



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 50.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, May 08, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Wickramaratne, Speaker

Hon. (Dr.) Rizvie Salih, Deputy Speaker and the Chair of Committees

Hon. (Mrs.) Hemali Weerasekara, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

Hon. Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Hon. (Prof.) A.H.M.H. Abayarathna, Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. (Dr.) Chrishantha Abeysena, Minister of Science and Technology

Hon. Anura Karunathilaka, Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing

Hon. Sunil Kumara Gamage, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

Hon. Ramalingam Chandrasekar, Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources

Hon. Kumara Jayakody, Minister of Energy

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayatissa, Minister of Health and Mass Media and Chief Government Whip

Hon. (Dr.) Anil Jayantha, Minister of Labour and Deputy Minister of Economic Development

Hon. Harshana Nanayakkara, Attorney at Law, Minister of Justice and National Integration

Hon. (Dr.) Dammika Patabendi, Minister of Environment

Hon. (Dr.) Upali Pannilage, Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment

Hon. (Mrs.) Saroja Savithri Paulraj, Minister of Women and Child Affairs

Hon. Bimal Rathnayake, Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. K.V. Samantha Viddyaratna, Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure

- Hon. Wasantha Samarasinghe**, Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development
- Hon. (Dr.) Hiniduma Sunil Senevi**, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs
- Hon. Sunil Handunnetti**, Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development
- Hon. Vijitha Herath**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism
- Hon. Sajith Premadasa**, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
- Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development
- Hon. Namal Karunaratne**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock
- Hon. Janitha Ruwan Kodithuwakku**, Deputy Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation
- Hon. Rathna Gamage**, Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources
- Hon. Eranga Gunasekara**, Deputy Minister of Youth Affairs
- Hon. (Dr.) Prasanna Gunasena**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Highways
- Hon. Anton Jayakody**, Deputy Minister of Environment
- Hon. R.M. Jayawardhana**, Deputy Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security
- Hon. Mahinda Jayasinghe**, Deputy Minister of Labour
- Hon. Major General (Rtd.) Aruna Jayasekera**, Deputy Minister of Defence
- Hon. Sugath Thilakaratne**, Deputy Minister of Sports
- Hon. Gamagedara Dissanayake**, Deputy Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs
- Hon. Wasantha Piyathissa**, Deputy Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment
- Hon. Sundaralingam Pradeep**, Deputy Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure
- Hon. Muneer Mulafter**, Deputy Minister of National Integration
- Hon. (Prof.) Ruwan Ranasinghe**, Deputy Minister of Tourism
- Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney at Law**, Deputy Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs
- Hon. (Dr.) Hansaka Wijemuni**, Deputy Minister of Health and Mass Media
- Hon. Eranga Weeraratne**, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy
- Hon. T. B. Sarath**, Deputy Minister of Housing
- Hon. (Dr.) Namal Sudarshana**, Deputy Minister of Women and Child Affairs
- Hon. (Dr.) Harshana Suriyapperuma**, Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning
- Hon. P. Ruwan Senarath**, Deputy Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. (Dr.) Madhura Senevirathna, Deputy Minister of Education and Higher Education

Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Ajith Agalakada

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Prof.) L.M. Abeywickrama

Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala

Hon. M.K.M. Aslam

Hon. Hessa Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

Hon. (Dr.)(Ms.) Kaushalya Ariyaratne

Hon. B. Ariyawansa

Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika

Hon. K. Ilankumaran

Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga

Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi

Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC

Hon. Upul Kithsiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law

Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan

Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara

Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani

Hon. Mano Ganesan

Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage

Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage

Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Ashoka Gunasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Gayan Janaka
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law
Hon. T.K. Jayasundara
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. (Dr.) Sellaththamby Thilaganathan
Hon. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Dharmapriya Dissanayake
Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna
Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. Nimal Palihena
Hon. Nishantha Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera

Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G.G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Nanda Bandara
Hon. Padmasiri Bandara
Hon. Ravindra Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Balagalla
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
Hon. E.M. Basnayaka
Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. (Dr.) Sandaruwan Madarasinghe
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. Jagath Manuwarna
Hon. S.M. Marikkar
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Suranga Rathnayaka
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Manoj Rajapaksha
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha

Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
Hon. (Mrs.) Deepthi Wasalage
Hon. Nayana Wasalathilaka
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. Thilina Samarakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel
Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi
Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara
Hon. Aravinda Senarath
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
Hon. Dinindu Saman Hennayake
Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dinesh Hemantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Muhammad Faizal
Hon. Riyas Farook

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament
 Mr. Chaminda Kularatne, 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. Official Oath or Affirmation by new Members: Hon. Rathnayaka Mudiyansele Samantha Ranasingha, Member of Parliament for Kegalle Electoral District, made and subscribed the Affirmation required by Law and signed the Member's Roll at the Table.

2. Messages from the President: The Speaker read the following message received from the President:—



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 இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
 President of Sri Lanka

My No. PS/CSA/00/7/IX/3/01

April 22, 2025

Hon. I.W.M. Jagath Wickramaratne
 Speaker
 Parliament of Sri Lanka

Hon. Speaker,

The Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40)

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Section 12 of the Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40), I have issued an order to the effect that all members of the Armed Forces specified in the First Schedule are summoned for the maintenance of Public Order in the areas specified in Second Schedule thereof taking into consideration the need for the Public Order to be maintained.

Accordingly, I hereby inform the Parliament of the said Order in terms of Section 2(3) of the aforesaid Ordinance read with Section 21(2) thereof.

Yours sincerely,


 Anura Kumara Dissanayake
 President

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 Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

3. Announcements by the Speaker: The Speaker made the following announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bills titled ‘Value Added Tax (Amendment)’ on 11th of April 2025 and ‘Proceeds of Crime’ on 30th of April 2025 in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

II

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have received a copy of a petition filed in the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled ‘Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment)’.”

III

“A motion may be moved to refer the Question of Privilege raised by the Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake, M.P., in Parliament on 18th March 2025 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

IV

“I wish to inform that the following Members have also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve on the Committee on Parliamentary Business, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 115 of Parliament, as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 19 March 2025:—

Hon. Wasantha Samarasinghe

Hon. Sundaralingam Pradeep

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa”

V

“I wish to inform that the following Member has also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve on the Committee on Public Accounts, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 119 of Parliament, as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 19 March 2025:—

Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri”

VI

“I wish to inform that the following Members have also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve on the Committee on Public Enterprises, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 120 of Parliament, as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 19 March 2025:—

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

Hon. Arkam Ilyas

Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran”

VII

“I wish to inform that the following Members have been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve on the each Sectoral Oversight Committees mentioned below, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 111 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 17 March 2025:—

1. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi

Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law

Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu

Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake

Hon. Thilina Samarakoon

Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law

2. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

Hon. K. Ilankumaran

Hon. Ravindra Bandara

Hon. Danushka Ranganath

Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana

Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law

3. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi

Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage

Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva

Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake

Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha

Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha

4. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment

Hon. Muneer Mulaffer
 Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe
 Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
 Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara
 Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
 Hon. Jagath Manuwarna
 Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama

5. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana
 Hon. Upul Kithsiri
 Hon. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani
 Hon. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna
 Hon. Sudath Balagalla
 Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
 Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law

6. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation

Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe
 Hon. Arkam Ilyas
 Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage
 Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
 Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
 Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna
 Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi”

VIII

“I table in all three languages the lists of names of the members have also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve in the Ministerial Consultative Committees during the First Session of the Tenth Parliament in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 112 of Parliament and as per the motions agreed to by Parliament on 19 March 2025:-

