (Chapter 22).

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, 22 August, 2017 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

5. Sugathadasa National Sports Complex Authority (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

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

(At 2.28 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Sports 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 to 38 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 without Amendments.

The Minister of Sports moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

6. Ceylon German Technical Training Institute Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

The Minister of Sports moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.47 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

(At 6.12 p.m. Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training 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 to 6 were agreed to.

Clause 7

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training proposed an amendment to leave out lines 3 to 6 (both inclusive) in page 8 and substitute the following.

“out of the person who shall be qualified in the fields of mechanical or automobile engineering, electrical or electronic engineering, finance, law, skills development and vocational education and entrepreneurship”

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

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training proposed another amendment to leave out line 30 in page 8 and substitute the following.

“(7) Every *ex-officio* member of the Board shall hold office.”.

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 to 33 were agreed to.

Preamble

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training proposed an amendment to leave out lines 11 to 22 (both inclusive) in page 1 and substitute the following.

“Transport Board :

AND WHEREAS in the year 2005, the Transport Board Law, No. 19 of 1978 was repealed by the Sri Lanka Transport Board Act, No. 27 of 2005, and as a result the administration of the Ceylon German Technical Training Institute was assigned to the Ministry of Transport:

AND WHEREAS it is the policy of the Government to administer all vocational and technical institutes under the purview of one particular Ministry and accordingly, the administration of the Ceylon German Technical Training Institute has been transferred from the Ministry of Transport to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills Development:”.

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

Question that the Preamble as amended stand part of the Bill, put and 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 Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

7. Adjournment (Hostel Facilities for Students of Ratmalana Deaf and Blind School) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; The Parliament adjourned accordingly at 6.47 p.m. until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 09, 2017.