



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 102.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, November 15, 2025 at 9.00 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. 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 Finance and Planning

Hon. Harshana Nanayakkara, Attorney at Law, Minister of Justice and National Integration

Hon. (Dr.) Dammika Patabendi, Minister of Environment

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. Wasantha Samarasinghe, Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development

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. (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. 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. Muneer Mulafter, Deputy Minister of Religious and Cultural Affairs

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

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

Hon. Upali Samarasingha, Deputy Minister of Cooperative Development

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

Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe

Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

Hon. K. Ilankumaran

Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe

Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindrane Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathan
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Gayan Janaka
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
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. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. Nishantha Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Nanda Bandara

Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Balagalla
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
Hon. E.M. Basnayaka
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka
Hon. (Mrs.) A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath
Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
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. Announcements by the Speaker: The Speaker made the following announcement:—

I

“I wish to submit to this House the following announcement for the information and attention of all Members of Parliament about the rules regarding seating in the House by Members of Parliament during the Debate of the Committee of the Whole Parliament, As the Committee Stage Debate to consider the Appropriation Bill for the year 2026 is scheduled to commence today, the 15th of November 2025.

I would like to draw the attention of this House to the fact that although traditionally the Deputy Minister can sit next to his Cabinet Minister during the Committee stage of the Budget, speaking during the debate should be done only from the seat reserved for him.”

II

“A motion may be moved to refer the Question of Privilege raised by the Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera, M.P., in Parliament on 13th November 2025 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

2. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker presented the First Installment – Parts XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI, XXII, XXIII, XXIV, XXV and XXVI, Fourth Installment – Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII and XIII, Fifth Installment – Parts I, II and III and Sixth Installment – Parts V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI and XVII 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 List of Proposed Alterations in the Legends of Draft Budget Estimates - 2026.

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

3. Presentation of Public Petitions:

Hon. Waruna Liyanage presented a petition dated 25.07.2025 from Mrs. B.I.D. Weerasekara of No 273, Watareka, Padukka.

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

4. Appropriation Bill—(Seventh Allotted Day): Considered in the Committee.*(In the Committee)*

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 10 were postponed until after consideration of the First, Second and Third Schedules.

First Schedule

Sums Payable for General Services.

Head 1

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law, proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

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

(At 1.00 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

(At 2.56 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

(At 4.49 p.m. Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi took the Chair.)

(At 6.14 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Heads 1-25**Special Spending Unit**

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,465,980,000 for Head 1, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 418,000,000 for Head 1, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 200,000,000 for Head 1, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 8,294,000,000 for Head 1, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 2

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 898,500,000 for Head 2, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 76,500,000 for Head 2, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 4

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 448,500,000 for Head 4, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 108,500,000 for Head 4, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 5

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 247,000,000 for Head 5, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 28,000,000 for Head 5, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 6

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 392,740,000 for Head 6, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 30,000,000 for Head 6, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 7

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 171,350,000 for Head 7, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,800,000 for Head 7, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 8

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 248,400,000 for Head 8, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 13,500,000 for Head 8, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 9

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 50,850,000 for Head 9, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,150,000 for Head 9, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 10

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,056,400,000 for Head 10, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 31,000,000 for Head 10, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 11

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 155,600,000 for Head 11, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 6,400,000 for Head 11, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 13

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 451,000,000 for Head 13, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 43,000,000 for Head 13, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 16

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,345,850,000 for Head 16, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 931,550,000 for Head 16, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 17

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 82,000,000 for Head 17, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,000,000 for Head 17, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 18

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 87,000,000 for Head 18, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,000,000 for Head 18, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 19

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 316,300,000 for Head 19, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 20,700,000 for Head 19, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 20

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 6,488,000,000 for Head 20, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 156,000,000 for Head 20, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 21

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,676,300,000 for Head 21, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 441,500,000 for Head 21, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 22

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 49,300,000 for Head 22, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,000,000 for Head 22, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 23

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 68,900,000 for Head 23, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 900,000 for Head 23, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 24

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 98,500,000 for Head 24, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 35,500,000 for Head 24, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 25

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 21,000,000 for Head 25, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,000,000 for Head 25, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 6.48 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Monday, November 17, 2025.

5. Adjournment: And it being past 6.30 p.m. Parliament was at 6.50 p.m. adjourned by the Speaker, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Monday, November 17, 2025, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament on 13th November, 2025.