



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 102.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Ajith Rajapakse, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration,
Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries

Hon. Tiran Alles, Minister of Public Security

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Transport and Highways and
Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Jeevan Thondaman, Minister of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure
Development

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Attorney at Law, Minister of Ports, Shipping and
Aviation

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara, Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Industries and Minister of Health

Hon. Harin Fernando, Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and
Youth Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha, Attorney at Law, Minister of Education and
Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Urban Development and Housing and Chief
Government Whip

Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Environment

Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, PC, Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and
Constitutional Reforms

Hon. (Mrs.) Pavithradevi Wanniarachchi, Attorney at Law, Minister of Wildlife
and Forest Resources Conservation and Minister of Irrigation

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. Ranjith Siyambalapitiya, Non Cabinet Minister of State Plantation
Enterprises Reforms and State Minister of Finance

Hon. Dilum Amunugama, State Minister of Investment Promotion

Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna, State Minister of Transport

Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar, State Minister of Education

Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage, State Minister of Tourism

Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan, State Minister of Rural Road Development

Hon. Sisira Jayakody, Attorney at Law, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, State Minister of Justice and Prison Affairs

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake, State Minister of Primary Industries

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, Attorney at Law, State Minister of
Agriculture

Hon. Rohana Dissanayaka, State Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs

Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion

Hon. Ashoka Priyantha, State Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Shantha Bandara, State Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Vijitha Berugoda, State Minister of Piriven Education

Hon. K. Kader Masthan, State Minister of Rural Economy

Hon. (Dr.) Suren Raghavan, State Minister of Higher Education

Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa, State Minister of Irrigation

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura, State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local
Government

Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage, State Minister of Urban Development and Housing

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance

Hon. Kanaka Herath, State Minister of Technology

Hon. D. B. Herath, State Minister of Livestock Development

Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah

Hon. Kapila Athukorala

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law

Hon. Sampath Athukorala

Hon. Tissa Attanayake

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Wajira Abeywardana

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe

Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Dr.) Major Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Akila Ellawala
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Selvarajah Kajendren
Hon. Govindan Karunakaram
Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney at Law
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. Udaya Gammanpila
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa
Hon. S. M. Chandrasena
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara

Hon. M. S. Thowfeek
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G. G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Johnston Fernando
Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka

Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Nimal Lanza
Hon. Gamini Lokuge
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. Samanpriya Herath

Hon. Marjan Faleel

Hon. A. H. M. Fowzie

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Chaminda Kularathne, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary General of Parliament

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathne, 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 Parliament that the Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri, Member of Parliament has tendered his letter of resignation from his Membership of Parliament to the Secretary-General of Parliament. The Letter of Resignation will now be read out by the Secretary-General of Parliament.”



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Chaminda Wijesiri
Member of Parliament - Galle District
North Galle, Galle District, Galle,
Sri Lanka.

2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker table the rules made by the Constitutional Council under paragraph (3) of Article 41G of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka read with Articles 41B, 41C, 41D and 41 E of the Constitution and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2364/40 of 31st December 2023.

Ordered that, the said Papers do lie upon the **Table**.

(2) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the 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 Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies in the report of the Committee on Public Enterprises which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Enterprises.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on An Open & Accountable Government.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the Local Loans and Development Fund for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the—

- (i) Annual Reports of the National Institute of Education for the years 2019 and 2020; and
- (ii) Forty Fourth Annual Report of the University Grants Commission for the year 2022.

and moved that, those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Report on the submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Aviation in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital and Postgraduate Medical Training Center for the year 2021 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Textile Industry for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on National Economic and Physical Plans.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Urban Development and Housing presented the Annual Report of the Gem and Jewellery Research and Training Institute for the year 2022 and moved that the Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Natural Resources & Sustainable Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Committee Reports: (1) Hon. K.P.S. Kumarasiri Member of the Committee on behalf of the Hon. W.D. J. Senevirathne Attorney at Law, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Just and a Law-Abiding Society on—

- (i) Notaries (Amendment) Bill;
- (ii) Powers of Attorney (Amendment) Bill; and
- (iii) Prevention of Frauds (Amendment) Bill

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) The Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithrarachchi Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on An Open & Accountable Government presented the Report of the said Committee on the Judges of the Superior Court – Head 04 for the year 2022 which was referred to the said Committee.

