Business of the House for August 10, 2022

Date : 10-08-2022

The Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, the Speaker took the Chair.

Presentation of Papers

(i) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Census and Statistics for the year 2021
(ii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Inventors Commission for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020
(iii) Performance Reports of the Department of Agrarian Development for the years 2016, 2017 and 2018
(iv) Annual Performance Report of the State Ministry of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products for the year 2021
(v) Annual Performance Report of the Energy Section of the Ministry of Power and Energy for the year 2021
(vi) Annual Reports of the GSMB Technical Services (Pvt) Ltd for the years 2018/2019, 2019/2020 and 2020
(vii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment for the years 2018 and 2019

(viii) Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 22 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2286/27 of 30th June 2022
(ix) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Engineering in Electronics and Power Systems Degree and Bachelor of Science Honours in Engineering in Electronics and Telecommunications Degree awarded by SLT Campus (Pvt) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2240/13 of 10th August 2021.
(x) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Data Science Degree awarded by National School of Business Management Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2268/87 of 25th February 2022.
(xi) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Software Engineering Degree, Bachelor of Science Honours in Computer Networks & Cyber Security Degree and Bachelor of Science Honours in Management Information System Degree awarded by KAATSU - Highly Advanced Medical Technology Training Centre (Pvt) Limited (KIU) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2268/89 of 25th February 2022.
(xii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Post Graduate Diploma in Management awarded by the CINEC Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2268/90 of 25th February 2022.
(xiii) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science in Textile and Clothing Technology Degree awarded by SLT Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2272/06 of 21st March 2022.

(xiv) Order made by the Minister of Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Medical and Health Product Management Degree awarded by the CINEC Campus (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2276/26 of 21st April 2022

(xv) Report on the Submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 120(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on Independent Television Network of the Ministry of Mass Media in the report of the Committee on Public Enterprises which was presented to Parliament

Questions under Standing Order 27(2) of the Parliament

The Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero

Solutions for fuel crisis, electric vehicle importation and hike of price of electricity bill

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Transport and Highways and Minister of Mass Media and Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera, Minister of Power and Energy replied to the above Question.

Presentation of Bills

The Hon. Leader of the House of Parliament moved the following Bills entitled-

(i) Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation (Amendment) - to amend the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation Act, No. 6 of 1982.

(ii) Industrial Disputes (Amendment) - to amend the Industrial Disputes Act (Chapter 131).

(iii) Termination of Employment of Workmen (Special Provisions) (Amendment) - to amend the Termination of Employment of Workmen (Special Provisions) Act, No. 45 of 1971.

(iv) Industrial Disputes (Amendment) - to amend the Industrial Disputes Act (Chapter 131).

(v) The Hon. Minister of Justice, Prison Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved the Bill entitled

“Twenty Second Amendment to the Constitution”

to amend the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

House agreed to the following Motions moved by the Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha, the Leader of the House of Parliament-

(i) Ministerial Consultative Committees

Twenty Nine (29) Ministerial Consultative Committees be appointed to be designated as follows:—

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence
2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies
3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Technology
4. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment

5. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports, Shipping and Aviation
6. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Investment Promotion
7. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government
8. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries
9. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education
10. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport and Highways
11. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Mass Media
12. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health
13. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Water Supply
14. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture
15. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation
16. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms
17. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Tourism and Lands
18. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation Industries
19. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industries
20. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development and Housing
21. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Foreign Affairs
22. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs
23. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Power and Energy
24. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Environment
25. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Sports and Youth Affairs
26. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Irrigation
27. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour and Foreign Employment
28. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Security
29. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce and Food Security

Each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall consist of the Cabinet Minister in charge of the relevant subject as the Chair, State Minister, Deputy Minister and Five (5) other Members of Parliament to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to discuss and report upon such matters as are referred to the Committee in terms of Standing Order 112 of the Parliament;

The quorum of each Ministerial Consultative Committee shall be three (3) Members.

(ii) Legislative Standing Committee

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 113 of the Parliament, the Legislative Standing Committee shall consists of the Deputy Speaker as the Chair, the Deputy Chairperson of Committees and fifteen (15) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(iii) Committee on Parliamentary Business

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 115 of the Parliament, the Committee on Parliamentary Business shall consists of the Speaker as the Chair, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairperson of Committees, the Leader of the House of Parliament, the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, the Chief Government Whip, the Chief Opposition Whip and twenty one (21) other

Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(iv) Committee on Standing Orders

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 116 of the Parliament, the Committee on Standing Orders shall consists of the Speaker as the Chair, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairperson of Committees and nine (9) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(v) House Committee

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 117 of the Parliament, the House Committee shall consists of the Speaker as the Chair and fourteen (14) other Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(vi) Committee on Ethics and Privileges

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 118 of the Parliament, the Committee on Ethics and Privileges shall consists of sixteen (16) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(vii) Committee on Public Accounts

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 119 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Accounts shall consists of twenty two (22) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(viii) Committee on Public Enterprises

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 120 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Enterprises shall consists of twenty two (22) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(ix) Committee on Public Finance

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 121 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Finance shall consists of twenty one (21) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(x) Committee on Public Petitions

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 122 of the Parliament, the Committee on Public Petitions shall consists of twenty three (23) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

(xi) Backbencher Committee

That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 126 of the Parliament, the Backbencher Committee shall consists of the Chief Government Whip, the Chief Opposition Whip, eight (8) Backbenchers from the Government and eight (8) Backbenchers from the Opposition to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament.

Announcements by the Speaker

(i) Members to serve in the Committee on Parliamentary Business for the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament
(ii) Members to serve in the Committee on Public Finance for the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament
(iii) Meetings of Committee on Parliamentary Business and Committee of Selection
(iv) Members to serve in the Panel of Chairs for the Third Session of the Ninth Parliament

Adjournment Motion

Adjourned debate on “Statement of Government Policy made by the Honourable President on 03rd August 2022 in terms of Articles 32(4) and 33(a) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka” was continued.

The Parliament was, thereafter adjourned at 1730 Hrs. until 1000 Hrs. on Friday 12th August 2022.

** This is an unedited version. For the official record of this day's proceedings, please refer the Hansard.*