



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 65.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, July 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. K.D. Lal Kantha, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation

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.) 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 Vidyarathna, Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure

Hon. Wasantha Samarasinghe, Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti, Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development

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. (Dr.) Susil Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister of Land and Irrigation

Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney at Law, Deputy Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs

Hon. Eranga Weeraratne, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy

Hon. Upali Samarasingha, Deputy Minister of Cooperative Development

Hon. T. B. Sarath, Deputy Minister of Housing

Hon. (Dr.) Namal Sudarshana, Deputy Minister of Women and Child Affairs

Hon. P. Ruwan Senarath, Deputy Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government

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

Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana

Hon. Ajith Agalakada

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardhana

Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Prof.) L.M. Abeywickrama

Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe

Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala

Hon. M.K.M. Aslam

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

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

Hon. B. Ariyawansa

Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika

Hon. Arkam Ilyas

Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe

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 Kugathan

Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara

Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara

Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law

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

Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran

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. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
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. Palani Thigambaram
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. R. M. Ranjith Madduma 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. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka
Hon. Suranga Rathnayaka
Hon. (Mrs.) A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Thuraiyasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman

Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
Hon. Manoj Rajapaksha
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Deepthi Wasalage
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Athula Welandagoda
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
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. Aravinda Senarath
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah
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. Mohamed Sheriff Abthul Wazeeth, Member of Parliament, 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

June 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

3. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker presented the Fourth Installment – Part I of the Report of the Auditor-General for the Financial Year 2024 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 presented the —

- (i) Performance Report of the Department of Government Valuation for the year 2024;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Excise Department of Sri Lanka for the year 2024;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Department of Public Finance for the year 2024;
- (iv) Performance Report of the Department of State Accounts for the year 2024;
- (v) Performance Report of the Department of Management Audit for the year 2024;
- (vi) Performance Report of the Department of Development Finance for the year 2024;
- (vii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Project Management and Monitoring for the year 2024;
- (viii) Performance Report of the Department of Imports and Exports Control for the year 2024;
- (ix) Performance Report of the Department of Information Technology Management for the year 2024;
- (x) Performance Report of the Department of National Budget for the year 2024;
- (xi) Performance Report of the Department of Legal Affairs for the year 2024;
- (xii) Performance Report of the Department of External Resources for the year 2024; and
- (xiii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of National Planning for the year 2024

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

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Performance Report of the National Police Commission for the year 2024;
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Finance Commission for the year 2024;
- (iii) Performance Report of the Audit Service Commission for the year 2024;
- (iv) Annual Performance Report of the Election Commission for the year 2024;
- (v) Annual Performance Report of the Public Service Commission for the year 2024; and
- (vi) Performance Report of the Presidential Secretariat for the year 2024

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Mass Media Division of the Ministry of Health and Mass Media for the year 2024; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Government Printing for the year 2024

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development under Section 84 read with Sections 64, 65, 66, 69 and 70 and Section 45(5) of Anti – Dumping and Countervailing Duties Act, No. 2 of 2018 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2429/32 of 27th March 2025 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development and Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government for the year 2024 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Urban Settlement Development Authority for the year 2023; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Urban Development, Construction and Housing for the year 2024

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports presented the —

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the year 2024; and
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Sports Development for the year 2024

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs for the year 2024 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Health and Mass presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Christian Religious Affairs for the year 2024 and moved that this Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on the Regulations 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 (Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.2437/04 dated 19th May 2025) which were referred to the said Committee.

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

(2) Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment presented the Report of the Committee on —

- (i) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Probation and Child Care Services for the year 2023; and
- (ii) Annual Reports of the National Child Protection Authority for the years 2022 & 2023

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(3) Hon. Aravinda Senarath, the Chair of the Committee on Public Accounts presented the First Report of the Committee on Public Accounts for the First Session of the Tenth Parliament.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Rathna Gamage presented a petition dated 25.03.2025 from Mr. K. D. H. S. S. De Silva of No. 350, Ganahena, Unawatuna.
- (2) Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 17.02.2025 from Mr. N P Samantha Wijesekara of Godagama, Ihalagama, Gokarella.

- (3) Hon. S.M. Marikkar presented—
- (i) A petition dated 19.12.2024 from Mr. H. Wimalasiri Caldera of No. 9/1 A, Vijayamangalarama Road, Kohuwala; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 18.12.2024 from Mr. W. Anura Shantha of No. 245/5, Sigera Road, Madiwela, Kotte.
- (4) Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 14.03.2025 from Mrs. J. M. A. D. Jayasinghe of No 126, Nawa Nugawela, Nayapana, Gampola.
- (5) Hon. Upul Kithsiri presented a petition dated 02.03.2025 from Mr. Dewa Jayasiri of G 3/7, Janawasa Housing Complex, Danduma, Sewanagala.
- (6) Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake presented a petition dated 15.03.2025 from Mr. E. M. A. Ekanayaka of 272/4, Chilaw Road, Wariyapola.
- (7) Hon. Aruna Panagoda presented a petition dated 08.03.2025 from Mr. Chandrasiri Weththasinghe Liyanage of No. 217/2, Sithumina Mawatha, Borella Road, Godagama, Homagama.
- (8) Hon. Nishantha Perera presented —
- (i) A petition dated 07.03.2025 from Mrs. D. R. Weragala and Two Others of 3rd Lane, Isuru Place, Boyagane;
 - (ii) A petition dated 11.03.2025 from Mr. D.M. Siriweera of No. 22, Pragathi Mawatha, Thotakanaththa, Haburugala;
 - (iii) A petition dated 14.03.2025 from Mrs. Damitha Hettige of 'Nuga Sevana', Hettigoda, Induruwa;
 - (iv) A petition dated 10.03.2025 from Mr. H.H. Kumudu of Polgahagodalla Watta, Dikhena, Amugoda; and
 - (v) A petition dated 02.03.2025 from Mr. R. Yasarathna Wijewantha Dias of 'Nilmini', Miriswaththa, Kahaduwa.
- (9) Hon. Padmasiri Bandara presented a petition dated 25.01.2025 from Mrs. M. A. N. Priyangani and another of No 1092, Irrigation Region, New Town, Polonnaruwa.

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

6. National Audit (Amendment): The Minister of Justice and National Integration presented,— Bill to amend the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection.

7. Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act: The Minister of Labour and Deputy Minister of Economic Development on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That the 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. 2437/04 of 19th May 2025, which were presented on 17.06.2025, be approved.

(At 11.23 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government moved,—That Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.40 p.m. Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi took the Chair.)

(At 3.53 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (An Unimpeded Social Life for the Disabled): The Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Deputy Chairperson of Committees without Question put.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 09, 2025.