



*(Eighth Parliament - First Session)*

No. 204.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, October 17, 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

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

**Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam**, Minister of Education

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

**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. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera**, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife and Minister of Buddhasasana

**Hon. Harin Fernando**, Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure

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

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

**Hon. Faiszer Musthapha**, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government

- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development
- Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka**, Minister of Megapolis and Western Development
- 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. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, Acting Minister of Finance and Mass Media
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- Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena**, State Minister of Public Enterprise Development
- 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. Palitha Range Bandara**, State Minister of Irrigation
- Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs
- Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi**, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development
- Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, State Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations
- Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie**, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation
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- 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. Dunesh Gankanda**, Deputy Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage**, Deputy Minister of Petroleum Resources Development
- Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
- 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. H. R. Sarathie Dushmantha**, Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Minister of Buddhasasana
- Hon. Karunarathna Paranawithana**, Deputy Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training
- Hon. Susantha Punchinilame**, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and Management
- Hon. Lakshman Wasantha Perera**, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries
- Hon. Tharanath Basnayaka**, Deputy Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
- Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake**, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage
- 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
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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. Ananda Aluthgamage**
- Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**
- Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri**
- Hon. Velu Kumar**
- Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne**
- Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera**
- Hon. Chandima Gamage**
- Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila**
- Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**
- Hon. Dinesh Gunawardana**
- Hon. Bandula Gunawardane**
- Hon. Edward Gunasekara**
- Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**
- Hon. D. V. Chanaka**

**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. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. M. S. Thowfeek**  
**Hon. Sirinal de Mel**  
**Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**  
**Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa**  
**Hon. Anura Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana**  
**Hon. K. K. Piyadasa**  
**Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. Arundika Fernando**  
**Hon. S. Premarathna**  
**Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda**  
**Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**  
**Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**  
**Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor**  
**Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana**  
**Hon. K. Kader Masthan**  
**Hon. Imran Maharroof**  
**Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe**  
**Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran**  
**Hon. C. B. Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Lohan Ratwatte**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga**

**Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**  
**Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella**  
**Hon. Ishak Rahuman**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Namal Rajapaksa**  
**Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa**  
**Hon. Gamini Lokuge**  
**Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne**  
**Hon. A. A. Wijethunga**  
**Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna**  
**Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara**  
**Hon. Heshan Withanage**  
**Hon. S. Viyalanderan**  
**Hon. Kumara Welgama**  
**Hon. S. Shritharan**  
**Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Rajavarithiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament**  
**Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan**  
**Hon. Muthu Sivalingam**  
**Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi**  
**Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran**  
**Hon. Vadivel Suresh**  
**Hon. Sunil Handunnetti**  
**Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi**  
**Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**  
**Hon. Vijitha Herath**

Mr. Neil Iddawala, Acting 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. Announcements by the Speaker :** The Speaker made the following announcement:-

“ I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificates on the Bills entitled ‘Municipal Councils (Amendment)’, ‘Urban Councils (Amendment)’ and ‘Pradeshiya Sabhas (Amendment)’ on 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2017 in terms of the Provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

**2. Presentation of Papers :** (1) The Speaker presented —

- (i) The Sixth Instalment – Parts XXII, XXIII and XXIV of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2014;
- (ii) The First Instalment – Parts XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII, XXIII and XXIV, Fourth Instalment – Parts VIII, IX and X, Fifth Instalment – Part VII and Sixth Instalment – Parts III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015; and
- (iii) The First Instalment – Parts I, II and III and Fourth Instalment – Part I of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2016;

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 to be printed.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the 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 01.08.2017 to 31.08.2017 under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016 and moved that this Note on Supplementary Allocations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 recognizing the Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (Private) Limited as a Degree Awarding Institution and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2032/23 of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017;
- (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 Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2032/46 of 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017;
- (iii) Annual Report of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura for the year 2015;

- (iv) Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the University of Moratuwa for the year 2015;
- (v) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for the year 2014; and
- (vi) Annual Reports (Administration and Accounts) of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka for the years 2013 and 2014.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

- (4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —
- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs under Section 2 of the United Nations Act, No. 45 of 1968, with regard to the Sanctions relating to Proliferation of Nuclear, Chemical or Biological Weapons and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2039/31 of 06<sup>th</sup> October 2017; and
  - (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs under Section 2 of the United Nations Act, No. 45 of 1968, with regard to the Sanctions in relation to Democratic People's Republic of Korea and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2039/32 of 06<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Sections 126 and 321 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 relating to Standards of Training, Certification and Watch keeping for Seafarers and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1987/19 of 04<sup>th</sup> October 2016 amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2018/3 published on 08<sup>th</sup> May 2017 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

