



(Eighth Parliament - First Session)

No. 179.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, July 06, 2017 at 10.30 a. 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. 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. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of Special Assignment

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. Mano Ganesan, Minister of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages

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. Navin Dissanayake, Minister of Plantation Industries

Hon. S. B. Dissanayake, Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage

Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife

- Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen**, Minister of Industry and Commerce
- Hon. Tilak Marapana**, Minister of Development Assignments
- Hon. Faiszer Musthapha**, Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government
- Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa**, Minister of Disaster Management
- Hon. Sagala Ratnayaka**, Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development
- Hon. Arjuna Ranatunga**, Minister of Petroleum Resources Development
- Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe**, Minister of Ports and Shipping
- Hon. W. D. J. Senewiratne**, Ministry of Labour, Trade Union Relations and Sabaragamu Development
- Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senaratne**, Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine
- 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. Abdul Haleem**, Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs
- Hon. P. Harrison**, Minister of Rural Economic Affairs
- Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka**, Minister of Regional Development
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- Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare**, State Minister of Agriculture
- Hon. A. D. Premadasa**, State Minister of Industry and Commerce Affairs
- Hon. (Mrs.) Vijayakala Maheswaran**, State Minister of Child Affairs
- Hon. Eran Wickramaratne**, State Minister of Finance
- 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. Lakshman Senewiratne**, State Minister of Science, Technology and Research
- Hon. M. L. A. M. Hizbullah**, State Minister of Rehabilitation and Resettlement
- 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. Anuradha Jayaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment
- 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. Susantha Punchinilame, Deputy Minister of Public Administration and Management

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

Hon. Duleep Wijsekera, Deputy Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs

Hon. Ameer Ali Shihabdeen, Deputy Minister of Rural Economic Affairs

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardana

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena

Hon. Sisira Kumara Abeysekera

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena

Hon. Dilum Amunugama

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage

Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri

Hon. Velu Kumar

Hon. Nalaka Prasad Colonne

Hon. Kaveendiran Kodeeswaran

Hon. Chandrasiri Gajadeera

Hon. Chandima Gamage

Hon. Siripala Gamalath

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila

Hon. Nihal Galappaththi

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena

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. Piyankara Jayaratne

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardana
Hon. Lucky Jayawardana
Hon. Mylvaganam Thilakarajah
Hon. K. Thurairtnasingam
Hon. Janaka Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Sirinal de Mel
Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka
Hon. Douglas Devananda
Hon. Mohamed Navavi
Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara
Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. K. K. Piyadasa
Hon. Sanath Nishantha Perera
Hon. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. Bandula Lal Bandarigoda
Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya
Hon. Vijitha Berugoda
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Abdullah Mahrooff
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Bimal Rathnayake
Hon. C. B. Rathnayake
Hon. Lohan Ratwatte
Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga
Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa

Hon. Angajan Ramanathan
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura
Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi
Hon. Vidura Wickramanayaka
Hon. (Dr.) Jayampathy Wickramaratne
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna
Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Kanchana Wijesekara
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. S. Viyalanderan
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. S. Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuthu Srineshan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe
Hon. Rajavarithiam Sampanthan, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. M. H. M. Salman
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Annamalai Nadesu Sivasakthi
Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah
Hon. Shehan Semasinghe
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Wijepala Hettiarachchi
Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath
Hon. Vijitha 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 Higher Education and Highways presented the Performance Report of the Department of Public Finance for the year 2016 and moved that this Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Higher Education and Highways presented the —

- (i) Performance and Financial Report of the District Secretariat - Colombo for the year 2016; and
- (ii) Annual Performance & Accounts Report of the District Secretariat - Batticaloa for the year 2016.

and moved that these Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from the Committees : (1) Hon. Sandith Samarasinghe, 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,—

- (i) Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Cey-Nor Foundation Limited for the year 2013;
- (iii) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency for the year 2013;
- (iv) Annual Report of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2014; and
- (v) Annual Report & Accounts of the National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency of Sri Lanka for the year 2014

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

(2) Hon. Gamini Lokuge, the Chairman of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Internal Administration and Public Management presented the Report of the said Committee on, —

