



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 105]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, November 19, 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. 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. 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. 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. (Dr.) Hiniduma Sunil Senevi, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

Hon. (Dr.)(Ms.) Kaushalya Ariyaratne, Deputy Minister of Mass Media

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. Muneer Mulaffer, Deputy Minister of Religious and Cultural Affairs

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

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. (Dr.) Madhura Senevirathna, Deputy Minister of Education and Higher Education

Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law

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. B. Ariyawansa
Hon. K. Ilankumaran
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga
Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan
Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
Hon. Gayan Janaka
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law
Hon. T.K. Jayasundara
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. (Dr.) Sellaththamby Thilaganathan
Hon. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake

Hon. Sugath Wasantha 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. 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. Amila Prasad
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Nanda 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. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. (Dr.) Sandaruwan Madarasinghe
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
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. Sanjeewa Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka
Hon. Suranga Rathnayaka
Hon. (Mrs.) A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
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. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. Thilina Samarakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
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. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah

Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi

Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi

Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law

Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law

Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law

Hon. Muhammad Faizal

Hon. Riyas Farook

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 announcements:—

I

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Ajith P. Perera, Member of Parliament has also been nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve on the Committee on Standing Orders, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 116 of Parliament and as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 19th March 2025.”

II

“I wish to inform that the Hon. D. V. Chanaka, Member of Parliament, has been nominated to serve in the Committee on Parliamentary Business by the Committee of Selection on 18th November 2025, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 130 (3) of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law, Member of Parliament, from the Membership of the Committee on Parliamentary Business.”

III

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law, Member of Parliament has also been nominated by the Committee of Selection, to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 111 of Parliament and as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 17th March 2025.”

IV

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Ajith P. Perera, Member of Parliament has also been nominated by the Committee of Selection, to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 111 of Parliament and as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 17th March 2025.”

V

“I wish to inform that the Hon. Chathura Galappaththi, Member of Parliament has also been nominated by the Committee of Selection, to serve in the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development, in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 111 of Parliament and as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 17 March 2025.”

VI

“I wish to inform this House that, having considered a complaint submitted by the Hon. Sunil Watagala, Attorney-at-Law, M.P., during the meeting of the Committee on Parliamentary Business held on 25th September 2025, regarding the conduct of the Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney-at-Law, M.P., on 24th September 2025, in the Chamber, a three-member committee has been appointed by me, chaired by the Deputy Speaker, the Hon. (Dr.) Rizvie Salih, M.P., comprising the members the Hon. (Dr.) Upali Pannilage, M.P., and the Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara, M.P., to investigate and report on the matter.”

2. Presentation of Reports under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament: The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the Report under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament on the Bill entitled “Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment)” of the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government.

The Bill was ordered to be read a second time on Thursday, November 20, 2025.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees: Hon. Kumara Jayakody, the Chair of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Energy presented the Report of the Committee on 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 which were referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. T.K. Jayasundara presented a petition dated 01.06.2025 from Mr. O.K.D. Upul of No.04, Kurunduwatta, Pelawattta Road, Pitigala.
- (2) Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala presented a petition dated 21.03.2025 from Mr. H.M. Sanjeeva Nuwan Kumara Karunarathne of Koongaha Kotuwa, Mahawila Road, Yatiyanthota.
- (3) Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi presented a petition dated 15.07.2025 from Mr. K.B.T.K. Perera of No. 440/C, Kahahena, Waga.

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

5. Ministerial Consultative Committees: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order 112 of Parliament, and as per the motion agreed to by Parliament on 19th of March 2025, instead of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation and the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Urban Development, Construction and Housing approved by Parliament on the 06th of December 2024, the following Ministerial Consultative Committees be appointed:—

1. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Transport, Highways and Urban Development;
2. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Ports and Civil Aviation; and
3. Ministerial Consultative Committee on Housing, Construction and Water Supply.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Appropriation Bill—(Tenth Allotted Day): Considered in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 130

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala, proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 10.31 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

(At 2.08 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharoof took the Chair.)

(At 3.09 p.m. Hon. Sujeeva Dissanayake took the Chair.)

(At 4.19 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna took the Chair.)