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education;
3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism;
4. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation;
5. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation;
6. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industry and Entrepreneurship Development;
7. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources;
8. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour;
9. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation and Community Infrastructure;
10. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development, Construction and Housing;
11. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health and Mass Media;
12. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government;
13. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Women and Child Affairs;
14. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Rural Development, Social Security and Community empowerment;
15. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs;
16. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Science and Technology;
17. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Energy;
18. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence;
19. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Digital Economy;
20. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Environment;
21. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports;
22. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice and National Integration;
23. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs; and
24. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Hon. Sunil Kumara Gamage
Hon. (Prof.) Ruwan Ranasinghe
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Hon. Mahinda Jayasinghe
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation

Hon. Wasantha Piyathissa
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi
Hon. K. Ilankumaran
Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri
Hon. Muhammad Faizal

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Industry and Entrepreneurship Development

Hon. Wasantha Piyathissa
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Ravindra Bandara

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources

Hon. Janitha Ruwan Kodithuwakku

Hon. (Dr.) Susil Ranasinghe

Hon. P. Ruwan Senarath

Hon. Arun Hemachandra

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Labour

Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran

Hon. Lal Premanath

Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj

Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Plantation and Community Infrastructure

Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage

Hon. Jagath Manuwarna

Hon. Aravinda Senarath

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development, Construction and Housing

Hon. R.M. Jayawardhana

Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney at Law

Hon. Chandana Thennakoon

Hon. Dinindu Saman Hennayake

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health and Mass Media

Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga

Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody

Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera

Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government

Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake

Hon. Ajith Gihan

Hon. E.M. Basnayaka

Hon. Dewananda Suraweera

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Women and Child Affairs

Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law

Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva

Hon. Athula Welandagoda

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment

Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara

Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran

Hon. E.M. Basnayaka

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) Chrishantha Abeysena

Hon. Muneer Mulaffer

Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama

Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Science and Technology

Hon. R.M. Jayawardhana

Hon. (Dr.) Hansaka Wijemuni

Hon. Eranga Weeraratne

Hon. (Dr.) Namal Sudarshana

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Energy

Hon. Anton Jayakody

Hon. Sugath Thilakaratne

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana

Hon. Ashoka Gunasena

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Defence

Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law

Hon. Nishantha Perera

Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Digital Economy

Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe
Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Environment

Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage
Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana
Hon. K. Ilankumaran
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Dinesh Hemantha
Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice and National Integration

Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney at Law
Hon. Arun Hemachandra
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs

Hon. Rathna Gamage
Hon. Major General (Rtd.) Aruna Jayasekera
Hon. Gamagedara Dissanayake
Hon. T. B. Sarath

Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development

Hon. Namal Karunaratne
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu”

4. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker presented the —

- (i) Third Installment – Part XIX of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2017;
- (ii) Second Installment – Part LXIII and Ninth Installment – Part XLIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2022; and
- (iii) Second Installment – Part XL, Third Installment – Part XVII and Ninth Installment – Part XXIII of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2023

in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

Ordered that the said Reports do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

(2) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Uva Wellassa University for the year 2022;
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Education Commission for the year 2023; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education for the year 2023

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2023;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2023;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Bank of Ceylon for the year 2023;
- (iv) Annual Report of the People's Bank for the year 2023; and
- (v) Annual Report of the State Mortgage and Investment Bank for the year 2023

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the —

- (i) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2428/07 of 19th March 2025;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 2(1) of the Finance Act, No. 25 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/30 of 31st January 2025;
- (iii) Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 19 read with Section 51 of the Finance Act, No. 35 of 2018 relating to Luxury Tax on Motor Vehicles and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/41 of 31st January 2025; and
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, as amended, relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/42 of 31st January 2025

and moved that the Regulations, Orders and Notification be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education under Section 27(1) read with Section 21 of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of a Department of Nutrition and Dietetics of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2418/26 of 08th January 2025;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 19(A) of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) as Amended by the Customs (Amendment) Law No. 35 of 1974 and the Customs (Amendment) Act, No. 83 of 1988 relating to Customs Import Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2425/18 of 25th February 2025; and
- (iii) Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Development Activities Programme appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.03.2025 to 27.03.2025 in terms of Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 3 of 2025.

