



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 56.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, June 03, 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. 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. Ananda Wijepala, Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs

Hon. K.V. Samantha Viddyarathna, 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. 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. (Dr.) Susil Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister of Land and Irrigation

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. Arun Hemachandra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Employment

Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Ajith Agalakada

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

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

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardhana

Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Prof.) L.M. Abeywickrama

Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe

Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna

Hon. M.K.M. Aslam

Hon. Hessa Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

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

Hon. B. Ariyawansa

Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika

Hon. K. Ilankumaran

Hon. Arkam Ilyas

Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe

Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga

Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi

Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC

Hon. Upul Kithsiri

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

Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan

Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara

Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara

Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law

Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran

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

Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Ajith Gihan
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. 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. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
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. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara

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. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Amila Prasad
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Nanda Bandara
Hon. Padmasiri 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. Jagath Manuwarna
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka
Hon. (Mrs.) A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran

Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
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. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. Thilina Samarakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel
Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath
Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi
Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
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

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. 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

May 26, 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

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

I

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill titled ‘Foreign Loans (Repeal)’ on 23rd of May 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 the Parliament that I have received a copy of a petition filed at the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled ‘Sri Lanka Electricity (Amendment)’.”

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

- (i) Second Installment – Part LXIV of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2022; and
- (ii) Second Installment – Parts XLIII and XLIV and Ninth Installment – Parts XXV and XXVI 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 Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 3 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2429/39 of 27th March 2025;
- (ii) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 20 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by Act, No. 48 of 1985 and Act, No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2434/12 of 29th April 2025; and
- (iii) Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 20 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by Act, No. 48 of 1985 and Act, No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2435/02 of 05th May 2025

and moved that the Order and the Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the —

- (i) Order made by the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education under Section 24A (1) of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 in consultation with the University Grants Commission with regard to the establishment of the Institute of Allergology and Immunology of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura and assign the name and style to such Institute and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2424/58 of 20th February 2025; and
- (ii) 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 28.03.2025 to 30.04.2025 in terms of Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 3 of 2025.

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

(4) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka for the year 2023 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development presented the Annual Report of the BCC Lanka Limited for the year 2022/2023 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports under Section 34 read with Section 3 of the Convention Against Doping in Sports Act, No. 33 of 2013 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2430/24 of 03rd April 2025 and moved that these Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Justice and National Integration presented the Orders made by the Minister of Justice and National Integration under Sections 2(1) and 1(2) of the Reciprocal Recognition, Registration and Enforcement of Foreign Judgements Act, No. 49 of 2024 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2429/51 of 28th March 2025 and moved that these Orders be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Justice and National Integration.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees: The Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation presented the Report of the Committee on the Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill which was referred to the said Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 03.03.2025 from Mr. K. A. Raja Shantha of Ranawiru Piyarathna Mawatha, Baddegama South, Baddegama; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 03.03.2025 from Mr. M. K. Saman of Liyanagoda, Habaraduwa.
- (2) Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage presented a petition dated 21.02.2025 from Mr. Bandula Pathirana of No. 26, Pasal Mawatha, Rahula Road, Matara.
- (3) Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 08.02.2025 from Mr. C.A.N.R. Perera of No. 7/1, Senavirathne Road, Old Town, Madampe.

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

6. National Minimum Wage of Workers (Amendment): The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation on behalf of the Minister of Labour presented,— Bill to amend the National Minimum Wage of Workers Act, No. 3 of 2016.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

7. Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers (Amendment): The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation on behalf of the Minister of Labour presented,— Bill to amend the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 4 of 2016.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

8. Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers (Amendment): The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation on behalf of the Minister of Labour presented,— Bill to amend the Budgetary Relief Allowance of Workers Act, No. 36 of 2005.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

9. Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill: Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing on behalf of the Minister of Digital Economy moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 12.01 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Health and Mass Media moved,—That Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.23 p.m. Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing on behalf of the Minister of Digital Economy moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Committee to be resolved on a future date.

10. Adjournment (Sustainable Solution for Flood Control in Kelani Valley):

The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 04, 2025.