



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 127]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, February 03, 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Wickramaratne, Speaker

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. 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. 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. (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 Viddyarathna, Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure

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. 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. Eranga Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Urban Development
Hon. Anton Jayakody, Deputy Minister of Environment
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. 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. Eranga Weeraratne, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy
Hon. (Dr.) Madhura Senevirathna, Deputy Minister of Education and Higher
Education
Hon. Dinindu Saman Hennayake, Deputy Minister of Youth Affairs
Hon. Arun Hemachandra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign
Employment
Hon. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Roshan Akmeemana
Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe
Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna
Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. M.K.M. Aslam
Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. (Mrs.) Oshani Umanga
Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law

Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathan
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
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. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nandana Pathmakumara
Hon. Aruna Panagoda
Hon. Nishantha Perera
Hon. Ajith P. Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. G.G. Ponnambalam
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Lal Premanath
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Ravindra Bandara
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. Thahir Marrikkar

Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha
Hon. Suranga Rathnayaka
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
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. Priyantha Wijerathna, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ruwan Wijeweera
Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi
Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara
Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Hansa Abeyrathne, Assistant Secretary-General

Parliament met pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker took the Chair.

1. Messages from the President : The Speaker read the following messages received from the President:—

I



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

My No. PS/CSA/00/7/IX/3/01

January 30, 2026

Hon. I.W.M. Jagath Wickramaratne
Speaker
Parliament of Sri Lanka

Hon. Speaker,

The Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40)

I have declared by Proclamation dated 28th January, 2026 under Section 2 of the Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40) that the provisions of Part II of the aforesaid Ordinance shall come into operation throughout Sri Lanka from 28th January, 2026.

The Parliament is hereby duly informed in terms of Article 155 (4) of the Constitution that the purpose of the above Proclamation is to the protection of public order and the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community, considering the post disaster situation caused by the cyclone Ditwah.

Yours sincerely,


Anura Kumara Dissanayake
President

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இலங்கைச் சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

II



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி
President of Sri Lanka

My No. PS/CSA/00/7/IX/3/01

January 26, 2026

Hon. I.W.M. Jagath Wickramaratne
Speaker
Parliament of Sri Lanka

Hon. Speaker,

The Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40)

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Section 12 of the Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40), I have issued an order to the effect that all members of the Armed Forces specified in the First Schedule are summoned for the maintenance of Public Order in the areas specified in Second Schedule thereof taking into consideration the need for the Public Order to be maintained.

Accordingly, I hereby inform the Parliament of the said Order in terms of Section 2(3) of the aforesaid Ordinance read with Section 21(2) thereof.

Yours sincerely,


Anura Kumara Dissanayake
President

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Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

2. Announcements by the Speaker: The Speaker made the following announcement:—

“I wish to inform Parliament that I have received copies of four petitions filed at the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 121(1) of the Constitution in respect of the Bill titled ‘Protection of Occupants.’”

3. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker tabled the Financial Statements of the National Audit Office for the year 2024 in terms of Sections 36(1) and 36(3) of the National Audit Act, No. 19 of 2018

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

(2) The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented —

- (i) The Note on Supplementary Allocations from the Development Activities Programme appearing under Expenditure Head No. 240 of the Department of National Budget for the period from 01.12.2025 to 31.12.2025 in terms of Section 6(1) of the Appropriation Act, No. 3 of 2025; and
- (ii) The Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2473/13 of 28th January 2026 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979.

Ordered that the said Papers lie upon the **Table**.

(3) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented —

- (i) Annual Report of the Road Development Authority for the year 2023; and
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Transport Medical Institute for the year 2024

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development .