(At 5.03 p.m. Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara took the Chair.)

(At 5.51 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Question that the sums be agreed to, put, and agreed to; Parliament having divided as follows: Ayes: 103; Noes: 09.

The following One Hundred and Eleven (111) Members of Parliament voted by using the electronic voting system under the Standing Order 47(2)(b) of the Parliament, as follows:—

G 005. Nalinda Jayathissa	Yes
G 006. Bimal Rathnayake	Yes

G 007. Harini Amarasuriya	Yes
G 010. Wasantha Samarasinghe	Yes
G 011. A.H.M.H. Abayarathna	Yes
G 013. Anil Jayantha	Yes
G 014. Harshana Nanayakkara	Yes
G 015. Dammika Patabendi	Yes
G 017. Ananda Wijepala	Yes
G 018. Hiniduma Sunil Senevi	Yes
G 019. Sunil Kumara Gamage	Yes
G 020. Kumara Jayakody	Yes
G 021. Rizvie Salih	Yes
G 022. Anura Karunathilaka	Yes
G 023. Upali Pannilage	Yes
G 026. Nihal Abeysinghe	Yes
G 029. Gamagedara Dissanayake	Yes
G 030. R.M. Jayawardhana	Yes
G 031. Sunil Watagala	Yes
G 032. Rathna Gamage	Yes
G 033. Mahinda Jayasinghe	Yes
G 035. Eranga Gunasekara	Yes
G 036. Upali Samarasingha	Yes
G 037. T.B. Sarath	Yes
G 039. Prasanna Gunasena	Yes
G 040. Anton Jayakody	Yes
G 041. Hemali Weerasekara	Yes
G 044. Muneer Mulafter	Yes
G 047. Namal Sudarshana	Yes
G 048. P. Ruwan Senarath	Yes
G 049. Madhura Senevirathna	Yes
G 054. Kaushalya Ariyaratne	Yes
G 058. Nishantha Jayaweera	Yes
G 059. Ashoka Ranwala	Yes
G 060. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi	Yes
G 061. Gayan Janaka	Yes
G 063. Lakmali Hemachandra	Yes
G 064. Samanmali Gunasingha	Yes
G 066. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi	Yes

G 068. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha	Yes
G 070. Sagarika Athauda	Yes
G 072. U. P. Abeywickrama	Yes
G 075. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana	Yes
G 076. Oshani Umanga	Yes
G 077. Krishnan Kalaichelvi	Yes
G 079. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara	Yes
G 080. Chaminda Lalith Kumara	Yes
G 082. Nilanthi Kottahachchi	Yes
G 086. Nilusha Lakmali Gamage	Yes
G 087. Ajantha Gammeddage	Yes
G 091. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody	Yes
G 092. Thushari Jayasingha	Yes
G 093. T.K. Jayasundara	Yes
G 095. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy	Yes
G 096. Sellaththamby Thilaganathan	Yes
G 097. Sugath Wasantha de Silva	Yes
G 098. Anushka Thilakarathne	Yes
G 099. Chandana Thennakoon	Yes
G 100. Thanura Dissanayake	Yes
G 101. Dharmapriya Dissanayake	Yes
G 102. Sujeewa Dissanayake	Yes
G 103. Susantha Dodawatta	Yes
G 104. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna	Yes
G 105. Sena Nanayakkara	Yes
G 106. Aruna Panagoda	Yes
G 107. Nimal Palihena	Yes
G 108. Nishantha Perera	Yes
G 109. Stepni Fernando	Yes
G 111. Lal Premanath	Yes
G 112. Nanda Bandara	Yes
G 115. Sudath Balagalla	Yes
G 116. Sri Bavanandarajah	Yes
O 014. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan	No
O 016. Ramanathan Archchuna	No
O 019. Sivagnanam Shritharan	No
O 020. Shanakiyan Rajaputhran Rasamanickam	No