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

(6) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation for the year 2022 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Milco (Pvt) Ltd for the year 2020; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Land Reform Commission for the year 2023

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Tea Board for the year 2023 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing presented the Performance Report of the Department of Government Factory for the year 2023 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Energy presented the Annual Report of the Petroleum Development Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2021 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(11) The Minister of Justice and National Integration presented the Annual Report of the Office for Reparations - Sri Lanka for the year 2023 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection.

Question put, and agreed to.

(12) The Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment presented the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Sri Lanka Social Security Board for the year 2023 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Presentation of Reports from Committees: The Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on the Resolution under the Schedule “A” of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties (Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/05 dated 27th January 2025 and presented to Parliament on 09th April 2025) which were referred to the said Committee.

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

6. Presentation of Public Petitions:

(1) Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga presented—

- (i) A petition dated 20.02.2025 from Mrs. B.H.G. Nayani Renuka of No. 723/80, 5th By Lane, Lake Terrace, Oruwala, Athurugiriya;
- (ii) A petition dated 14.02.2025 from Mr. L. P. Karunaratna of No. 145, Pushparama Mawatha, Pahala Biyanwala, Kadawatha;
- (iii) A petition dated 10.02.2025 from Mr. M.D.S. Wijethunga of No. 238, Rajanganaya Road, Thambuththegama;
- (iv) A petition dated 27.03.2025 from Mr. Priyantha Wickramasekara of No. 31, Nawimana Road, Weradoova, Matara;
- (v) A petition dated 13.02.2025 from Mr. Rohan Alwis Kotalawala of No. 45/1, St. Jude Road, Ederamulla, Wattala;
- (vi) A petition dated 01.04.2025 from Mrs. Shriyani Hettiwattage of No. 129, Uda Iriyagama, Peradeniya; and
- (vii) A petition dated 24.11.2024 from Mrs. T. Apsara Jeewangani of D-4, House in Front, Dhyanaagama, Trincomalee.

(2) Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana presented—

- (i) A petition dated 05.12.2024 from Mrs. A. M. Priya Damayanthi of No. 58/5 B, Wewella Road, Kandy;
- (ii) A petition dated 10.02.2025 from Mr. D. H. Gamage of 67 B, Podujana Mawatha, Walana, Panadura; and
- (iii) A petition dated 10.12.2024 from Mr. P.G.C. Senewirathna of No. 648 B, Kapu Wewa Road, Ragama.

(3) Hon. Dewananda Suraweera presented—

- (i) A petition dated 20.01.2025 from Mrs. G. Suneetha Perera of No. 202/A, 3rd Lane, Weda Mawatha, Thumbowila, Piliyandala; and
- (ii) A petition dated 08.02.2025 from Mrs. K. D. Neelika Athukorala of No. 75/49 F, Araliya Uyana, Depanama, Pannipitiya.

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

7. Foreign Loans (Repeal): The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented,— Bill to repeal the Foreign Loans Act, No. 29 of 1957.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Thursday, May 22, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

8. Personal Data Protection (Amendment): The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented,— Bill to amend the Personal Data Protection Act, No. 9 of 2022.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Thursday, May 22, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation.

9. National Transport Commission (Amendment): The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation presented,— Bill to amend the National Transport Commission Act, No. 37 of 1991.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Thursday, May 22, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development.

10. Leave to introduce Bill: Hon. Ravi Karunanayake, seconded by Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to repeal the Online Safety Act, No. 9 of 2024.”

Question put, and agreed to.

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

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament to the Minister of Health and Mass Media for report.

11. Resolution under the Customs Ordinance: The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That the Resolution under the Schedule “A” of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties, which was presented on 09.04.2025, be approved.

(Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/05 of 27th January 2025)

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

(At 1.00 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development moved,—That Hon. Aravinda Senarath do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.33 p.m. Hon. Aravinda Senarath took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

12. Adjournment: And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Friday, May 09, 2025.