



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 83.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, September 23, 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. (Prof.) 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. (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.) 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 Vidyarthna, 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. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

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

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

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana
Hon. Ajith Agalakada
Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan
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. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. M.K.M. Aslam
Hon. Hesha 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. 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 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. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
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. 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. (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. 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. 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. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala

Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. Sanjeeva 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. 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. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Deepthi Wasalage
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
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. 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. 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. 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/00/4/4/2

September 20, 2025

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

Hon. Speaker,

The Navy Act (Chapter 358)

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Section 21 of the Navy Act (Chapter 358), having considered necessary in the national interest, an order has been issued to the members of the Sri Lanka Navy, to maintain a maritime security operation project to provide services and facilities to foreign private maritime security companies providing security services to merchant vessels; to carry out the operational, administrative and financial activities of the said project as appropriate under the supervision of the Ministry of Defence to store such firearms, ammunition and other equipment belonging to foreign private maritime security companies in the armouries of the Sri Lanka Navy and to transport firearms, ammunition and other equipment belonging to foreign private maritime security companies as required by operational requirements using vehicles or vessels provided by local representatives of foreign private maritime security companies under the supervision and security of the Sri Lanka Navy, and to perform all the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto as non naval duties.

Accordingly, it is hereby informed Parliament regarding same, in terms of Section 21 of the aforesaid Act.

Yours sincerely,


Anura Kumara Dissanayake
President

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இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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

“I wish to inform that I have endorsed the certificate on the Bill titled ‘National Audit (Amendment)’ on 22nd of September 2025 in terms of the provisions of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.”

3. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker presented the First Installment – Parts VIII and IX and Fourth Installment – Parts III and IV 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 Report do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

(2) The Speaker presented the Second Installment – Part VII and Ninth Installment – Part IV 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 Report do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

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

- (i) Report on the details pertaining to ‘Transfers of Allocations through Virement Procedure’ from 01 January 2025 to 30 June 2025, in terms of the Section 24(4) of the Public Financial Management Act, No. 44 of 2024, and the Section 5 of the Appropriation Act, No. 3 of 2025;
- (ii) Order made by the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Psychology Degree awarded by Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Guarantee) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2415/20 of 16th December 2024;
- (iii) Order made by the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education under Section 27(1)(b) read with Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Science Honours in Quantity Surveying, Bachelor of Science Honours in Biomedical Science and Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence Degrees awarded by Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (Guarantee) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2424/59 of 20th February 2025;
- (iv) Order made by the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education under Section 25A of the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 with regard to the Bachelor of Hotel and Resort Management Honours Degree awarded by Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2428/12 of 19th March 2025; and

- (v) Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2454/68 of 21st September 2025 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979.

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

(4) The Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development presented the Annual Performance Report of the Department of Textile Industry for the year 2024 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Science and Technology presented the Annual Reports of the National Innovation Agency for the years 2022 and 2023 and moved that Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation.

Question put, and agreed to

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection presented the Report of the Committee on National Building Research Institute Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera, the Chair of the Committee on Public Enterprises presented the Fourth Report of the Committee on Public Enterprises 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. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 02.06.2025 from Mr. D.M. Gunarathna of 'Nisansala', Magulagama, Padeniya; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 02.02.2025 from Mr. K.D. Thilakarathna of No. 113, Jayalanda, Mahagalkadawala, Galgamuwa.
- (2) Hon. Ajith Agalakada presented a petition dated 30.06.2025 from Mr. A.M. Piyarathna of Linda Langa Athuru Para, 11th Post, Buttala.
- (3) Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 31.03.2025 from Mr. B.A.B.S. Jayawardhana of No. 139/3, Kandy Road, Imbulgoda;
 - (ii) A petition dated 13.03.2025 from Mr. H.K. Asanka of No. 163/D, Medalanda Watta, Jayanthi Road, Dompe; and
 - (iii) A petition dated 15.06.2025 from Mr. P.N.C. Wickramanayake of No 465, Kurunegala Road, Divulapitiya.

- (4) Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran presented a petition dated 14.03.2025 from Mr. I. Yogarasa of No. 215/25 A, Thandikulam, Vavuniya.
- (5) Hon. Dharmapriya Dissanayake presented a petition dated 08.06.2025 from Mr. R. Shantha Dissanayake of Kehelwatta Hena, Wadakada.
- (6) Hon. Jagath Manuwarna presented—
- (i) A petition dated 19.06.2025 from Mr. G.A.M.U.G.C.H.K. Senevirathne of No. 1/3, Udupitiya, Udasgiriya, Matale; and
- (ii) A petition dated 24.06.2025 from Mr. W.B.W.M.R.U.N.T.B. Aluvihare of No 58, Matale Road, Elkaduwa.

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

(At 10.32 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

5. National Building Research Institute Bill: Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing on behalf of Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

The Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure moved,— That Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.09 p.m. Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha took the Chair.)

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.23 p.m. Hon. Chanaka Madugoda took the Chair.)

(At 4.17 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Deputy Minister of Defence on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 34 were agreed to.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.

Bill reported without Amendments.

The Deputy Minister of Defence on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That the Bill be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

7. Adjournment (Rescrutinization of Results of Law College Entrance Exam, 2025): The Minister of Health and Mass Media moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.49 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Chairperson of Committees pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 2025.