



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 240.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, February 21, 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. 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. Gayantha Karunatileka, Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms and the Chief Government Whip

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

Hon. Daya Gamage, Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Minister of Sports

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, Minister of Agriculture

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. Sajith Premadasa, Minister of Housing and Construction

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen, Minister of Industry and Commerce

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, Minister of Public Administration and Management

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. Chandima Weerakkody, Minister of Skills Development and Vocational Training

Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, Minister of Power and Renewable Energy

Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply

Hon. Abdul Haleem, Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs

Hon. Kabir Hashim, Minister of Public Enterprise Development

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare, State Minister of Agriculture

Hon. T. B. Ekanayake, State Minister of Lands

Hon. Piyasena Gamage, State Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development

Hon. Dilan Perera, State Minister of Highways

Hon. Niroshan Perera, State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle, State Minister of City Planning and Water Supply

Hon. V. S. Radhakrishnan, State Minister of Education

Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi, State Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development

Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera, State Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe, State Minister of International Trade

Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah, State Minister of Rehabilitation and Resettlement

Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie, State Minister of National Integration and Reconciliation

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. Manusha Nanayakkara, Deputy Minister of Foreign Employment

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

Hon. H. M. M. Harees, Deputy Minister of Sports

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

Hon. Bandula Gunawardane

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. Lucky Jayawardana

Hon. K. Thuraiatretnasingam

Hon. Arumugan Thondaman

Hon. M. S. Thowfeek

Hon. Sirinal de Mel

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka

Hon. Douglas Devananda

Hon. Mohamed Navavi

Hon. Mohamadu Nazeer
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra
Hon. S. Premarathna
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
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. Thenuka Vidanagamage

Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shriritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. E. Saravanapavan
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sivamohan
Hon. Muthu Sivalingam
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe

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) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the University of Colombo for the year 2015;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies of University of Kelaniya for the year 2015; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka 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.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Research for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education and Human Resources Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy 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.

(4) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Reports of the Superior Courts Complex Board of Management for the years 2013 and 2014 and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Legal Affairs (anti - corruption) and Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees : Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication presented the Report of the said Committee on,

- (i) Regulations under the Merchant Shipping Act, No 52 of 1971; and
- (ii) Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203)

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

3. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Sajith Premadasa presented —
 - (i) a petition dated 23.10.2017 from Mr. E. M. Sunil Ranjith of Lakmini Stores, Uda Alupothdeniya, Gagulandeniya, Katuwana; and
 - (ii) a petition dated 18.06.2017 from Mr. S.H. Ajantha of No. 23/1, Maha Akurugoda, Thissamaharama.
- (2) Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa presented a petition dated 24.12.2017 from Mr. A.G. Piyasena of Officer In Charge, Race Course Ground, Nuwara Eliya.
- (3) Hon. S. M. Marikkar presented a petition dated 07.10.2017 from Mr. D.P Pematne of No. 182/7, Malagala, Padukka.

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

4. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne seconded by Hon. K. K. Piyadasa moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Dr. S.S. Gunawardana Indigenous Ayurveda Development Foundation.”

Question put, and agreed to.

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

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 47(5) to the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine for report.

5. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha seconded by Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Pothuwatawana Maha Viharaya Foundation.”

Question put, and agreed to.

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

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 47(5) to the Minister of Buddhasasana for report.

6. Regulation under the Motor Traffic Act : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation moved,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) read with Sections 21, 22, 23, 24 and 24A of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2032/36 of 18th August 2017, which was presented on 06.12.2017, be approved.

(At 2.03 p.m. Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.47 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,—That Hon. Velu Kumar do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.55 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Adjournment (Classification of Government Schools) : 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 6.18 p.m. adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday February 22, 2018.