



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 108.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, November 22 , 2025 at 9.00 a.m.

PRESENT :

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

Hon. (Dr.) Upali Pannilage, Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment

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. Chathuranga Abeysinghe, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development

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

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. Mahinda Jayasinghe, Deputy Minister of Labour
Hon. Major General (Rtd.) Aruna Jayasekera, Deputy Minister of Defence
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. Dinindu Saman Hennayake, Deputy Minister of Youth 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. B. Ariyawansa
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. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage

Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Ashoka Gunasena
Hon. D. V. Chanaka
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. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. Dharmapriya Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna
Hon. (Prof.) Sena Nanayakkara
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. Nishantha Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G.G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Balagalla
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bayanandarajah

Hon. E.M. Basnayaka
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. (Dr.) Sandaruwan Madarasinghe
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. Ismail Muththu Mohamed
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Attorney at Law
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. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath
Hon. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. (Dr.) Janaka Senarathna
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law

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 Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

1. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Ajith P. Perera presented a petition dated 10.06.2025 from Mr. T.H.A. Perera of No 21/7, Thanayam Watta, Bandaragama.
- (2) Hon. Nihal Galappaththi presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 02.08.2025 from Mr. E.H.P.B. Keerthi of ‘Kosruppa’, Nathuwala, Walasmulla;
 - (ii) A petition dated 15.06.2025 from Mr. W.A. Ariyapala of No. G/03, 205/6, Wew Athura, New Town, Embilipitiya; and
 - (iii) A petition dated 13.07.2025 from Mr. W.D.C.M. Walpola of No.18, Marakolliya, Tangalle.
- (3) Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage presented a petition dated 07.03.2025 from Mr. K. Lal Kumarasiri De Silva of Dombagaha Liyadda, Baddegama North, Baddegama.

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

2. Appropriation Bill—(Thirteenth Allotted Day): Considered in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.

Head 111

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana, proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.22 a.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

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

(At 2.20 p.m. Hon. Imran Maharoof took the Chair.)

(At 3.43 p.m. Hon. Chanaka Madugoda took the Chair.)

(At 5.08 p.m. Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Ministry of Health and Mass Media

The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out line 05 in page 18 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 105,100,000,000”

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.

The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development proposed an amendment to leave out line 08 in page 18 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 01 Operational Activities 195,999,998,000 43,100,000,000”

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.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 217,340,000,000 for Head 111, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 56,835,000,000 for Head 111, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 210

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 450,000,000 for Head 210, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 105,000,000 for Head 210, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 211

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,165,000,000 for Head 211, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,160,000,000 for Head 211, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 220

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 275,000,000 for Head 220, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 60,000,000 for Head 220, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,025,000,000 for Head 220, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,040,000,000 for Head 220, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 308

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 27,745,000,000 for Head 308, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,800,000,000 for Head 308, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 6.57 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Monday, November 24, 2025.

3. Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation (2021): The Minister of Health and Mass Media moved,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation 2021 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2021 and presented on 01.12.2023 under Section 14 of the Finance Act No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Annual Report of the Independent Television Network Ltd (2022): The Minister of Health and Mass Media moved,— That the Annual Report of the Independent Television Network Ltd 2022 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2022 and presented on 05.03.2024 under Section 14 of the Finance Act No. 38 of 1971, be approved.

Question put, and agreed to.

5. Adjournment: And it being past 6.30 p.m. Parliament was at 6.58 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly, until 9.30 a.m. on Monday, November 24, 2025 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 13th November, 2025.