



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 93.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, October 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. 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 Abeyseña, Minister of Science and Technology

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

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 Finance and Planning

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. (Dr.) Susil Ranasinghe, Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply

Hon. Ananda Wijepala, Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs

Hon. K.V. Samantha Vidyarathna, Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure

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. Chathuranga Abeysinghe, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development

Hon. Arkam Ilyas, Deputy Minister of Power

Hon. Namal Karunaratne, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock

Hon. Rathna Gamage, Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources

Hon. Eranga Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Urban Development

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. Nishantha Jayaweera, Deputy Minister of Economic Development

Hon. Mahinda Jayasinghe, Deputy Minister of Labour

Hon. Major General (Rtd.) Aruna Jayasekera, Deputy Minister of Defence

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. Muneer Mulaffer, Deputy Minister of Religious and Cultural Affairs

Hon. (Prof.) Ruwan Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister of Tourism

Hon. Eranga Weeraratne, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy

Hon. Upali Samarasingha, Deputy Minister of Cooperative Development

Hon. T. B. Sarath, Deputy Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply

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

Hon. Aravinda Senarath, Deputy Minister of Land and Irrigation

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. Aboobucker Athambawa

Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardhana
Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe
Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi
Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi
Hon. B. Ariyawansa
Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunananayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC
Hon. Upul Kithsiri
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathasan
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura 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. Dilith Jayaweera

Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law
Hon. T.K. Jayasundara
Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. M.A.M. Thahir
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. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Dharmapriya Dissanayake
Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. Nimal Palihena
Hon. Nishantha Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G.G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Padmasiri 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. Jagath Manuwarna
Hon. S.M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
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. Manjula Sugath 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. (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. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarakachchi
Hon. Athula Welandagoda
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan

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. 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. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
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. Riyas Farook

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: The Minister of Energy presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Energy regarding the Terms and Conditions of Voluntary Retirement Scheme under Section 50 read with Paragraph (f) of Section 18(3) of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No. 36 of 2024 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2451/11 of 26th August 2025 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Energy.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection presented the Report of the Committee on —

- (i) Annual Performance Reports of the Ministry of Defence for the years 2023 and 2024; and
- (ii) Annual Reports of the National Building Research Organization for the years 2022 and 2023

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection presented the Report of the Committee on —

- (i) Performance Report of the Ministry of Justice and National Integration for the year 2024;
- (ii) Performance Report of the Ministry of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms for the year 2023;
- (iii) Performance Reports of the Attorney General's Department for the years 2022 and 2024; and
- (iv) Annual Performance Report of the Legal Draftsman's Department for the year 2023

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(3) Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe, Member of the Committee on behalf of Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection presented the Report of the Committee on —

- (i) Annual Reports and Statements of Accounts of the Office for Reparations for the years 2021 and 2022; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the Office for Reparations - Sri Lanka for the year 2023

which were referred to the Committee.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. R.M. Jayawardhana presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 08.01.2025 from Mr. Sinnaiya Suppaiya of Parawila Watta, Kumbukkana; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 03.01.2025 from Mrs. Sudarma Chandrika Kondadeniya of 23rd Post, Rathmal Mawatha, Hindikiwula, Monaragala.
- (2) Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 22.07.2025 from Mr. Dhammadika Nishantha Karangoda of No. 14/11/B, Railway Crossing, Pannipitiya; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 14.07.2025 from Mrs. Elvitigalage Punchi Nona of No T 1, Railway Crossing, Borella Road, Pannipitiya.

(3) Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 03.02.2025 from Mr. K. R. S. K. Senanayake of ‘Thusitha’, Nilwakka, Kegalle.

(4) Hon. Nimal Palihena presented—

- (i) A petition dated 07.07.2025 from Mr. H.B. Kingsly Gaawin of No. 47, Dipowatta, Mahamessalawa, Kahatagasdigiliya; and
- (ii) A petition dated 12.07.2025 from Mr. R.M.S.P. Jayantha of No 84, Thiththellewa, Kokawewa, Getalawa.

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

4. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1): The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of 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 11.30 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. Business of the Parliament: The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 75(4) of the Parliament, 08th Saturday, 10th Monday, 11th Tuesday, 12th Wednesday, 13th Thursday and 14th Friday, November, 2025 be allotted days for the consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026).

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2): The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of sittings on allotted days for the consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026) on 08th Saturday and from 10th Monday to 13th Thursday, November, 2025 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 6.00 p.m. the provisions of paragraphs (5) and (6) of the Standing Order 8 of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 3): The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of sittings on allotted day for the consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026) on 14th Friday, November, 2025 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.. At 6.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (National Programme to Eradicate Drugs and Organized Crime and Strengthening the Legal Framework): The Minister of Health and Mass Media moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 11.37 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

The Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs moved,—That Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.09 p.m. Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj took the Chair.)

Hon. Gayan Janaka, seconded by Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law moved,—That Hon. Chanaka Madugoda do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.47 p.m. Hon. Chanaka Madugoda took the Chair.)

The Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs moved,—That Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.15 p.m. Sanjeewa Ranasingha took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.51 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Friday, October 24, 2025.