



*(Eighth Parliament - First Session)*

No. 249.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, March 23, 2018 at 10.30 a.m.

### PRESENT :

**Hon. Karu Jayasuriya**, Speaker

**Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**, Deputy Chairman of Committees

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

**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 Public Enterprise and Kandy Development and Leader of the House of Parliament

**Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara**, Minister of Sports

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

**Hon. Duminda Dissanayake**, Minister of Agriculture

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

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

**Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**, Minister of Disaster Management

**Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development

**Hon. Malik Samarawickrama**, Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade

**Hon. Mangala Samaraweera**, Minister of Finance and Mass Media

**Hon. Ravindra Samaraweera**, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife

**Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne**, Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

**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. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture

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

**Hon. Mohan Lal Grero**, State Minister of Higher Education

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

**Hon. Ajith P. Perera**, State Minister of Power and Renewable Energy

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

**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. 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. J. C. Alawathuwala**, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs

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

**Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and  
Environment

**Hon. Palitha Kumara Thewarapperuma**, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs,  
Wayamba Development and Cultural 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. Ranjan Ramanayake**, Deputy Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and  
Kandyan Heritage

**Hon. Muthu Sivalingam**, Deputy Minister of Primary Industries

**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. Sisira Kumara Abeysekara**  
**Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**  
**Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage**  
**Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare**  
**Hon. Ravi Karunanayake**  
**Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar**  
**Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri**  
**Hon. Velu Kumar**  
**Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera**  
**Hon. Nihal Galappaththi**  
**Hon. Dinesh Gunawardana**  
**Hon. Bandula Gunawardane**  
**Hon. Edward Gunasekara**  
**Hon. Padma Udhayashantha Gunasekera**  
**Hon. S. M. Chandrasena**  
**Hon. D. V. Chanaka**  
**Hon. Sisira Jayakody**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa**  
**Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**  
**Hon. Anura Sidney Jayarathne**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana**  
**Hon. Lucky Jayawardana**  
**Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah**  
**Hon. K. Thuraiatretnasingam**  
**Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon**  
**Hon. M. S. Thowfeek**  
**Hon. Sirinal de Mel**  
**Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva**  
**Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa**  
**Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka**  
**Hon. Weerakumara Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Salinda Dissanayake**  
**Hon. Mohamed Navavi**  
**Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. Buddhika Pathirana**  
**Hon. K. K. Piyadasa**

**Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera**  
**Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera**  
**Hon. Ashoka Priyantha**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Hirunika Premachandra**  
**Hon. S. Premarathna**  
**Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda**  
**Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya**  
**Hon. Muhammad Ibrahim Muhammad Mansoor**  
**Hon. Imran Maharroof**  
**Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe**  
**Hon. S. C. Mutukumarana**  
**Hon. Seeniththamby Yoheswaran**  
**Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero**  
**Hon. Bimal Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahuman**  
**Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna**  
**Hon. Gamini Lokuge**  
**Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**  
**Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne**  
**Hon. A. A. Wijethunga**  
**Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna**  
**Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna**  
**Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri**  
**Hon. Duleep Wijesekera**  
**Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera**  
**Hon. Heshan Withanage**  
**Hon. Wimal Weerawansa**  
**Hon. Kumara Welgama**  
**Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Shanthi Sriskandarasa**  
**Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**  
**Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe**  
**Hon. Rajavarothiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament**  
**Hon. Vadivel Suresh**  
**Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah**

**Hon. Chathura Sandeepa Senaratne**

**Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**

**Hon. Sunil Handunnetti**

**Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi**

**Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**

**Hon. Kanaka 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) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Police Commission for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Security.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Audit Service Commission for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the National Institute of Social Development for the year 2015 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 Annual Report of the National Building Research Organization 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.

(5) The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms presented the Annual Report of the Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka for the year 2014 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Transport and Communication.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade presented the Annual Report of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka for the year 2015 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade presented the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2049/59 of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 amended by the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2062/47 of 16<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and moved that this Order be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

## 2. Petitions :

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake presented —

- (i) a petition dated 15.01.2018 from Mr. G.I.D. Rajitha Madhusanka Yahampath of Udaya, Kuttiweligoda, Darga Town;
- (ii) a petition dated 18.08.2017 from Mr. Matugamage Pamarathne of No. 344, Dodamkumburawatta, Alawwa; and
- (iii) a petition dated 27.10.2017 from Mr. W.A Kasun Eranga Jayasekara of No. 45, Pandulagama, Anuradapura.

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

**3. Determination under the Constitution to revise the Salaries and Allowances of the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Superior Courts :** The Minister of Public Enterprise and Kandy Development on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,— Whereas the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Judges of the Court of Appeal shall be determined by Parliament, in terms of Article 108 (1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as amended by the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution;

And whereas the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted on 20.02.2018 according to the Cabinet Memorandum dated 17.02.2018 submitted by the President, to revise the salaries and allowances of the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Superior Courts with effect from 01.01.2018 as follows :—

- (a) To revise the salaries of the Chief Justice, Judges of the Supreme Court, President of the Court of Appeal and Judges of the Court of Appeal as set out in the Management Services Circular No. 3/2017 as mentioned in the document prepared by the Salaries and Cadre Commission and appended as Annexe I, with effect from 01.01.2018 and salary conversion to be effected on step by step basis;

- (b) To increase the pensionable allowance of 25% of the salary hitherto paid, up to 50% with effect from 01.01.2018 and to calculate the said allowance on the basis of the salary step of the newly revised salary; and
- (c) To pay a monthly professional allowance of Rs.150,000/- per month which is reckoned for pension purposes in place of the special non-pensionable allowance of Rs. 15,000/- per month which was paid.

