



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 94.]

## MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, October 24, 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

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**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. Sunil Kumara Gamage**, Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports

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

**Hon. K.V. Samantha Viddyarathna**, 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. Chathuranga Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development

**Hon. Namal Karunaratne**, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Livestock

**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. Eranga Weeraratne**, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy

**Hon. Dinindu Saman Hennayake**, Deputy Minister of Youth Affairs

**Hon. Nalin Hewage**, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

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**Hon. Ajith Agalakada**

**Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa**

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

**Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law**

**Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe**

**Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala**

**Hon. M.K.M. Aslam**

**Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi**

**Hon. B. Ariyawansha**

**Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika**

**Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe**

**Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka**

**Hon. Ravi Karunanayake**

**Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi**

**Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC**

**Hon. Upul Kithsiri**

**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. Lasith Bhashana Gamage**  
**Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage**  
**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. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha**  
**Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law**  
**Hon. Dilith Jayaweera**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, 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. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law**  
**Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara**  
**Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara**  
**Hon. Aruna Panagoda**  
**Hon. Nimal Palihena**  
**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. Padmasiri Bandara**  
**Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara**  
**Hon. Ravindra Bandara**  
**Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah**  
**Hon. Sunil Biyanwila**  
**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. Danushka Ranganath**  
**Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha**  
**Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe**  
**Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri**  
**Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake**  
**Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala**  
**Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran**  
**Hon. Mujibur Rahman**  
**Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law**  
**Hon. Manoj Rajapaksha**  
**Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan**  
**Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam**  
**Hon. Waruna Liyanage**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law**  
**Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth**  
**Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya**  
**Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna**  
**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. Athula Welandagoda**  
**Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan**  
**Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan**  
**Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam**  
**Hon. Thilina Samarakoon**  
**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. Kabir Hashim**  
**Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi**  
**Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi**  
**Hon. Dinesh Hemantha**  
**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. Announcements by the Speaker:** The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“A motion may be moved to refer the Question of Privilege raised by the Hon. Aravinda Senarath, M.P., in Parliament on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

**2. Presentation of Papers:** The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the Report on the Deviation of Headline Inflation from the Inflation Target Set Out in the Monetary Policy Framework Agreement for the first and second Quarters of the year 2025 and moved that Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

**3. Presentation of Reports from Committees:** (1) Hon. Kabir Hashim, the Chair of the Committee on Public Accounts presented the Third Report of the Committee on Public Accounts for the First Session of the Tenth Parliament.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

(2) Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on the Appropriation Bill for the Year 2026 which was referred to the said Committee.

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

**4. Presentation of Public Petitions:**

Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan presented a petition dated 25.07.2025 from Mrs. W.P. Erandi Lanka Weerasinghe of No 03, High Forest, Kandapola.

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

(At 11.19 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

**5. Sittings of the Parliament:** The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of the Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.30 p.m. on Friday, November 07<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Question put, and agreed to.

**6. Votes of Condolence:** The Minister of Health and Mass Media moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. Lohan Ratwatte, late Hon. Heenmahatmaya Liyanage, late Hon. Dixon J. Perera, late Hon. (Dr.) Mervyn D. de Silva, late Hon. Y.G. Padmasiri, late Hon. R.M.R. Chula Bandara and late Hon. Manicavasagar Kanagasabapathy Eelaventhan, ex-Members of Parliament.

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

The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs moved,—That Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.02 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs moved,—That Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.53 p.m. Sanjeewa Ranasingha took the Chair.)

The Presiding Member announced that the Speaker and himself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the deaths of late Hon. Lohan Ratwatte, late Hon. Heenmahatmaya Liyanage, late Hon. Dixon J. Perera, late Hon. (Dr.) Mervyn D. de Silva, late Hon. Y.G. Padmasiri, late Hon. R.M.R. Chula Bandara and late Hon. Manicavasagar Kanagasabapathy Eelaventhan, 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.

**7. Adjournment (Grant of Voting Rights to Female Divisional Secretaries at the Election of Diyawadana Nilame):** The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 5.07 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 1.30 p.m. on Friday, November 07, 2025 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.