



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 82.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, September 12, 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. 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. (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 Vidyaratna, 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. 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. R.M. Jayawardhana, Deputy Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security
Hon. Mahinda Jayasinghe, Deputy Minister of Labour
Hon. Sugath Thilakaratne, Deputy Minister of Sports
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. (Dr.) Hansaka Wijemuni, Deputy Minister of Health and Mass Media
Hon. T. B. Sarath, Deputy Minister of Housing
Hon. (Dr.) Namal Sudarshana, Deputy Minister of Women and Child Affairs
Hon. (Dr.) Madhura Senevirathna, Deputy Minister of Education and Higher Education
Hon. Arun Hemachandra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Employment

Hon. Ajith Agalakada
Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan
Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa
Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardhana
Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna
Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Hessa Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi
Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi
Hon. (Dr.)(Ms.) Kaushalya Ariyaratne
Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika
Hon. K. Ilankumaran
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga

Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. Upul Kithsiri
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathan
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
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. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
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. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Dharmapriya Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law
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. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Ravindra Bandara
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. Jagath Manuwarna
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. (Mrs.) Deepthi Wasalage
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya

Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. Thilina Samarakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel
Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
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. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Muhammad Faizal
Hon. Riyas Farook

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, 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 Speaker presented the Second Installment – Part VI, Third Installment – Parts V and VI and Ninth Installment – Parts III and XLV 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 Report do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

(2) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented 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 Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2449/60 of 15th August 2025 and moved that those Regulations 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, Member of the Committee on behalf of the Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on the Budget Estimate of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption for the year 2026 prepared by the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption along with the observations of the Minister assigned the subject of Finance in terms of Section 31(1)(b) of the Anti-Corruption Act, No. 9 of 2023 which was referred to the said Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Sunil Handunnetti presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 28.01.2025 from Mr. D. K. Vijitha of Kanuketiyawatta, Malimbada, Palatuwa, Matara;
 - (ii) A petition dated 21.02.2025 from Mr. H.A. Priyantha Kumara of 'Amara Villa', Kanampitiya, Gandara; and
 - (iii) A petition dated 03.02.2025 from Mr. K. W. Srimal Prasanna of 'Srimal Niwasa', Maragahahena, Malimbada, Palatuwa.
- (2) Hon. K.V. Samantha Viddyarathna presented a petition dated 28.01.2025 from Ms. B.W. Gnanawathi of Kotuwe Gedara, Ambadandegama, Bandarawela.
- (3) Hon. Rathna Gamage presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 30.06.2025 from Mr. K.N. Silva of Dorape, Angulugaha, Galle;
 - (ii) A petition dated 28.06.2025 from Mrs. Kalupahana Dinuka Harshani of No. 403/1, Louvis Mawatha, Galakumbura, Gonapinuwala;
 - (iii) A petition dated 28.06.2025 from Mrs. M.K.G. Nandawathi of Meegahawatta, Mataramba, Unawatuna; and
 - (iv) A petition dated 23.06.2025 from Ven. Dewramwehera Medhalankarathero of G/Saraswathi Mandapa Mulika Pirivena, Shaila Bimbaramaya Moola Maha Viharaya, Dodanduwa.
- (4) Hon. Arun Hemachandra presented a petition dated 24.04.2025 from Mrs. Janandini Pradeesh of No. 884, 7th Lane, Murugan Kovil Place, Palayuththu, Trincomalee.

(5) Hon. Stepni Fernando presented—

(i) A petition dated 21.05.2025 from Mrs. H.B. Thakshila Sajeewani of No. 411, Galle Road, Mount Lavinia; and

(ii) A petition dated 28.05.2025 from Mrs. M.K.J. Mudunkotuwa of No. 264/01, Sudarshi, In Front of Maha Vidyalaya, Mandawala.

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

4. Convention against Doping in Sport (Amendment): The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports presented,— Bill to amend the Convention Against Doping in Sport Act, No. 33 of 2013.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Friday, September 26, 2025, be printed and be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital.

5. Votes of Condolence: The Minister of Health and Mass Media moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. P. Dayaratna, late Hon. Gamini Lokuge, late Hon. Indradasa Hettiarachchi, late Hon. M.H. Cegu Isadean and late Hon. W.B. Ranatunga, ex-Members of Parliament.

(At 11.27 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

The Minister of Energy moved,— That Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 12.26 p.m. Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara took the Chair.)

(At 2.38 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Deputy Chairperson of Committees announced that the Speaker and herself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the deaths of the late Hon. P. Dayaratna, late Hon. Gamini Lokuge, late Hon. Indradasa Hettiarachchi, late Hon. M.H. Cegu Isadean and late Hon. W.B. Ranatunga, ex-Members of Parliament and directed the Secretary-General of Parliament to send copies of the Official Report (Hansard) containing proceedings of this day to the members of their bereaved families.

6. Adjournment: The Minister of Women and Child Affairs moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 3.56 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Chairperson of Committees until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 23, 2025.