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Ayurveda Medical Council for the year 2024 and moved that those Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Health and Mass Media presented the Annual Report of the Central Engineering Services (Pvt) Limited for the year 2024 and moved that that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

4. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. Eranga Weeraratne, Member of the Ministerial Consultative Committee on Digital Economy, on behalf of the Chair of the Committee, presented the Report on Regulations made by the then Minister of Technology under Section 71(1) read with Section 17(10) of the Sri Lanka Telecommunications Act, No. 25 of 1991 as amended by the Sri Lanka Telecommunications (Amendment) Acts, No. 27 of 1996 and No. 39 of 2024 regarding Telecommunications Infrastructure Sharing and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2396/32 of 07th August 2024 which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, Member of Parliament, the Chair of the Committee presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection on —

- (i) Performance Reports of the Registrar of the Supreme Court for the years 2022, 2023 & 2024;
- (ii) Performance Reports of the Judges of the Superior Court – Head 04 for the years 2023 & 2024;
- (iii) Annual Report of the Superior Courts Complex Board of Management for the year 2022;
- (iv) Annual Reports of the National Authority for the Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses for the years 2022 & 2023;
- (v) Annual Performance Reports of the Department of Community Based Corrections for the years 2023 & 2024;
- (vi) Annual Reports of the Legal Aid Commission of Sri Lanka for the years 2022 & 2023;
- (vii) Annual Performance Reports of the Department of Official Languages for the years 2023 & 2024;
- (viii) Annual Reports of the Official Languages Commission for the years 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023;
- (ix) Annual Reports of the National Institute of Language Education and Training for the years 2022 & 2023;
- (x) Performance Reports of the Department of Prisons for the years 2023 & 2024;
- (xi) Performance Reports of the Prisoners Welfare Fund of the Department of Prisons for the years 2023 & 2024; and
- (xii) Annual Performance Reports of the Department of Debt Conciliation Board for the years 2023 & 2024

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(3) Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, Member of Parliament, the Chair of the Committee presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection on —

- (i) Poisons, Opium and Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill; and
- (ii) Judicature (Amendment) Bill

which were referred to the Committee.

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

5. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 22.07.2025 from Mr. M.M.I.M. Karunarathna of No 299/4, Perera Mawatha, Kiribathgoda; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 31.07.2025 from Mr. S. Sandun Kahingala of No 129 A, Nigroda Mawatha, Gonapinuwala.
- (2) Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasingha presented a petition dated 11.07.2025 from Mr. Nalin Dasantha Vithana of No 48/05, Gamini Mawatha, Matugama.
- (3) Hon. Dewananda Suraweera presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 24.11.2025 from Mr. Tharindu Priyankara Weerasinghe of No 25, Ambagahapura, Maharagama; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 10.08.2025 from Mr. W. Dasanayaka of No 5, Senadhilankaragama, Buwanekaba Mawatha, Mirihana, Kotte.
- (4) Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi presented a petition dated 13.07.2025 from Mr. P.A.S. Ponnampereuma of No 39/2, Peiris Mawatha, Gangarama Road, Werchana, Borelasgamuwa.

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

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 Thursday, February 05th, 2026.

Question put, and agreed to.

7. Privileges: Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka seconded by Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law, M.P. on 07th January, 2026 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. Regulations under the Sri Lanka Telecommunications Act: The Deputy Minister of Digital Economy on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That the Regulations made by the then Minister of Technology under Section 71(1) read with Section 17(10) of the Sri Lanka Telecommunications Act, No. 25 of 1991 as amended by the Sri Lanka Telecommunications (Amendment) Acts, No. 27 of 1996 and No. 39 of 2024 regarding Telecommunications Infrastructure Sharing and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2396/32 of 07th August 2024, which were presented on 23.01.2026, be approved.

(At 11.58 a.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

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

The Deputy Minister of Labour moved,— That Hon. M.K.M.Aslam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 1.11 p.m. Hon. M.K.M.Aslam took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Digital Economy moved,— That Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.04 p.m. Hon. Sanjeeva Ranasinghe took the Chair.)

(At 3.38 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Deputy Minister of Labour moved,— That Hon. M.K.M.Aslam do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.29 p.m. Hon. M.K.M.Aslam took the Chair.)

The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development moved,— That Hon. Chanaka Madugoda do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 4.57 p.m. Hon. Chanaka Madugoda took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Adjournment (Protection of Muthurajawela Wetlands): The Minister of Environment moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.59 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, February 05, 2026 pursuant to the Resolution of this day.