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

(3) The Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithrarachchi the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on An Open & Accountable Government on presented the Report of the said Committee on —

- (i) Annual Performance and Financial Report of the District Secretariat-Colombo for the year 2022; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption for the year 2022

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(4) The Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda, Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy and Transport presented the Report of the said Committee on “Proposal for reducing the Electricity Bill in January 2024”.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Anura Dissanayaka presented a petition dated 30.09.2023 from Mrs. S.M.V. Dilka of Kethiganavila, Dombagoda, Horana.
- (2) Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera presented a petition dated 21.09.2023 from Mrs. H.S.R. Fonseka of ‘Prasad’, Mananduwa Road, Panapitiya, Waskaduwa, Kalutara.
- (3) Hon. Asanka Navarathna presented a petition dated 20.07.2023 from Mr. M.A. Dayananda of Galpoththawala, Vineethagama, Badulla.

The Petitions stood referred under Standing Order 30(10) of the Parliament, to the Committee on Public Petitions.

5. Anti Terrorism: The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms presented,— Bill to make provision for the protection of the National Security of Sri Lanka and the people of Sri Lanka from acts of terrorism, other offences associated with terrorism and certain specified acts constituting the offence of terrorism committed within or outside Sri Lanka; for the prevention of the use of Sri Lankan territory and its people for the preparation for terrorism outside Sri Lanka; to provide for the detection, identification, apprehension, arrest, detention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of any person who has committed an act of terrorism or any other offence associated with terrorism; for the repeal of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act, No. 48 of 1979; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, January 24th, 2024, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Just and Law–Abiding Society.

6. Business of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 7 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day’s sitting from the provisions of Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Select Committee of Parliament to look into and identify the mechanisms to be implemented in order to immediately control and eradicate the rapidly spreading drug menace in the country and to submit observations and recommendations to Parliament in that regard: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the time period granted to the Select Committee of Parliament to look into and identify the mechanisms to be implemented in order to immediately control and eradicate the rapidly spreading drug menace in the country and

to submit observations and recommendations to Parliament in that regard, as specified in the Resolution passed by Parliament on 08th June 2023 be extended up to 27th April 2024 in terms of Standing Order 102 of the Parliament as the Committee needs further time to report its observations to Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Contempt of a Court, Tribunal or Institution Bill— Order read for resuming the adjourned debate on question (08th November 2023) [1].

“That the Bill be now read a Second Time”, question again proposed; and debate resumed.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 11.53 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Education moved,— That Hon. Samanpriya Herath do take the Chair.

Question put and agreed to.

(At 1.20 p.m. Hon. Samanpriya Herath took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That Hon. Premnath C. Dolowatta, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put and agreed to.

(At 3.09 p.m. Hon. Premnath C. Dolowatta, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

The Hon. Prof. Tissa Witharana, seconded by Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney-at law moved,— That Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna do take the Chair.

Question put and agreed to.

(At 4.10 p.m. Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna took the Chair.)

(At 4.22 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 12 in page 1.

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 7 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“(b) interfere with, or cause grave prejudice to the judicial”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 21 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“that is false which, or doing any”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 25 in page 2 and substitute the following:—

“(ii) gravely prejudices, or unlawfully interferes with, the
due course”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to insert the following immediately after the line 21 in page 3 :—

“(iv) tampering, altering or falsifying any audio or visual recording or
both of a proceeding of a court, tribunal or institution; or”;

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 4

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 1 and 2 in page 4 and substitute the following:—

“4. (1) Any publication or expression of accurate facts
made in good faith of a judge or judicial officer or,
proceeding, judgment or order of a court,”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 6 in page 4 and substitute the following:—

“prejudice to such judge or judicial officer or, proceeding,
judgement or order is merely”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 9 in page 4 and substitute the following:—

“(a) of accurate facts of any case or”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 13 in page 4 and substitute the following:—

“(b) of fair comments on the merits of any judgment or order of a
court, or action or”;

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.

