



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 78.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, August 22, 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.) 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. Ananda Wijepala, Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs

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. Vijitha Herath, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

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. Muneer Mulafter, Deputy Minister of National Integration

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

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. Roshan Akmeemana

Hon. Ajith Agalakada

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan

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. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura 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. Upul Kithsiri
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan
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. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Ashoka Gunasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. Nishantha 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. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. (Dr.) Sellaththamby Thilaganathan
Hon. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law
Hon. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna
Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
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. E.M. Basnayaka
Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. (Dr.) Sandaruwan Madarasinghe
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
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. Thurairosa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel
Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath
Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law
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. Muhammad Faizal

Hon. Riyas Farook

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. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation presented the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Thripasha Limited for the year 2021; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital and Postgraduate Medical Training Center for the year 2023

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation presented the Performance Report of the Department of Agrarian Development for the year 2020 and move that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation presented the Annual Report of the Palmyrah Development Board for the year 2020 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation presented the Supplementary Estimate No. 01 of 2025 and moved that Supplementary Estimate be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Justice and National Integration presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Judges' Institute 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.

(6) The Minister of Women and Child Affairs presented the Supplementary Estimate No. 02 of 2025 and moved that Supplementary Estimate be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees: Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law, the Pro-tem Chair of the Committee on Public Finance present the Report of the Committee on the Budget Estimates of the National Audit Office – 2026 which was referred to the said Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Eranga Gunasekara presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 24.03.2025 from Mr. D.G.S. Karunaratna of Sri Lanka Police, Research and Development Division, Colombo 2; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 08.05.2025 from Mr. P. A. Thilakasiri De Alwis of No. 17/9, Keppetipola Mawatha, Kolonnawa.
- (2) Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka presented a petition dated 02.04.2025 from Mrs. W. Irene of Finance Watta, Goda Mawatha, Nindana.
- (3) Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 28.05.2025 from Mrs. R.A.D.T.N. Rajapaksha of No. 104/1 A, Angel Gardens, Kerawalapitiya Road, Hendala, Wattala.
- (4) Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga presented a petition dated 11.06.2025 from Mr. B.S. Chandrasiri Perera of No. 58, Parana Kanda Watta, Wattala.
- (5) Hon. Riyas Farook presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 20.03.2025 from Mr. H.M.S. Ananda of No.198, Imbulethenna, Hatharaliyadda;
 - (ii) A petition dated 15.03.2025 from Mr. V. M. Rohitha Hemantha Bandara of No 98, Walpagolla Road, Sangarajapura, Kandy; and
 - (iii) A petition dated 12.03.2025 from Mr. W. M. Bharatha Jayathissa Weerakoon of Kanakkarapola, Hatharaliyadda, Kandy.
- (6) Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya presented a petition dated 10.03.2025 from Mr. N. C. Saman Kumara of Beligodapitiya, Rambukkana.

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

4. Sittings of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the hours of sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 10.40 a.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Adjournment (Human Rights Concerns of the Country): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 10.51 a.m. Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara took the Chair.)

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

The Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation moved,—That Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.33 p.m. Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.54 adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 09, 2025.