



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 130.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 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.) 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 Vidyaratna, 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. Chathuranga Abeysinghe**, Deputy Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development
- Hon. (Dr.)(Ms.) Kaushalya Ariyaratne**, Deputy Minister of Mass Media
- Hon. Arkam Ilyas**, Deputy Minister of Power
- 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. (Dr.) Prasanna Gunasena**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Highways
- 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. Wasantha Piyathissa**, Deputy Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment
- Hon. Sundaralingam Pradeep**, Deputy Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure
- Hon. Muneer Mulafter**, Deputy Minister of Religious and Cultural Affairs
- Hon. (Prof.) Ruwan Ranasinghe**, Deputy Minister of Tourism
- 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. Upali Samarasingha**, Deputy Minister of Cooperative Development
- 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. 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. Ajith Agalakada

Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardhana

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. M.K.M. Aslam

Hon. Hessa Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi

Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi

Hon. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi

Hon. B. Ariyawansa

Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika

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. Upul Kithsiri

Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law

Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan
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. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani
Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilusha Lakmali Gamage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Ashoka Gunasena
Hon. Gayan Janaka
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. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. (Dr.) Sellaththamby Thilaganathan
Hon. (Mrs.) Anushka Thilakarathne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandana Thennakoon
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha 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. Kanthasamy Prabu
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. Sudath Balagalla
Hon. (Dr.) S. Sri Bavanandarajah
Hon. E.M. Basnayaka
Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake
Hon. Sunil Biyanwila
Hon. (Dr.) Sandaruwan Madarasinghe
Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. Jagath Manuwarna
Hon. Thahir Marrikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda

Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. Sanjeewa Ranasingha
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. Sunil Rathnasiri
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. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Manoj Rajapaksha
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Deepthi Wasalage
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law
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. Athula Welandagoda
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. Thilina Samarakoon

Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel
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. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dinesh Hemantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Bhagya Sri Herath, Attorney at Law
Hon. Muhammad Faizal
Hon. Riyas Farook

Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, 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 Parliament that I have received the Decision of the Supreme Court in respect of the Bills titled ‘Protection of Occupants’ and ‘Rent (Repeal)’ which had been challenged in the Supreme Court in terms of the Article 121(1) of the Constitution.

In view of the undertakings given by the Hon. Attorney General based on the letter issued to him by the Secretary to the Ministry of Justice on 06.02.2026 that the Bills titled ‘Protection of Occupants’ and ‘Rent (Repeal)’ would not be proceeded within their present form, but would instead be referred to an expert committee for consideration, and appropriate steps would be taken to present them as new Bills, the petitioners had withdrawn their petitions.

Accordingly, the Supreme Court has decided that there was no necessity to make formal determinations in respect of the two Bills titled ‘Protection of Occupants’ and ‘Rent (Repeal)’ in terms of the Article 121(3) of the Constitution.

I order that the Decision of the Supreme Court be printed in the official report of today's proceedings.”.

II

“A Motion may be moved to refer the Question of Privilege raised by the Hon. Riyas Farook, M.P., in Parliament on 5th February 2026 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges ”.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka for the year 2023;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Institute of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology of the University of Colombo for the year 2024; and
- (iii) Annual Report and Accounts of the University of Jaffna for the year 2024.

and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital .

Question put, and agreed to.

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Life Limited for the year 2024;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation General Limited for the year 2024; and
- (iii) Annual Report of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka for the year 2024.

and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations .

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education presented the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 22 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2467/67 of 18th December 2025 and moved that Report be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented the Report on the observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 120(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital Board in the report of the Committee on Public Enterprises which was presented to Parliament and moved that Report be referred to the Committee on Public Enterprises.

Question put, and agreed to.

(5) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented the Annual Report of the National Livestock Development Board for the year 2021 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability.

Question put, and agreed to.

(6) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented the Report on the observations and steps taken in terms of the Standing Order 119(4) of the Parliament with regard to the matters mentioned on the Ministry of Lands and the Institutions coming under its purview in the report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts .

