



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 118.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, December 19, 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

Honourable Anura Kumara Dissanayake, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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.) 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.) 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 Vidyarthna**, 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. Sajith Premadasa**, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
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- Hon. Chaturanga 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. 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. 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 Mulaffer**, 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. 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. (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. Aboobucker Athambawa
Hon. (Mrs.) Sagarika Athauda, Attorney at Law
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Prof.) L.M. Abeywickrama
Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna
Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi
Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi
Hon. B. Ariyawansa
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga
Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC
Hon. Upul Kithsiri
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindrane Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Ashoka Gunasena

Hon. Gayan Janaka
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. T.K. Jayasundara
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
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. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. Nishantha Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Nanda Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Ravindra Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. Thahir Marrikkar

Hon. S.M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. Suranga Rathnayaka
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Manoj Rajapaksha
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
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. 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. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi

Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara
Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
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. 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 inform Parliament that I have received copies of two petitions filed at the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled ‘Institute of Real Estate Professionals, Sri Lanka’ on 18th of December 2025.”

2. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the—

- (i) 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 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2465/07 of 01st December 2025; and
- (ii) Recommendations submitted to the Hon. President by the Finance Commission for the year 2026 in terms of Sub Article (4)(a) of Article 154R of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the Performance Report of the President's Fund for the year 2024 and moved that the report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the Annual Report of the State Mortgage and Investment Bank for the year 2024 and moved that those reports be referred to the Committee Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports From Committees: Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna, Member of the Committee, on behalf of the Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on Supplementary Estimate No. 1 of 2026, Head 240 – Programme 02 for the financial year commencing on 1st January 2026 and ending on 31st December 2026 under the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development which was referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. (Prof.) A.H.M.H. Abayarathna presented a petition dated 12.08.2025 from Mr. G.G. Sujith Nishantha of Thattewa Road, Anamadua.
- (2) Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara presented a petition dated 30.06.2025 from Mr. P. Premalal Peris of No. 62, Balapokuna Road, Kirulapone, Colombo 06.
- (3) Hon. B. Ariyawansa presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 31.07.2025 from Mrs. S.L. Sujatha Sepali of No 69/1, Daapane, Omalpe; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 28.07.2025 from Mrs. T.G. Udeni Saroja of No 66/D, Maharuppa, Omalpe.
- (4) Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana presented—
 - (i) A petition dated 11.06.2025 from Mr. P.L.H. Wijewardhana of No.52, Keththaketu Hena, Yatigaloluwa; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 31.05.2025 from Mr. R.M.D. Jagath of No.156, Korale Watta, Makandura, Gonavila.

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

5. Business of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Sittings of the Parliament : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 06th, 2026.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Privileges: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Chathuranga Abeysinghe, M.P. on 24th October, 2025 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges in terms of the provisions of Standing Order 118 of the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

8. Supplementary Sum:— Head 240— Programme 02— The Minister of Labour and Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— †That this Parliament resolves that an additional sum not exceeding Rupees Five Hundred billion (Rs. 500,000,000,000) shall be payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, or any other fund or finances possessed by the Government, or any loan obtained by the Government at the discretion of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, for the services of the financial year commencing on 01st January, 2026, and ending on 31st December, 2026, and that the said sum may be expended in the manner specified in the schedule hereto:—

SCHEDULE

Head 240	-	Department of National Budget	
Programme 02	-	Development Activities	
		Recurrent Expenditure	Rs. 150,000,000,000
		Capital Expenditure	<u>Rs. 350,000,000,000</u>
		Total Expenditure	<u>Rs. 500,000,000,000</u>

†Vide Supplementary Estimate No. 1 of 2026 presented on 18th December, 2025

(At 10.30 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

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

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.02 p.m. Hon. Upul Kithsiri took the Chair.)

(At 4.32 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Adjournment : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Deputy Speaker at 6.07 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 06, 2026 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day