



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 194.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, September 06, 2017 at 1.00 p. m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, Speaker

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 and Minister of Justice

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

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. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

Hon. Palany Thigambaram, Minister of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community Development

Hon. S. B. Dissanayake, Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage

Hon. S. B. Nawinne, Minister of Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs

- Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera**, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife and Minister of Buddhasasana
- Hon. A. D. Susil Premajayantha**, Minister of Science, Technology and Research
- Hon. Sajith Premadasa**, Minister of Housing and Construction
- Hon. Tilak Marapana**, Minister of Development Assignments and Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**, Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka**, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
- Hon. Chandima Weerakkody**, Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training
- Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade
- Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Finance and Mass Media
- Hon. Wijith Wijayamuni Zoysa**, Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management
- Hon. D. M. Swaminathan**, Minister of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs
- Hon. Rauff Hakeem**, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply
- Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. T. B. Ekanayake**, State Minister of Lands
- Hon. Mohan Lal Grero**, State Minister of Higher Education
- Hon. Dilan Perera**, State Minister of Highways
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle**, State Minister of City Planning and Water Supply
- Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Industry and Commerce Affairs
- 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. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
- Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, State Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations
- Hon. Vasantha Senanayake**, State Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah**, State Minister of Rehabilitation and Resettlement
- Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, Deputy Minister of Finance and Mass Media

Hon. Faizal Cassim, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

Hon. (Mrs.) Sumedha G. Jayasena, Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development and
Wildlife

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, Deputy Minister of National Policies and Economic
Affairs

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Deputy Minister of Foreign Employment

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. Indika Bandaranayake, Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. Nishantha Muthuhettigamage, Deputy Minister of Ports and Shipping Affairs

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and
Kandyan Heritage

Hon. Nimal Lanza, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Duleep Wijsekera, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim
Religious Affairs

Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Sisira Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva
Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Arundika Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma

Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yohewaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

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

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

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

1. Announcements by the Speaker : Speaker made the following announcements:-

I

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill entitled “Local Authorities Elections (Amendment)” on 31st of August 2017 in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

II

“I wish to inform the Parliament that I have received copies of the thirteen petitions filed at the Supreme Court under Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill entitled “Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution”.

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of the National Defence Fund for the year 2014; 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 01.07.2017 to 31.07.2017 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the Homoeopathic Medical Council for the year 2013 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Annual Report of the Lanka Phosphate Ltd for the year 2015/16 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 20 read with Sub-section (3) of Section 4 and Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 relating to import license and standardization and quality control regulations 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2032/10 of 15th August 2017 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : (1) Hon. Lucky Jayawardana, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment presented the Report of the said Committee on “Regulations under the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act, No. 5 of 2015”

which was referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) 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 Performance Report of the Department of Project Management and Monitoring for the year 2016;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd. for the year 2013;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Lankaputhra Development Bank for the years 2013 and 2014;
- (iv) Annual Report of the HDFC Bank of Sri Lanka for the year 2014; and
- (v) Performance Reports of the Ministry of Public Enterprise Development for the years 2015 and 2016

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(3) Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe, member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran, the Chairman of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the said Committee on, —

- (i) Note on the Supplementary Allocations given from the Budgetary Support Services and Contingent Liabilities provision made under the Department of National Budget as per the Introduction Note of the Annual Estimates;
- (ii) Regulation of Insurance Industry (Amendment) Bill;

(iii) Orders under Section 3 of Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989; and

(iv) Financial Performance of the Second Quarter of 2017

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana presented a petition dated 19.04.2017 from Mr. W.A. Priyanga Premalal Weerakkody of No. 242, Kumbaloluwa, Veyangoda.
- (2) Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera presented a petition dated 06.07.2017 from Mr. K.W.S. Gunawardhana of No. F 35/2, Kumarige Waththa, Theligama.
- (3) Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi presented a petition dated 28.11.2016 from Mrs. W.M. Chandra of No. 58, Sumihirigama, Mee Ella.

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

5. Motions for Leave of Absence : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That the Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, Member of Parliament for Monaragala Electoral District be granted leave under the Article 66(f) of the Constitution to be absent from the sittings of Parliament for a period of three months from September 20th, 2017.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Motor Traffic (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation presented,— That the Bill to amend the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203).

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, 19 September, 2017 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

7. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sittings of Parliament on this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sittings of Parliament on Thursday, September 07th, 2017 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 3) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, September 07th, 2017.

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No. 1) : The Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2022/30 of 09th June 2017, which was presented on 22.08.2017, be approved.

(At 2.41 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.37 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, (No. 2) : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2024/1 of 19th June 2017, which was presented on 22.08.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, (No. 3) : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,—That the Order made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2027/7 of 11th July 2017, which was presented on 22.08.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

13. Regulation under the Stamp duty (Special Provisions) Act : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Mass Media moved,— That the 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, which was presented on 08.08.2017, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

14. Adjournment : Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 6.16 p.m. adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 7th September, 2017 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of this day.