



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 235.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 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. Wajira Abeywardana, Minister of Home Affairs

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

Hon. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

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 Premajyantha, Minister of Science, Technology and Research

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

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. P. Harrison, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Minister of Regional Development

Hon. Lakshman Yapa Abeywardena, State Minister of Public Enterprise
Development

- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance
Hon. Ruwan Wijewardene, State Minister of Defence
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Development
Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade
Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne, State Minister of Science, Technology and Research
- Hon. Faizal Cassim**, Deputy Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
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. Ajith P. Perera, Deputy Minister of Power and Renewable Energy
Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and
Kandyan Heritage
Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
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- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma
Hon. Ananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri
Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne
Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera
Hon. Chandima Gamage
Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena
Hon. Bandula Gunawardane
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Salinda Dissanayake
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. A. A. Wijethunga
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. Duleep Wijesekera
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe

Hon. Rajavarthiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha 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. Announcements by the Speaker : The Speaker made the following announcement:-

“ I wish to inform the Parliament that the Secretary-General of Parliament has received the letter of resignation from Hon. M. H. M Salman, Member of Parliament in terms of Article 66(b) of the Constitution. The letter of resignation will now be read out to this august assembly by the Secretary-General of Parliament.”



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M.H.M. Salman
 Member of Parliament

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

- (i) The Second Instalment – Part XVIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2011;
- (ii) The Second Instalment – Parts XXIV and Third Instalment – Part VIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2013;
- (iii) The Second Instalment – Part XXII, Third Instalment – Part VIII and Ninth Instalment – Part VI of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2015; and
- (iv) The Second Instalment – Parts V, VI, VII, VIII, IX and X, Third Instalment – Parts III and IV and Ninth Instalment – Part II 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 —

- (i) Annual Report on Bribery and Corruption of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption for the year 2016; and
- (ii) Media Guidelines to be observed by the Electronic and Print Media during Referenda and Election made by the Election Commission in terms of Article 104B (5) (a) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2048/1 of 04th December 2017

and moved that this Report and Media Guidelines be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Financial Performance Report at the end of the third quarter of 2017;
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 6 (2) read with Section 8 of the Finance Act, No. 11 of 2006, relating to Teledrama, Film and Commercial Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2044/21 of 07th November 2017; and
- (iii) 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 01.11.2017 to 29.12.2017 and under Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 24 of 2016

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Reports of the Employees' Provident Fund for the years 2014 and 2015 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

- (5) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —
- (i) Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry to investigate, inquire and report on the Issuance of Treasury Bonds during the period from 1st of February 2015 to 31st of March 2016 in English language with the special approval of the House; and
 - (ii) Final Report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry to investigate on Serious Acts of Fraud, Corruption and Abuse of Power, State Resources and privileges in Sinhala language with the special approval of the House.

Ordered that the said Reports do lie upon the Table.

- (6) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways 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 South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine Ltd. as a Bachelor of Science Honours in Bio Systems Degree and Colombo International Nautical and Engineering College (Private) Limited as Bachelor of Management Honours in Retail Marketing and Branding and Bachelor of Management Honours in Supply Chain Management Degrees Awarding Institutes and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2047/26 of 28th November 2017; and
 - (ii) Order made by the Minister of Higher Education and Highways under Section 27(1)(b) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 regarding South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine (SAITM) (Pvt) Ltd. and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2049/15 of 12th December 2017 amending the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1829/36 published on 26th September 2013 amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1721/19 published on 30th August 2011

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

Question put, and agreed to.

- (7) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —
- (i) Annual Report of the National Science Foundation for the year 2015; and
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission for the year 2015

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

Question put, and agreed to.

- (8) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the —
- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the year 2015; and
 - (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 44 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971, relating to Merchant Shipping (Small Commercial Vessels) Regulations 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2017/31 of 04th May 2017

and moved that this Report and Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine under Section 142 read with the Section 118 of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act, No. 5 of 2015 relating to National Medicines Regulatory Authority (Ceiling on Prices) Regulations No. 2 of 2016 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2049/31 of 14th December 2017 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health and Human Welfare, Social Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Cement Corporation for the year 2013 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Manufacturing and Services.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Report of the Department of National Physical Planning for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Performance Reports of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development for the years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources.

Question put, and agreed to.

(13) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Coconut Development Authority for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Lands.

Question put, and agreed to.