Question put, and agreed to.

(7) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented the Annual Report and Accounts of the National Salt Limited for the year 2023/2024 and moved that Report and the Accounts be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations.

Question put, and agreed to.

(8) The Minister of Energy presented the Annual Report of the Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited for the year 2024 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development.

Question put, and agreed to.

(9) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented the Annual Report of the Shrama Vasana Fund for the year 2024 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital.

Question put, and agreed to.

(10) The Minister of Women and Child Affairs presented the Annual Report of the National Child Protection Authority for the year 2024 and moved that Report be referred to the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva, The Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the —

- (i) Orders under the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007 (Published in Gazettes Extraordinary No. 2464/14 of 25th November 2025, No.2465/16 of 04th December 2025 and No. 2469/12 of 31st December 2025);
- (ii) Resolution under Section 10 of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) relating to Import Duties (Published in Gazette Extraordinary No. 2464/15 of 25th November 2025); and
- (iii) Microfinance and Credit Regulatory Authority Bill

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. Hector Appuhamy, The Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the —

- (i) Annual Report of the Ceylon Fisheries Corporation for the year 2019;
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka for the year 2023;
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation for the years 2022 and 2023;
- (iv) Performance Report of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources for the year 2024; and
- (v) Annual Report of the Cey Nor Foundation Limited for the year 2020

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(3) Hon. Hector Appuhamy, The Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the —

- (i) Performance Reports of the Department of Agrarian Development for the years 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023;
- (ii) Annual Performance Report of the Department of Animal Production and Health for the year 2024; and
- (iii) Annual Reports of the Sri Lanka National Freedom from Hunger Campaign Board (National Food Promotion Board) for the years 2018 and 2021

which were referred to the Committee.

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

(4) Hon. Hector Appuhamy, The Chair of The Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the Annual Reports of the Janatha Estates Development Board for the years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 which was referred to the Committee.

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

(5) Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika, The Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the Parliamentary Pensions (Repeal) Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala presented a petition dated 19.07.2025 from Mrs. H.M.T.M. Kularathne of Kandehenawatta, Pahala Huruggamuwa, Weerambagedara.
- (2) Hon. Hector Appuhamy presented —
 - (i) A petition dated 31.07.2025 from Mrs. G.A.S.M. Jayaweera of No. 624/2, Rawita, Welpalla; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 12.07.2025 from Mrs. P.M.H. Kaushalya of No. 67/1 Sandalankawa, Sandalankawa.
- (3) Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage presented a petition dated 22.07.2025 from Mr. D.K. Susantha Gunasiri of No.72/37, Sadaham Mawatha, Alaswatta, Kirimativulla, Thelijjawila.
- (4) Hon. Amila Prasad presented a petition dated 20.07.2025 from Mrs. K.M.A.D.P. Kumari of No. 102, Sandu, 1st Post, Hapitigama, Kal-eliya.
- (5) Hon. Fasmin Sharif presented a petition dated 08.07.2025 from Mr. K.M.D.N.D. Kangara of Paranagama, Jambugahapitiya, Katugastota.

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

5. Leave to introduce Bill : Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna seconded by Hon. Imran Maharroof moved,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Indira Cancer Charitable Trust.”

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time and ordered to be printed.

The Bill stood referred under Standing Order 52(6) of the Parliament to the Minister Health and Mass Media for report.

6. Parliamentary Pensions (Repeal) Bill : Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,— That the Bill be now read a second time.

(At 11.51 a.m, the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 1.00 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

(At 2.06 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

The Minister of Environment moved,—That Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.34 p.m. the Hon. Sujeewa Dissanayake took the Chair.)

(At 4.59 p.m. Hon. Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament having divided as follows: Ayes: 154; Noes: 02.

