



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 87.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, October 07, 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

Honourable Anura Kumara Dissanayake, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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. 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.) Dammika Patabendi, Minister of Environment

Hon. (Dr.) Upali Pannilage, Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment

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. (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
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- Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development
- Hon. Namal Karunaratne**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock
- Hon. Rathna Gamage**, Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources
- 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. 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. (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
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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. J.C. Alawathuwala
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. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. Upul Kithsiri
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindrane 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. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani
Hon. Thilanka U. 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. 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. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. (Dr.) Sellaththamby Thilaganathan
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
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. G.G. Ponnambalam

Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Amila Prasad
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Padmasiri Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Ravindra Bandara
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. S.M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
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. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Manoj Rajapaksha
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Mrs.) Deepthi Wasalage
Hon. Nayana Wasalathilaka
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
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. 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. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Muhammad Faizal

Mr. Chaminda Kularatne, Acting 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 XI and Third Installment – Part IX 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 Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the Annual Report of the People's Bank 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.

(3) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Health for the year 2024 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Health and Mass Media under Section 142 read with Section 118(4) of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act, No. 5 of 2015 in consultation with the Pricing Committee of National Medicines Regulatory Authority established under the aforementioned Act, Consumer Affairs Authority established under the provisions of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act, No. 9 of 2003 and all stakeholders and taking into consideration all other relevant factors including the provisions of the Consumer Affairs Authority Act, No. 9 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2446/34 of 21st July 2025 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Health and Mass Media.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation presented the Annual Report of the Colombo Commercial Fertilizers Limited for the year 2022/2023 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation presented the Reports on the submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Irrigation and the Irrigation Department in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which were presented to Parliament and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing presented the Report on the submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports presented the Report on the submission of observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Department of Sports Development in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital presented the Report of the Committee on Convention against Doping in Sport (Amendment) Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations presented the Report of the Committee on —

- (i) Annual Performance Reports of the Ministry of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development for the Years 2023 and 2024;
- (ii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board for the Years 2021, 2022 and 2023;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the National Gem and Jewellery Authority for the Years 2022 and 2023;
- (iv) Annual Report of the Gem and Jewellery Research and Training Institute for the Year 2023;
- (v) Annual Reports of the BCC Lanka Limited for the Years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023; and
- (vi) Annual Reports and Accounts of the National Salt Limited for the Years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023

which were referred to the Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 10.03.2025 from Mr. M.H.G. Perera and Fourteen Others of No 04, Sisil Uyana, Atawila Road, Kalutara South.

(2) Hon. Nishantha Perera presented —

(i) A petition dated 23.06.2025 from Mrs. I.D. Sumanawathie of Igala, Elpitiya; and

(ii) A petition dated 23.06.2025 from Mr. M.K. Jayasena of No. 617, Pelendagoda, Elpitiya.

(3) Hon. Lal Premanath presented a petition dated 01.06.2025 from Mr. G.K.N. Madhawa Wijesinghe of No.11/1/1, Sri Vajiragnana Mawatha, Colombo 10.

(4) Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama presented —

(i) A petition dated 20.05.2025 from Mr. I.D. Aruna Naga of No.133/B/3, Kadawala, Kadawala South, Katana; and

(ii) A petition dated 23.05.2025 from Mr. P. R. Nishantha Sujeewa of No. 252/1/A, Pilankada, Kalagedihena.

(5) Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri presented —

(i) A petition dated 01.06.2025 from Mr. D.D. Manoj Hemantha Dewapura of No. 322, Damane Wewa, Nuwaragala, Polonnaruwa; and

(ii) A petition dated 01.06.2025 from Mr. Nandaweera Wasthu Hewa of Kanchchigala, Ruhunugama.

(6) Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi presented a petition dated 02.06.2025 from Mr. U. G. Gamini Rathnasiri of No. 348/30, Rajasinghe Road, Ihalakaragahamuna, Kadawatha.

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) Bill: Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 11.31 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.52 p.m. Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara took the Chair.)

The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports moved,—That Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.18 p.m. Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports 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 Presiding Member took the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 28 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 Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports moved,— That the Bill be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

5. Amendments to the Standing Orders of the Parliament: Hon. Aravinda Senarath, seconded by Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna moved,— That the following amendment to the existing Standing Orders of the Parliament made in terms of Standing Order 137 of the Parliament be agreed to:—

That the following new paragraph be inserted immediately after the first paragraph of the existing Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament:—

If the Committee on Public Accounts, in examining the reports presented to the Committee by the Auditor - General, comes to the conclusion that serious financial frauds or acts of corruption have occurred, the Committee may refer such matters directly to the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption or to the Inspector - General of Police for taking legal action regarding such matters. (P.92/2025)

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Adjournment: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.37 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 08, 2025.