Clause 7

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 10 in page 6 and substitute the following:—

“ issued on him signed by the Registrar of the Court,
giving particulars in writing of the”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 17 in page 6 and substitute the following:—

“ may be, shall, after affording the person charged
with contempt of court an opportunity to furnish an
affidavit in defence and hearing the person charged
with contempt”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 23 to 30 (both inclusive) in page 6 and substitute the following:—

“(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in the preceding provisions of this section, where a person charged with contempt of court under subsection (1) applies, whether orally or in writing, to have the charge against him tried by some Judge or Judges other than the Judge or Judges in whose presence or hearing the contempt of court is alleged to have been committed, the Court shall cause the matter to be placed, together with a statement of the facts of the case, before the Chief Justice or the President of the Court of Appeal as the case may be, for such directions as the Chief Justice or the President of the Court of Appeal as the case may be, may think fit to issue with respect to the trial of the charge.”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 1 to 8 (both inclusive) in page 7.

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 15 in page 7.

“the statement of facts placed before the Chief Justice or the President of the Court of Appeal as the case may be, under ”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 27 to 32 (both inclusive) in page 7 and substitute the following:—

“(7) The Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal, as the case may be, may, pending the determination of a charge under this section, direct that such person be released on bail subject to such conditions as such Court may deem fit to impose.”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 1 and 2 in page 8.

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 8

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 9 to 11 (both inclusive) in page 8 and substitute the following:—

“(b) a motion filed by the Attorney-General together with any document or thing in support of the motion; or

(c) a motion filed by any other person together with an affidavit and any document or thing in support of the motion.

(2) Every motion or affidavit filed under subsection (1) shall set out”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 16 in page 8 and substitute the following:—

“may be, shall, after perusing the motion and the affidavit, document or thing filed under”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 20 in page 8 and substitute the following:—

“(a) cause a rule to be issued on such person signed by the Registrar of the Court, giving”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 23 and 24 in page 8 and substitute the following:—

“(b) direct that such rule, together with a copy of the document filed under subsection (1), be served”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to insert the following immediately after line 26 in page 8.

“(4) On the date fixed for the hearing of the charge, the Attorney-General may lead the evidence of such witness relevant to the document filed under subsection (1), if necessary, subject to the right of cross-examination of the person charged with contempt of court.”;

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 9

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 24 to 26 (both inclusive) in page 9 and substitute the following:—

“(b) a motion filed by the Attorney-General together with any document or thing in support of the motion; or

(c) a motion filed by any other person together with an affidavit and any document or thing in support of the motion.

(2) Every reference made, or motion or affidavit filed under subsection”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 5 in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“ made or the motion or affidavit filed under subsection (1), as the case”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 10 in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“ (a) cause a rule to be issued on such person signed by the Registrar of the Court, giving”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 14 in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“reference or motion and document made or filed under subsection”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 17 to 21 (both inclusive) in page 10 and substitute the following:—

“(4) On the date fixed for the hearing of the charge, the Attorney General may lead the evidence of such witness relevant to the document filed under subsection (1), if necessary, subject to the right of cross-examination of the person charged with contempt.”;

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 10 was agreed to.

Clause 11

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 25 to 33 (both inclusive) in page 11.

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 1 to 32 (both inclusive) in page 12.

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 1 to 4 (both inclusive) in page 13.

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 12

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 5 to 13 (both inclusive) in page 13 and substitute the following:—

“12. (1) An appeal may lie from any order or decision of the Court of Appeal in the exercise of its jurisdiction to punish for contempt of itself and a Court of First Instance, tribunal or institution, as the case may be to the Supreme Court.”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 14 in page 13 and substitute the following:—

“(2) The Supreme Court may”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 20 and 21 in page 13.

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 13

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 6 and 7 (both inclusive) in page 14.

“of one year from the date on which such contempt was formally brought to the attention of that court.”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out lines 11 and 12 in page 14.

“the date on which such contempt was formally brought to the attention of that tribunal or institution.”;

Clauses 14 and 15 were agreed to.