**3. Presentation of Reports from Committees :** Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Performance Reports of the Department of Imports and Exports Control for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade for the year 2016

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

**4. Petitions :**

- (1) Hon. Susantha PUNCHINILAME presented —
  - (i) a petition dated 23.08.2017 from Mrs. D.M. Indrani of No. 176, Jaya Mawatha, Piliyandala;

- (ii) a petition dated 19.07.2017 from Mrs. R.G. Sanduni Saranga of No. 904/02, Unit 14, Wendrasonpura, Kanthale;
  - (iii) a petition dated 15.08.2017 from Mr. S.M. Vitharana of No. 286, Behind the Railway Station, Agbopura; and
  - (iv) a petition dated 26.07.2017 from Mr. W.K.G. Mahindapala of No. 6/5, "Nadun Uyana", Meerigama.
- (2) Hon. Lucky Jayawardana presented —
- (i) a petition dated 23.08.2017 from Mr. W.M. Jayarathna of No. 145/1, Niyanthube, Hunasgiriya, Mahiyangana Road; and
  - (ii) a petition dated 30.06.2017 from Mr. W.M.A.B. Kandegama of No. 212, Galagawawaththa, Ulakkonda, Handessa.
- (3) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented a petition dated 02.06.2017 from Mr. P.P.G. Michel of No 484, E.W. Perera Mawatha, Pitakotte.
- (4) Hon. K. K. Piyadasa presented a petition dated 22.08.2017 from Mr. M.B. Hellarawa of No 121/3, Uyana Road, Kothalawala, Bandaragama.
- (5) Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne presented —
- (i) a petition dated 21.08.2017 from Mr. Sunil Kandegama of Wijaya Govi Sanvidhanaya, No 809/A, Thebuwana West; and
  - (ii) a petition dated 08.08.2017 from Mr. Ukwattage Sarath of "Sewwandi", Puhuwala Junction, Meewanapalana, Horana.

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

**5. Business of the Parliament :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 2 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order No. 23 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

**6. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1) :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motions agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sitting of Parliament on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 shall be 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. At 11.30 a.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

Question put, and agreed to.



**7. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2) :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, October 09, 2017.

Question put, and agreed to.

**8. Electronic Transactions (Amendment) Bill :** Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 2.35 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages moved,— That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.09 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

(At 5.23 p.m. the 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 Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure 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 18 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 Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

**9. Select Committee of Parliament to discuss the Heads of Expenditure of the Ministries selected from the Budget Estimates of the year 2018 :** The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,—

Whereas the period of time allocated to the Committee stage programme for the Budget Estimates of the year 2018 is limited;

And whereas several Heads of Expenditure have to be discussed on a single day thereby limiting the period of time available for the discussion of each Ministry;

That this Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to enable the Members to meet and discuss the Heads of Expenditure of the 10 Ministries in the Annexure which was decided at the Committee on Parliamentary Business with the concurrence of the Leader of the House of Parliament and the Chief Opposition Whip.

2. (a) The Committee and its Chairman shall be nominated by Mr. Speaker.

(b) The Committee shall consist of not more than twenty one (21) Members selected from both the Government and the Opposition notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order No. 95 of the Parliament.

3. The Committee shall have power to—

- (a) fix its quorum; and
- (b) send for persons, papers and records, order any person to attend before Parliament or before such Committee;

4. The Committee shall present its report to the Parliament on or before the day on which the Committee stage debate on the votes of the said selected Ministries commences.

#### **Annexure**

- i) Ministry of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community Development
- ii) Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs
- iii) Ministry of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages
- iv) Ministry of National Integration and Reconciliation
- v) Ministry of Buddhasasana
- vi) Ministry of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs
- vii) Ministry of Tourism Development and Christian Religious Affairs
- viii) Ministry of Special Assignment
- ix) Ministry of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
- x) Ministry of Science, Technology and Research

Question put, and agreed to.

**10. Adjournment (Release of Persons in Custody under Prevention of Terrorism Act) :** 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 was at 6.42 p.m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, October 19, 2017 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of this day.