Accordingly, that this Parliament determines that the salaries and allowances of the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Superior Courts be revised as aforementioned in terms of Article 108 (1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

## Annex - I

**The salary scales to be made applicable to Hon. Chief Justice and Judges of the Superior Courts effective 01.01.2018**

සේවා කාණ්ඩය			අධිකරණාධිකාරීන් විනිශ්චයකරුවන්	අභ්‍යන්තරාධිකාරීන් විනිශ්චයකරුවන්/අධිකරණාධිකාරීන්ගේ ප්‍රධානියා	අගවිනිශ්චය
Service Category			Appeal Court Judges	Puisne Judges/ President CA	Chief Justice
විද්වත් මණ්ඩල අංකය			පේ.පේ. 3 - 2016	පේ.පේ. 4 - 2016	පේ.පේ. 5 - 2016
Salary Code			JS 3-2016	JS 4-2016	JS 5-2016
1	2	3	4	4	4
			6,750	7,000	7,500
			5	5	5
1			136,000	140,000	150,000
2			141,750	147,000	157,500
3			148,500	154,000	165,000
4			155,250	161,000	172,500
5			162,000	168,000	180,000
6			168,750	175,000	187,500

\* To increase up to 50% effective 01.01.2018 the pensionable allowance which is hitherto paid as 25% of the salary and calculation of the said allowance based on the salary point of this new salary.

\*\* Payment of a professional allowance of Rs. 150,000/- per month which is reckoned for pension purposes in place of the special non-pensionable of Rs. 15,000/- per month which was paid.

Question put, and agreed to.

**4. Active Liability Management Bill : Order for Second Reading read.**

The Minister of Public Enterprise and Kandy Development on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 11.29 a.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

The State Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.00 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

The Minister of Rural Economic Affairs moved,—That Hon. Mujibur Rahuman do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.21 p.m. Hon. Mujibur Rahuman took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Enterprise and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardana do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.02 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardana took the Chair.)

(At 5.40 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

### **Suspension of Sitting**

6.05 p.m.

The sitting was suspended until 6.35 p.m.

6.35 p.m.

The Sitting was resumed. The Speaker took the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs 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 Speaker took the Chair.

### Clause 1

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs proposed an amendment to leave out line 3 in page 1 and substitute the following,—

“1. This Act may be cited as the Active Liability”;

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 2 was agreed to.



## Clause 3

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs proposed an amendment to leave out lines 12 to 14 (both inclusive) and substitute the following,—

“3. The Parliament may, during a particular financial year from time to time, by resolution, approve to raise sums of money, the total of which shall not exceed *ten per centum* of the total”.

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.

Clauses 4 to 8 were agreed to.

## Clause 9

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs proposed an amendment to leave out lines 1 to 13 (both inclusive) and substitute the following,—

“Protection for acts done in good faith. 9. (1) No member of the Monetary Board or officer or servant of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka shall be liable for any damage or loss suffered by the bank unless such damage or loss was caused by his misconduct or willful default.

(2) Every member of the Monetary Board and every officer or servant of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka shall be indemnified by the bank from all losses and expenses incurred by him in or about the discharge of his duties, other than such losses and expenses as the Monetary Board may deem to have been occasioned by his misconduct or willful default.”.

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.

Clauses 10 to 15 were agreed to.

## Long Title

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs proposed an amendment to leave out the Long Title and substitute the following,—

“AN ACT TO AUTHORISE THE RAISING OF LOANS IN OR OUTSIDE SRI LANKA FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACTIVE LIABILITY MANAGEMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC DEBT MANAGEMENT IN SRI LANKA AND TO MAKE PROVISIONS FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH OR INCIDENT THERETO.”;

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

Question that the Long Title, as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

## Enacting Clause

Question that the Enacting Clause stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

## Title

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs proposed the following amendment,—

“මෙම පනත සක්‍රීය වගකීම් කළමනාකරණ පනත” ලෙස හඳුන්වනු ලැබේ.

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

Question that the Title, as amended, stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to.

Bill reported with Amendments.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs 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.

**5. 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. 2044/32 of 09<sup>th</sup> November 2017, which was presented on 22.02.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**6. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.2) :** 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. 2045/32 of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017, which was presented on 22.02.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**7. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.3) :** 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. 2045/33 of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017, which was presented on 22.02.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**8. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.4) :** 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. 2046/14 of 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017, which was presented on 22.02.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

**9. Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.5) :** 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. 2047/25 of 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017, which was presented on 22.02.2018, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Public Enterprise and Kandy Development moved,—That Hon. Bimal Rathnayake do take the Chair.

(At 6.49 p.m. Hon. Bimal Rathnayake took the Chair.)

**10. Adjournment (Continuous Strike Action by Non-Academic Staff of Universities) :** The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; the Parliament was at 7.08 p.m. adjourned until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 03, 2018.