Clause 16

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 17 in page 15 and substitute the following:—

“institution” means, an institution created and established by written law”;

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed another amendment to leave out line 1 in page 16 and substitute the following:—

“tribunal” means, a tribunal institution created and established by written law”;

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 17 was agreed to.

New Clause

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to insert the following immediately after the line 22 in page 4:—

“Non-disclosure of source of information	5. A person shall not be- (a) required to disclose, during the court proceedings; or (b) found guilty of contempt of court for refusing to disclose, the source of information contained in a publication for which he is responsible, unless it is established to the satisfaction of the court that disclosure is necessary in the interest of justice or national security or for the prevention of disorder or crime.”
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Question that the Clause be read a second time, put and agreed to.

Question that the Clause be added to the Bill, put and 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 Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

9. The Recognition and Enforcement of International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 17 were passed.

Enacting Clause and Title

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

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

10. Mediation Board (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 8 were passed.

Enacting Clause and Title

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

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

11. Powers of Attorney (Amendment) Bill: Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 7 were passed.

Enacting Clause and Title

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

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

12. Notaries (Amendment) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 5 and 11 (both inclusive) in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“2. Section 28 of the Notaries Ordinance (Chapter 107) (hereinafter referred to as the “principal enactment”) is hereby amended as follows:-

(1) by the repeal of subsection (1) thereof, and the substitution therefor of the following:-

“(1) For the purpose of obtaining such certificate a declaration in writing, signed by such notary, containing the following particulars:-

(a) his name and place or places of residence;

(b) the exact situation of his office or of each of his offices;

(c) the judicial zone in which he is authorized to practice,

shall be delivered to such Registrar.”;

(2) in subsection (1A) thereof, by the substitution for the words “Registrar of Lands.”, of the words and figures “Registrar of Lands and that any sum of money, if any has been imposed by the Registrar General in terms of section 35, has been paid.”.

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

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 13 in page 4 and substitute the following:—

“figures, “in the Form F 1”;

(9) in rule (29) thereof, by the substitution for the words “in the Form F”, of the words and figures, “in the Form F1”;
and”;

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 4 was agreed to.

Clause 5

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out lines 4 and 12 (both inclusive) in page 6 and substitute the following:—

“the following new form:-

“Form F1
Monthly list of the deeds

[section 31(26)]

List of deeds attested during the month of year.....

Name of the notary:

NIC No. of the notary

No:”

No	Deed No.	Date of Attestation	Name of the instrument	Grantor		Grantee		Registered District	Divisional Secretary's Division in which the land is situated	Name of the land	Local authority in which the land is situated	Consolidation	Stamp duty	
				Name and address	NIC No.	Name and address	NIC No.						Central Government	Provincial Council

”.

6. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that”

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 6 and 7 were agreed to.

New Clause

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to insert the following immediately after line 20 in page 5:—

“Amendment of section 43 of the principal enactment 5. Section 43 of the principal enactment is hereby amended by the repeal of the definition of the expression “executant”.”.

Question that the Clause be read a second time, put and agreed to.

Question that the Clause be added to the Bill, put and 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 Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

13. Prevention of Frauds (Amendment) Bill: Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms 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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clause 2

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms proposed an amendment to leave out line 8 in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“ subsection (1) ;

(2) in the renumbered subsection (1) thereof-

(a) by the repeal of paragraph (a), and the substitution of the following:-

“ (a) the relevant deed or instrument shall be in writing, signed by every executant or by any person duly authorized by such executant and the witnesses in the presence of a licenced notary public present at the same time and in the presence of one another, and the same shall be attested by such notary; and”;

(b) in paragraph (b), by the substitution for the words, “the relevant deed or instrument:” of the words, “the relevant deed or instrument, in the presence of such notary public and the witnesses:”.

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.

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 Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, as amended, accordingly read the third time and passed.

14. Resolution under the Essential Public Services Act: The Minister of Education on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,—That this Parliament resolves that the Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2365/29 of 03rd January 2024 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979, which was presented on 09.01.2024, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

15. Adjournment : .And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Deputy Speaker without question put.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, January 11th, 2024.