- (i) Performance Report of the Department of Immigration and Emigration for the year 2015;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance for the year 2013;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Government for the year 2015;

- (iv) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2015;
- (v) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat-Jaffna for the year 2015;
- (vi) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat-Kalutara for the year 2015;
- (vii) Performance Report and Annual Accounts of the District Secretariat-Kilinochchi for the year 2015;
- (viii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat-Mannar for the year 2015;
- (ix) Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat- Monaragala for the year 2015;
- (x) Annual Performance and Accounts Reports of the District Secretariat-Mullaitivu for the year 2015;
- (xi) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat-Batticaloa for the year 2015;
- (xii) Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat-Trincomalee for the year 2015;
- (xiii) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat-Kandy for the year 2015;
- (xiv) Performance Report and Accounts of the District Secretariat, Kurunegala for the year 2015;
- (xv) Performance and Financial Report of the Colombo District Secretariat for the year 2015;
- (xvi) Annual Performance and Accounts Report of the District Secretariat of Matale for the year 2015; and
- (xvii) Annual Performance Report and Accounts of the Registrar General's Department for the year 2015

which were referred to the said Committee.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the Table.

3. Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Sunil Handunnetti presented a petition dated 28.04.2017 from Ms. P.S. Senarathna of No. 3/6, Wijethilakarama Road, Walgama, Matara.
- (2) Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka presented a petition dated 20.05.2017 from Mr. J.I. Noel Peiris of No. 06, P.M.B. Houses, Samapura, Ampara.

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

4. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana seconded by Hon. Ranjith Aluvihare presented,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Laila Umma Deen 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) of the Parliament, to the Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage for report.

5. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. K. Kader Masthan seconded by Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana presented,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Abdul Majeed Academy.”

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) of the Parliament, to the Minister of Education for report.

6. Regulations under the Merchant Shipping Act : The Minister of Higher Education and Highways on behalf of the Minister of Ports and Shipping moved,—That the Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 139 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971 relating to Verification of Container Gross Mass and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1979/30 dated 11th August 2016 which were presented on 21.02.2017, be approved.

(At 12.03 p.m. Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.30 p.m. Hon. Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 2.33 p.m. Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Higher Education and Highways moved,—That Hon. Edward Gunasekara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.30 p.m. Hon. Edward Gunasekara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Ports and Shipping moved,—That Hon. Lucky Jayawardena do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.58 p.m. Hon. Lucky Jayawardena took the Chair.)

(At 5.50 p.m. Hon. Speaker took the Chair.)

7. Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development 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 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed an amendment to leave out marginal note to section 28A in page 1 and substitute the following:-

“Prohibition of fishing operations utilizing bottom trawl nets”

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

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed another amendment to leave out lines 12 and 13 (both inclusive) in page 1 and substitute the following :-

“operations utilizing bottom trawl nets, including nets with or without two wings or using vertical poles at”

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

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed another amendment to leave out the line 17 in page 1 and substitute the following :-

“transport, purchase or sell any bottom trawl net, to be

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

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed another amendment to leave out the line 23 in page 1 and substitute the following :-

“fishing operations carried out by bottom trawl nets to”

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

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed another amendment to leave out the line 2 in page 2 and substitute the following :-

“fishing operations carried out utilizing bottom trawl”

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

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed another amendment to leave out the line 7 in page 2 and substitute the following :-

“use of bottom trawl nets and which is still in force on”

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 3 was agreed to.

Clause 4

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development proposed an amendment to leave out the line 28 in page 2 and substitute the following :-

““bottom trawl net” means a towing net having a cone”

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 5 and 6 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 with Amendments.

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development and State Minister of Mahaweli Development 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.

(At 6.27 p.m. Deputy Chairman of Committees took the Chair.)

8. Adjournment (Prefabricated Houses Unsuitable for North and East) : The Minister of Lands and Parliamentary Reforms moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

It being 7.30 p.m. the Deputy Chairman of Committees adjourned the Parliament without question put.

The Parliament accordingly adjourned until 10.30 a.m. on Friday, July 07, 2017 pursuant to the Resolutions of Parliament of 08 March, 2016.