



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 100.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Thursday, November 13, 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 Ports and Civil Aviation

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 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. Bimal Rathnayake, Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development 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. (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. (Dr.)(Ms.) Kaushalya Ariyaratne, Deputy Minister of Mass Media

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 Urban Development

Hon. Anton Jayakody, Deputy Minister of Environment

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. 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 Religious and Cultural Affairs

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

Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney at Law, Deputy Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs

Hon. (Dr.) Hansaka Wijemuni, Deputy Minister of Health

Hon. Eranga Weeraratne, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy

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

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. Dinindu Saman Hennayake, Deputy Minister of Youth Affairs

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. 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. M.K.M. Aslam

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

Hon. B. Ariyawansa

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.) Chamindrane Kiriella, Attorney at Law

Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathan

Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara

Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara

Hon. Sarath Kumara, 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. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
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. 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. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
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. Kins Nelson
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. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana 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. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
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. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
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. Priyantha Wijerathna, Attorney at Law
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Hiruni Wijesinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
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. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dinesh Hemantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha 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. Announcements by the Speaker: The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“I wish to make this announcement, with reference to a letter submitted to me on 10.11.2025 by the Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna, Member of Parliament seeking the permission to raise a matter of privilege, citing defamatory statement that had been made against him, on 10.11.2025 during the Second Reading debate of the Appropriation Bill.

I wish to inform that, I refer the matter stated therein to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges to be considered whether there has been any breach of privilege, in terms of the Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act, No. 21 of 1953 as amended.”

2. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd for the year 2023 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(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 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2458/43 of 15th October 2025 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment for the year 2023 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government 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 Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government and Registrar General's Department in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation presented the Annual Report of the Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) (Private) Limited for the year 2023 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation presented the —

- (i) Regulations made by the then Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation under Paragraphs (r) and (s) of the Section 117(2) read with Sections 6, 8 and 31 of the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2422/38 of 06th February 2025; and
- (ii) Regulations made by the then Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation under Section 39 read with Paragraphs (p) and (s) of Section 7 and Section 9 of Civil Aviation Authority Act, No. 34 of 2002 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2422/39 of 06th February 2025

and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs 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 Sri Lanka Police 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.

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. B. Ariyawansa presented a petition dated 12.06.2025 from Mrs. W.B.N.S. Marasinghe of Pinnakanda, Godakawela.
- (2) Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana presented a petition dated 20.04.2025 from Mr. P. Dinesh Premarathne of No. 379/1, Bowala, Nawathalwatta.
- (3) Hon. Aruna Panagoda presented a petition dated 07.07.2025 from Mr. D.M.T. Dassanayake of No. 280/6, Temple Road, Uduwana, Homagama.

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

4. Business of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 75(5) of the Parliament, 15th Saturday, 17th Monday, 18th Tuesday, 19th Wednesday, 20th Thursday, 21st Friday, 22nd Saturday, 24th Monday, 25th Tuesday, 26th Wednesday, 27th Thursday, 28th Friday, 29th Saturday, November 2025 and 01st Monday, 02nd Tuesday, 03rd Wednesday and 05th Friday, December 2025 be allotted days for the consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026).

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 1): 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 of Parliament on allotted days for consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026) on 17th Monday, 24th Monday, November 2025 and 01st Monday, December 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. provisions of paragraphs (5) and (6) of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of sittings of Parliament on allotted days for consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026) on 15th Saturday, from 18th Tuesday to 20th Thursday, 22nd Saturday, 25th Tuesday to 27th Thursday and 29th Saturday, November 2025 and 02nd Tuesday and 03rd Wednesday, December 2025 shall be 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 6.00 p.m. provisions of paragraphs (5) and (6) of 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 Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of sittings of Parliament on allotted days for consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026) on 21st Friday and 28th Friday, November 2025 shall be 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 6.00 p.m. provisions of paragraphs (5) and (6) of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament shall operate. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Sittings of the Parliament (No. 4): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 75(2) of the Parliament, the hours of the sitting of Parliament on Friday, 05th December, 2025 allotted for consideration of the “Appropriation” Bill (2026) shall be 9.00 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.

9. Appropriation Bill—(Fifth Allotted Day): Order read for resuming adjourned debate on question (07th November 2025),—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question again proposed, and debate resumed.

(At 12.03 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.54 p.m. Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs moved,—That Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.59 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

The Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development moved,—That Hon. Imran Maharroof do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.05 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharroof took the Chair.)

The Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,—That Hon. M.K.M. Aslam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.07 p.m. Hon. M.K.M. Aslam took the Chair.)

And it being 6.00 p.m. the debate stood adjourned; debate to be resumed on Friday, November 14, 2025.

10. Adjournment (Implementation of a National Strategic Plan for Eye Health):

The Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being 6.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Friday, November 14, 2025 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 23rd October, 2025.