(14) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2014 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(15) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 14 of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 relating to Cess and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2047/2 of 27th November 2017 and moved that this Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. Nihal Galappaththi, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, the Chairperson of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Sustainable Development and Environment and Natural Resources presented the Report of the said Committee on, Fisheries (Regulation of Foreign Fishing Boats) (Amendment) Bill which was referred to the said committee.

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

4. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 28.10.2017 from Mr. M.A. Thilakarathne of Regional Forest Office, Meerigama; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 11.11.2017 from Mrs. S.A. Somalatha of Bogaha Sevana, Yatiwilla, Wa Uda.
- (2) Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma presented a petition dated 23.10.2017 from Mr. S.N. Mahawelage of No. 26, Wijaya Rajadahana, Meerigama.
- (3) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 30.11.2017 from Mr. A.K.W. Wijesekara of Colombo Road, Millawatiya, Kuruwita;
 - (ii) a petition dated 27.10.2017 from Mrs. A.M. Fasmiya of Nelugollakada, Rathmalgahawewa, Anuradhapura;
 - (iii) a petition dated 23.08.2017 from Mr. D.K. Jayathilake of No. 3/10, Court Road, Medawachchiya;
 - (iv) a petition dated 28.08.2017 from Mr. H. Senarathne of No. 245/3/A, Sigeru Road, Madiwela, Kotte;
 - (v) a petition dated 28.09.2017 from Mr. Ibura Lebbe Adampulle of Nithullagahaptiya, Kekunagolla;
 - (vi) a petition dated 02.10.2017 from Mr. K.A. Sunil of No. 53, Baduraliya Road, Agalawatta;
 - (vii) a petition dated 23.10.2017 from Mr. L.P. Jayasinghe of No. 107, P.S Perera Mawatha, Mampe, Piliyandala;
 - (viii) a petition dated 10.08.2017 from Mr. M.J. Mendis of Hettiwatta, Marawila Road, Naththandiya;
 - (ix) a petition dated 08.11.2017 from Mr. M.P.K. Malagammana of No. 1/29, Malagammana, Kulugammana, Kandy;
 - (x) a petition dated 26.11.2017 from Mr. M.T. Wijesekara of No. 1/30, Ranketha Place, Paropakara Mawatha, Boraesgamuwa;
 - (xi) a petition dated 15.11.2017 from Mr. Muhammadu Ikmail Nabsa of Horopola, Maha Elagamuwa;
 - (xii) a petition dated 05.10.2017 from Ms. N.D. Herath of No. 193/5, Piliyandala Road, Maharagama;
 - (xiii) a petition dated 04.12.2017 from Mrs. N.W.A.R.W. Nanayakkara of No. 44/7, Narangwala, Gampaha;

- (xiv) a petition dated 03.10.2017 from Mr. P.K. Premadasa of No. 582, Owitigala, Mathugama;
- (xv) a petition dated 27.09.2017 from Mr. P.L Upul Chandana of (Opposite Temple), Moragala, Meegahatenna; and
- (xvi) a petition dated 18.09.2017 from Mr. Premasiri Suwaris of No.126/5, Galkanuwa Road, Gorakana, Keselwatta.
- (4) Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya presented a petition dated 10.11.2017 from Ms. A.A.R. Damayanthi Amarasinghe of No. C/111/6, Kandehena, Dehimaduwa, Mawanella.
- (5) Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera presented a petition dated 28.03.2017 from Mr. D.N.R. Nandasiri of Gonahena, Kadawatha.
- (6) Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi presented a petition dated 18.09.2017 from Mr. T.V. Rohan Kumara of Pahalawatta, Ihalakeembiya, Galle.

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

5. Intellectual Property (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Industry and Commerce presented,— Bill to amend the Intellectual Property Act, No. 36 of 2003.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Monday, February 19, 2018 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

6. Trusts (Amendment) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Employment and Minister of Justice presented,— Bill to amend the Trusts Ordinance (Chapter 87).

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Monday, February 19, 2018 and to be printed and to be referred to the relevant Sectoral Oversight Committee.

7. Leave to introduce Bill (No. 1) : Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri seconded by Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Sri Natha Ahasthana International Buddhist Meditation Centre Performance Society.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order No. 47(5) to the Minister of Buddhasasana for Report.

8. Leave to introduce Bill (No. 2) : Hon. Ishak Rahuman seconded by Hon. Mohamed Navavi moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Nimal Rupasinghe Friendship Foundation.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order No. 47(5) to the Minister of Education for Report.

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

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 1.56 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2018.