The following One hundred and fifty five (155) Members of Parliament voted by using the electronic voting system under the Standing Order 47(2)(b) of the Parliament, as follows:—

G 001. K.V. Samantha Viddyaratna	Yes
G 003. K.D. Lal Kantha	Yes
G 004. Vijitha Herath	Yes
G 006. Bimal Rathnayake	Yes
G 007. Harini Amarasuriya	Yes
G 009. Ramalingam Chandrasekar	Yes
G 010. Wasantha Samarasinghe	Yes
G 011. A.H.M.H. Abayarathna	Yes
G 012. Chrishantha Abeysena	Yes
G 013. Anil Jayantha	Yes
G 014. Harshana Nanayakkara	Yes
G 015. Dammika Patabendi	Yes
G 016. Saroja Savithri Paulraj	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 024. Susil Ranasinghe	Yes

G 025. Nihal Galappaththi	Yes
G 026. Nihal Abeysinghe	Yes
G 027. Namal Karunaratne	Yes
G 028. Wasantha Piyathissa	Yes
G 029. Gamagedara Dissanayake	Yes
G 030. R.M. Jayawardhana	Yes
G 031. Sunil Watagala	Yes
G 033. Mahinda Jayasinghe	Yes
G 034. Chathuranga Abeysinghe	Yes
G 035. Eranga Gunasekara	Yes
G 036. Upali Samarasingha	Yes
G 038. Nalin Hewage	Yes
G 039. Prasanna Gunasena	Yes
G 041. Hemali Weerasekara	Yes
G 042. Sundaralingam Pradeep	Yes
G 043. Ruwan Ranasinghe	Yes
G 044. Muneer Mulafter	Yes
G 045. Hansaka Wijemuni	Yes
G 046. Eranga Weeraratne	Yes
G 047. Namal Sudarshana	Yes
G 048. P. Ruwan Senarath	Yes
G 049. Madhura Senevirathna	Yes
G 050. Arun Hemachandra	Yes
G 051. Janitha Ruwan Kodithuwakku	Yes
G 052. Aruna Jayasekera	Yes
G 054. Kaushalya Ariyaratne	Yes
G 055. Arkam Ilyas	Yes
G 056. Aravinda Senarath	Yes
G 057. Dinindu Saman	Yes
G 058. Nishantha Jayaweera	Yes
G 059. Ashoka Ranwala	Yes
G 060. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi	Yes
G 061. Gayan Janaka	Yes
G 062. Najith Indika	Yes
G 063. Lakmali Hemachandra	Yes
G 064. Samanmali Gunasingha	Yes
G 065. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake	Yes

G 066. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi	Yes
G 067. K. Ilankumaran	Yes
G 068. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha	Yes
G 069. Ajith Agalakada	Yes
G 070. Sagarika Athauda	Yes
G 071. Roshan Akmeemana	Yes
G 072. U. P. Abeywickrama	Yes
G 073. L.M. Abeywickrama	Yes
G 074. M.K.M. Aslam	Yes
G 075. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana	Yes
G 076. Oshani Umanga	Yes
G 077. Krishnan Kalaichelvi	Yes
G 078. Upul Kithsiri	Yes
G 079. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara	Yes
G 080. Chaminda Lalith Kumara	Yes
G 081. Sarath Kumara	Yes
G 082. Nilanthi Kottahachchi	Yes
G 083. M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani	Yes
G 084. Lasith Bhashana Gamage	Yes
G 085. Thilanka U. Gamage	Yes
G 086. Nilusha Lakmali Gamage	Yes
G 087. Ajantha Gammeddage	Yes
G 088. Ajith Gihan	Yes
G 089. Jagath Gunawardana	Yes
G 090. Aboobucker Athambawa	Yes
G 092. Thushari Jayasingha	Yes
G 093. T.K. Jayasundara	Yes
G 094. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran	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 110. Kanthasamy Prabu	Yes
G 111. Lal Premanath	Yes
G 112. Nanda Bandara	Yes
G 113. Padmasiri Bandara	Yes
G 114. Ravindra Bandara	Yes
G 115. Sudath Balagalla	Yes
G 116. Sri Bavanandarajah	Yes
O 009. Ravi Karunanayake	Yes
O 016. Ramanathan Archchuna	Yes
O 054. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake	No
O 056. Chanaka Madugoda	No
O 065. E. M. Basnayaka	Yes
O 066. Wijesiri Basnayake	Yes
O 067. S. Sandaruwan Madarasinghe	Yes
O 068. Prageeth Madhuranga	Yes
O 069. Jagath Manuwarna	Yes
O 070. Ruwan Mapalagama	Yes
O 071. Nandana Millagala	Yes
O 072. Riyas Farook	Yes
O 081. Danushka Ranganath	Yes
O 082. Sanjeeva Ranasingha	Yes
O 083. Sunil Rathnasiri	Yes
O 084. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka	Yes
O 085. A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe	Yes
O 086. Manoj Rajapaksha	Yes
O 087. Sunil Rajapaksha	Yes
O 088. Hasara Liyanage	Yes
O 089. Deepthi Wasalage	Yes
O 090. Kanchana Welipitiya	Yes
O 091. R. G. Wijerathna	Yes
O 092. Nishantha Samaraweera	Yes

