



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 109]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Monday, November 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

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

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. (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 Vidyarathna, 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. Vijitha Herath, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

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. (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. Sundaralingam Pradeep, Deputy Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure

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

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

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

Hon. Arun Hemachandra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Employment

Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe
Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi
Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi
Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi
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. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan
Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. (Dr.) Sellaththamby Thilaganathan
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Nanda Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. (Dr.) Sandaruwan Madarasinghe
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. S.M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Thuraiyasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari 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. Gnanamuththu Srineshan

Hon. Fasmin Sharif

Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam

Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath

Hon. Dewananda Suraweera

Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj

Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law

Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law

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

Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi

Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, 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:—

“Hon. Members of Parliament,

I would like to make a clarification on the statement made by Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri, Member of Parliament, on 21st November 2025, regarding the methodology currently followed in placing questions for oral answers in the order paper.

The current procedure for scheduling questions for oral answers in the order paper has been developed by drawing the special attention of the Committee on Parliamentary Business held on 16.03.2022, to a written request made by twenty-two (22) Members of Parliament of the Ninth Parliament to the then Hon. Speaker, stating that only a few Members of Parliament had the opportunity to ask questions on each sitting day of Parliament due to the procedure followed until then for including questions requiring oral answers in the order paper of Parliament, and therefore, that the other Members of Parliament who submit questions were not given the opportunity to ask those questions on an equal basis.

Accordingly, the Committee on Parliamentary Business held on 16.03.2022 has done a comprehensive study on the proposal containing the methodology for scheduling questions for oral answers in the order paper and has unanimously approved it. I would like to emphasize here that this methodology is not a methodology designed to provide more opportunities to a Member representing any party, and that no official has interfered in this regard.

I would like to further state that, the Committee on Parliamentary Business held on 18.11.2025 has decided to use this same basis for scheduling 'Private Members Motions' submitted by Members of Parliament in the order paper, considering the success of this methodology currently followed in relation to oral questions and further adhering to the request made by Members of Parliament to use the same basis for that purpose as well.

Accordingly, I would like to inform this House that the statement made by the Honorable Member of Parliament Chaminda Wijesiri regarding the current procedure for scheduling questions for oral answers in the order paper of Parliament and the statement made to the effect that officials have acted in a biased manner in that regard is false and baseless."

2. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker presented the Second Installment – Part XXX and Ninth Installment – Part 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 Regulations made by the President under Section 35 read with Sections 6(b), (c) and (j), 16 and 31 of the Public Debt Management Act, No. 33 of 2024 and the proviso to Article 44(3) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, on the recommendation of the Public Debt Coordination Committee and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2459/52 of 24th October 2025 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees: Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on the —

- (i) Regulations 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
- (ii) Regulations under Section 39 read with paragraphs (p) and (s) of Section 7 and Section 9 of Civil Aviation Authority Act, No.34 of 2002

which were referred to the said Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

(1) Hon. (Mrs.) Hemali Weerasekara presented—

- (i) A petition dated 06.10.2025 from Mr. A.D. Leenus of No. 564, Sampaya Mawatha, Enderamulla, Wattala;
- (ii) A petition dated 18.06.2025 from Mr. M.T.M. Hussain of No 431/15 A, Palliya watta, Enderamulla, Wattala.;
- (iii) A petition dated 18.08.2025 from Mrs. P.R. Siriawathie of No. 656, Kendaliyaddapaluwa, Raagama;
- (iv) A petition dated 20.08.2025 from Mr. Sameera Kumara Gunasinghe of No 327/C, Webada South, Webada; and
- (v) A petition dated 05.10.2025 from Mr. G.P. Thusitha Pramod Wijayawardhana of No. 102 A, Walbothale, Meerigama.

(2) Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 29.09.2025 from Mr. A.H.G. de Silva of No. 181, Hegalle, Kosgoda.

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

5. Appropriation Bill—(Fourteenth Allotted Day): Considered in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 117

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. S.M. Marikkar, proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.00 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

(At 2.13 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharoof took the Chair.)

(At 3.09 p.m. Hon. Upul Kithsiri took the Chair.)

(At 4.03 p.m. Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran took the Chair.)

(At 4.27 p.m. Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake took the Chair.)

(At 5.22 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Ministry of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation

The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out lines 13, 14 and 15 in page 20 and substitute the following:—

“Ministry of Transport, Highways, and Urban Development

Recurrent	58,515,000,000
Capital	438,744,000,000 ”

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.

The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out lines 2, 3 and 4 in page 21 and substitute the following:—

“Head 117 Minister of Transport, Highways, and Urban Development

Programme	01	Operational Activities	1,314,000,000	63,000,000
Programme	02	Development Activities	19,480,000,000	401,203,000,000”

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 306

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 34,612,000,000 for Head 306, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 35,538,000,000 for Head 306, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 307

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,891,000,000 for Head 307, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,915,000,000 for Head 307, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 336

The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out lines 9 and 10 in page 21 and substitute the following:—

Head 311 - Department of National Physical Planning

“Programme 01 Operational Activities 218,000,000 25,000,000”

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.

Ministry of Urban Development, Construction and Housing

The Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply proposed an amendment to leave out lines 13, 14 and 15 in page 23 and substitute the following:—

“Ministry of Housing, Construction and Water Supply

Recurrent 2,457,000,000

Capital 69,903,000,000 ”

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 123

The Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out lines 17, 18 and 19 in page 23 and substitute the following:—

“Head 123 Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply

Programme 01 Operational Activities 715,000,000 70,000,000

Programme 02 Development Activities 150,000,000 66,574,000,000”

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 309

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 201,000,000 for Head 309, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 12,000,000 for Head 309, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 524,000,000 for Head 309, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 61,000,000 for Head 309, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 310

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 227,000,000 for Head 310, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 186,000,000 for Head 310, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 311

The Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out lines 6 and 7 in page 24.

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 332

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 640,000,000 for Head 332, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 3,000,000,000 for Head 332, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 176 and Head 336

Ministry of Ports and Civil Aviation

The Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation proposed an amendment to insert the following immediately after line 10 in page 34, in order to create the new "Ministry of Ports and Civil Aviation":—

“Ministry of Ports and Civil Aviation

Recurrent	617,000,000
Capital	3,511,000,000

Head 176 Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation

Programme	01	Operational Activities	414,000,000	19,000,000
Programme	02	Development Activities	-	3,420,000,000

Head 336 Merchant Shipping Secretariat

Programme	02	Development Activities	203,000,000	72,000,000"
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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.

At 6.27 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

6. Regulations under the Civil Aviation Act: The Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation moved,— That the 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, which were presented on 13.11.2025, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Regulations under the Civil Aviation Authority Act: The Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation moved,— That the 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, which were presented on 13.11.2025, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Adjournment (Land Issues in Verugal Divisional Secretariat Division): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being past 6.30 p.m. Parliament was at 7.08 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2025 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 13th November, 2025.