O 039. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran	No
O 040. Gnanamuththu Srineshan	No
O 060. Thurairasa Ravikaran	No
O 065. E. M. Basnayaka	Yes
O 067. S. Sandaruwan Madarasinghe	Yes
O 068. Prageeth Madhuranga	Yes
O 070. Ruwan Mapalagama	Yes
O 071. Nandana Millagala	Yes
O 072. Riyas Farook	Yes
O 079. Elayathamby Srinath	No
O 080. Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam	No
O 081. Danushka Ranganath	Yes
O 082. Sanjeeva Ranasingha	Yes
O 084. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka	Yes
O 085. A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe	Yes
O 087. Sunil Rajapaksha	Yes
O 090. Kanchana Welipitiya	Yes
O 092. Nishantha Samaraweera	Yes
O 094. Ruwan Wijeweera	Yes
O 095. Darmapriya Wijesinghe	Yes
O 096. Hiruni Wijesinghe	Yes
O 098. Fasmin Sharif	Yes
O 099. Thilina Samarakoon	Yes
O 101. Dewananda Suraweera	Yes
O 102. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi	Yes
O 104. Kitnan Selvaraj	Yes
O 105. Janaka Senarathna	Yes
O 106. Chandima Hettiaratchi	Yes
O 107. Champika Hettiarachchi	Yes
O 109. Geetha Herath	Yes
O 110. Bhagya Sri Herath	Yes
O 111. Muhammad Faizal	Yes
O 113. Nandana Pathmakumara	Yes
O 114. Sunil Biyanwila	Yes
O 115. Samantha Ranasingha	Yes

The following Member of Parliament (01) cast his vote having being asked the names by the Secretary-General under the Standing Order 47(2)(c) of the Parliament as follows:—

R.M. Gamini Rathnayake

Yes

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,243,000,000 for Head 130, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,600,000,000 for Head 130, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 24,700,000,000 for Head 130, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 253

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 488,913,000,000 for Head 253, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 57,000,000 for Head 253, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 254

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,865,000,000 for Head 254, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 635,000,000 for Head 254, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 255

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,539,000,000 for Head 255, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 475,000,000 for Head 255, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 256

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,440,000,000 for Head 256, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 460,000,000 for Head 256, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 257

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,886,000,000 for Head 257, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 698,000,000 for Head 257, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 258

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,126,000,000 for Head 258, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 360,000,000 for Head 258, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 259

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,100,000,000 for Head 259, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 240,000,000 for Head 259, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 260

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,541,000,000 for Head 260, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 485,000,000 for Head 260, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 261

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,116,000,000 for Head 261, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 428,000,000 for Head 261, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 262

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,181,000,000 for Head 262, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 914,000,000 for Head 262, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 263

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,311,000,000 for Head 263, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 252,000,000 for Head 263, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 264

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,812,000,000 for Head 264, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 348,000,000 for Head 264, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 265

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 714,000,000 for Head 265, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 206,000,000 for Head 265, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 266

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 625,000,000 for Head 266, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 175,000,000 for Head 266, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 267

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 767,000,000 for Head 267, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 233,000,000 for Head 267, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 268

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 753,000,000 for Head 268, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 247,000,000 for Head 268, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 269

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,322,000,000 for Head 269, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 916,000,000 for Head 269, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 270

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,807,000,000 for Head 270, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 570,000,000 for Head 270, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 271

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,184,000,000 for Head 271, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 330,000,000 for Head 271, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 272

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 5,897,000,000 for Head 272, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 493,000,000 for Head 272, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 273

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,004,000,000 for Head 273, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 176,000,000 for Head 273, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 274

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,680,000,000 for Head 274, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 597,000,000 for Head 274, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 275

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,223,000,000 for Head 275, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 541,000,000 for Head 275, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 276

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,425,000,000 for Head 276, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 775,000,000 for Head 276, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 277

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,637,000,000 for Head 277, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 388,000,000 for Head 277, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 278

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,681,000,000 for Head 278, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 974,000,000 for Head 278, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 279

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,208,000,000 for Head 279, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 727,000,000 for Head 279, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 312-319 and 321 Provincial Councils

The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out line 17 in page 29 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 85,100,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 312

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 85,000,000,000 for Head 312, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out line 3 in page 30 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities 8,100,000,000”

Question that the amendment be agreed to, put, and agreed to.