O 093. Priyantha Wijerathna	Yes
O 094. Ruwan Wijeweera	Yes
O 095. Darmapriya Wijesinghe	Yes
O 096. Hiruni Wijesinghe	Yes
O 097. Athula Welandagoda	Yes
O 098. Fasmin Sharif	Yes
O 099. Thilina Samarakoon	Yes
O 100. Ambika Samivel	Yes
O 101. Dewananda Suraweera	Yes
O 102. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi	Yes
O 103. G.D. Sooriyabandara	Yes
O 104. Kitnan Selvaraj	Yes
O 105. Janaka Senarathna	Yes
O 106. Chandima Hettiaratchi	Yes
O 107. Champika Hettiarachchi	Yes
O 108. Dinesh Hemantha	Yes
O 109. Geetha Herath	Yes
O 110. Bhagya Sri Herath	Yes
O 111. Muhammad Faizal	Yes
O 112. Ashoka Gunasena	Yes
O 113. Nandana Pathmakumara	Yes
O 114. Sunil Biyanwila	Yes
O 115. Samantha Ranasingha	Yes

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

Hon. Rathna Gamage	Yes
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Bill accordingly read a second time

The Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,— That the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

Parliament immediately resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to.

Clause 3

The Hon. Ravi Karunanayake proposed an amendment to insert the following Sub Clause immediately after the Clause 3 :—

“3(1) The provisions of this Act shall apply only to persons elected to Parliament the date of commencement of this Act,

(2) Nothing in this Act shall operate retrospectively so as to deprive any former Member of the Parliament of a pension right that had accrued prior to the date of commencement of this Act”

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

The Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake proposed an amendment to leave out lines 07 to 14 (both Inclusive) in page 1 and substitute the following:—

“For the avoidance of doubts, it is hereby declared that this Act shall not apply to any person who is entitled to receive a pension in terms of the provisions of the Parliamentary Pensions Law, No. 1 of 1977, section 9 of Act, No.1 of 1982 or section 9 of Act, No. 47 of 1990, and is in receipt of a pension under the aforesaid provisions preceding the date of commencement of this Act.”

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

Question that the Clause be without amended stand part of the Bill, put and agreed to; Parliament having divided as follows: Ayes: 152 ; Noes: 04.

The following One hundred and fifty six (156) Members of Parliament voted by using the electronic voting system under the Standing Order 47(2)(b) of the Parliament, as follows:—

G 001. K.V. Samantha Viddyarathna	Yes
G 003. K.D. Lal Kantha	Yes
G 004. Vijitha Herath	Yes
G 006. Bimal Rathnayake	Yes
G 007. Harini Amarasuriya	Yes
G 009. Ramalingam Chandrasekar	Yes
G 010. Wasantha Samarasinghe	Yes
G 011. A.H.M.H. Abayarathna	Yes
G 012. Chrishantha Abeysena	Yes
G 013. Anil Jayantha	Yes
G 014. Harshana Nanayakkara	Yes
G 015. Dammika Patabendi	Yes
G 016. Saroja Savithri Paulraj	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 024. Susil Ranasinghe	Yes
G 025. Nihal Galappaththi	Yes
G 026. Nihal Abeysinghe	Yes
G 027. Namal Karunaratne	Yes
G 028. Wasantha Piyathissa	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 034. Chathuranga Abeysinghe	Yes
G 035. Eranga Gunasekara	Yes
G 036. Upali Samarasingha	Yes
G 038. Nalin Hewage	Yes
G 039. Prasanna Gunasena	Yes
G 041. Hemali Weerasekara	Yes
G 042. Sundaralingam Pradeep	Yes
G 043. Ruwan Ranasinghe	Yes
G 044. Muneer Mulafter	Yes
G 045. Hansaka Wijemuni	Yes
G 046. Eranga Weeraratne	Yes
G 047. Namal Sudarshana	Yes
G 048. P. Ruwan Senarath	Yes
G 049. Madhura Senevirathna	Yes
G 050. Arun Hemachandra	Yes
G 051. Janitha Ruwan Kodithuwakku	Yes
G 052. Aruna Jayasekera	Yes
G 054. Kaushalya Ariyaratne	Yes
G 055. Arkam Ilyas	Yes
G 056. Aravinda Senarath	Yes
G 057. Dinindu Saman	Yes
G 058. Nishantha Jayaweera	Yes

G 059. Ashoka Ranwala	Yes
G 060. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi	Yes
G 061. Gayan Janaka	Yes
G 062. Najith Indika	Yes
G 063. Lakmali Hemachandra	Yes
G 064. Samanmali Gunasingha	Yes
G 065. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake	Yes
G 066. Manjula Suraweera Arachchi	Yes
G 067. K. Ilankumaran	Yes
G 068. Shantha Pathma Kumara Subasingha	Yes
G 069. Ajith Agalakada	Yes
G 070. Sagarika Athauda	Yes
G 071. Roshan Akmeemana	Yes
G 072. U. P. Abeywickrama	Yes
G 073. L.M. Abeywickrama	Yes
G 074. M.K.M. Aslam	Yes
G 075. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana	Yes
G 076. Oshani Umanga	Yes
G 077. Krishnan Kalaichelvi	Yes
G 078. Upul Kithsiri	Yes
G 079. Wasantha Pushpa Kumara	Yes
G 080. Chaminda Lalith Kumara	Yes
G 081. Sarath Kumara	Yes
G 082. Nilanthi Kottahachchi	Yes
G 083. M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani	Yes
G 084. Lasith Bhashana Gamage	Yes
G 085. Thilanka U. Gamage	Yes
G 086. Nilusha Lakmali Gamage	Yes
G 087. Ajantha Gammeddage	Yes
G 088. Ajith Gihan	Yes
G 089. Jagath Gunawardana	Yes
G 090. Aboobucker Athambawa	Yes
G 092. Thushari Jayasingha	Yes
G 093. T.K. Jayasundara	Yes
G 094. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran	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 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 110. Kanthasamy Prabu	Yes
G 111. Lal Premanath	Yes
G 112. Nanda Bandara	Yes
G 113. Padmasiri Bandara	Yes
G 114. Ravindra Bandara	Yes
G 115. Sudath Balagalla	Yes
G 116. Sri Bavanandarajah	Yes
O 009. Ravi Karunanayake	No
O 016. Ramanathan Archchuna	Yes
O 037. Faizer Musthafa	No
O 054. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake	No
O 056. Chanaka Madugoda	No
O 065. E. M. Basnayaka	Yes
O 066. Wijesiri Basnayake	Yes
O 067. S. Sandaruwan Madarasinghe	Yes
O 068. Prageeth Madhuranga	Yes
O 069. Jagath Manuwarna	Yes
O 070. Ruwan Mapalagama	Yes
O 071. Nandana Millagala	Yes
O 072. Riyas Farook	Yes
O 081. Danushka Ranganath	Yes
O 082. Sanjeeva Ranasingha	Yes
O 083. Sunil Rathnasiri	Yes