Question that the Clause as amended, stand part of the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 313

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 69,800,000,000 for Head 313, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,500,000,000 for Head 313, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 314

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 66,820,000,000 for Head 314, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,075,000,000 for Head 314, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 315

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 47,800,000,000 for Head 315, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 10,250,000,000 for Head 315, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 316

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 63,730,000,000 for Head 316, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,000,000,000 for Head 316, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 317

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 39,780,000,000 for Head 317, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,315,000,000 for Head 317, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 318

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 44,900,000,000 for Head 318, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,775,000,000 for Head 318, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 319

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 55,800,000,000 for Head 319, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,525,000,000 for Head 319, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 321

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 59,370,000,000 for Head 321, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 10,560,000,000 for Head 321, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 193

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 214,000,000 for Head 193, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 89,000,000 for Head 193, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 152,000,000 for Head 193, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 8,000,000 for Head 193, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 221

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,601,000,000 for Head 221, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 624,000,000 for Head 221, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,504,000,000 for Head 221, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 436,000,000 for Head 221, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 328

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 729,000,000 for Head 328, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 8,000,000 for Head 328, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 35,000,000 for Head 328, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 6.23 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Thursday, November 20, 2025.

7. Select Committee of Parliament to look into and Report to Parliament on the release of 323 Containers from the Port of Colombo without undergoing mandatory physical inspection and submit its proposals and recommendations in that regard: Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka, seconded by Hon. Mujibur Rahman moved,— Whereas, it has been revealed that 323 containers were released from the Port of Colombo without undergoing mandatory physical inspection, contrary to established accepted customs procedures;

And whereas the Secretary to the Treasury appointed a Committee of Inquiry on instructions of the President who had taken cognisance of news reports on these irregularities and the said Committee of Inquiry in its report has observed that the method of releasing the containers was contrary to the law and that “the release of containers without proper inspection poses serious risks to national security, revenue collection, and public safety”;

And whereas the Sri Lanka Customs Officers' Union has publicly stated that they cannot take responsibility for the contents of said containers in light of the irregular manner of their release;

And whereas serious allegations have been raised in Parliament and by responsible authorities that said containers could have been used to smuggle narcotics, arms, and other prohibited contraband into the country;

And whereas recent detections in Sri Lanka, including the recovery of large consignments of narcotic drugs and an increase in incidents involving illegal firearms, have heightened legitimate fears that lapses of this nature are directly linked to threats faced by the public;

And whereas this matter touches upon issues of national security, law enforcement, public safety, and the integrity of the country's ports and customs administration, all of which are of paramount national importance; and

And whereas this matter has become a source of uncertainty in society;

This Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to look into and report to Parliament and submit its proposals and recommendations on all matters relating to the release of the said containers, not being limited to the above, but also including the following:—

- (a) the legality and propriety of releasing containers without physical inspection;
 - (b) the accountability of government authorities, officials, and private entities involved;
 - (c) whether any of the said containers contained illegal, prohibited, or harmful goods;
 - (d) the role and responsibility of the Sri Lanka Customs and the Sri Lanka Ports Authority in the process;
 - (e) the adequacy of existing laws, regulations, and procedures in safeguarding against such irregularities; and
 - (f) recommendations for legal, administrative, and policy reforms to ensure prevention of such incidents in the future.
2. (a) that the Chair and Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Speaker; and
 - (b) that in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 101 of Parliament, the Committee shall not consist of more than twelve (12) Members.
3. That the Committee shall have the power to —
 - (a) fix its quorum;
 - (b) summon any person to appear before it, to require any person to procure any document or record, to procure and receive all such evidence, written or oral, as the Committee may think it necessary for the fullest consideration of the matters referred to above;
 - (c) obtain the services of specialists and experts in the relevant fields to assist the Committee; and

- (d) make interim reports from time to time and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment or prorogation of Parliament.

4. The Committee shall present its report to Parliament within a period of three months (03) from the first meeting of the Committee or within such further period as Parliament may grant.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (Proposal to Convert Dedicated Economic Centres into a Limited Company): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

(At 6.26 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

And it being past 6.30 p.m. Parliament was at 7.02 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Chairperson of Committees pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.00 a.m. on Thursday, November 20, 2025 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 13th November, 2025.