O 084. Manjula Sugath Rathnayaka	Yes
O 085. A.M.M.M. Rathwaththe	Yes
O 086. Manoj Rajapaksha	Yes
O 087. Sunil Rajapaksha	Yes
O 088. Hasara Liyanage	Yes
O 089. Deepthi Wasalage	Yes
O 090. Kanchana Welipitiya	Yes
O 091. R. G. Wijerathna	Yes
O 092. Nishantha Samaraweera	Yes
O 093. Priyantha Wijerathna	Yes
O 094. Ruwan Wijeweera	Yes
O 095. Darmapriya Wijesinghe	Yes
O 096. Hiruni Wijesinghe	Yes
O 097. Athula Welandagoda	Yes
O 098. Fasmin Sharif	Yes
O 099. Thilina Samarakoon	Yes
O 100. Ambika Samivel	Yes
O 101. Dewananda Suraweera	Yes
O 102. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi	Yes
O 103. G.D. Sooriyabandara	Yes
O 104. Kitnan Selvaraj	Yes
O 105. Janaka Senarathna	Yes
O 106. Chandima Hettiaratchi	Yes
O 107. Champika Hettiarachchi	Yes
O 108. Dinesh Hemantha	Yes
O 109. Geetha Herath	Yes
O 110. Bhagya Sri Herath	Yes
O 111. Muhammad Faizal	Yes
O 112. Ashoka Gunasena	Yes
O 113. Nandana Pathmakumara	Yes
O 114. Sunil Biyanwila	Yes
O 115. Samantha Ranasingha	Yes

Clause 4 was agreed to.

New Clause 1

The Hon. Ravi Karunanayake proposed an amendment to insert the following New Clause immediately after the Clause 3 :—

Protection of Former Members Aged 65 and above	“Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Act, any former Member of Parliament who has attained the age of sixty-five(65) years on the date of commencement of this Act shall continue to be entitled to receive pension benefits in accordance with the law as it stood immediately prior to the commencement of this Act.”
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Question that the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Question that the Clause be added to the Bill, put and negatived.

New Clause 2

The Hon. Ravi Karunanayake proposed an amendment to insert the another New Clause immediately after the New Clause 1:—

Hardship Exemption Based on Sole Livelihood	Where a former Member of Parliament established, to the satisfaction of an Independent Review Committee appointed by the Secretary-General of Parliament, that his or her sole source of income and livelihood is the parliamentary pension, such former Member may apply for exemption from the operation of this Act,
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(2) The Independent Review Committee shall consist of:

(a) A retired judge of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal (Chairperson);

(b) The Auditor - General or his nominee;

(c) A representative nominated by the Secretary to the Treasury

(3) The Committee shall determine such applications based on objective financial disclosure, including income, assets, and liabilities.

Question that the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Question that the Clause be added to the Bill, put and negatived.

Enacting Clause and Title

Question that the Enacting Clause and Title stand part of the Bill, put, and agreed to.
Bill reported without Amendments.

The Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,— That the Bill, as amended, be now read the third time.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill, accordingly read the third time and passed.

7. Select Committee of Parliament to review the laws dealing with Elections (excluding laws dealing with Provincial Council Elections) and report to Parliament and submit its proposals and recommendations in that regard: Hon. Ravi Karunanayake, seconded by Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC moved,—

Whereas over the last several years numerous attempts have been made to reform the Electoral System of Sri Lanka;

And whereas Select Committees to look into the Electoral System Reform have been appointed on many occasions;

And whereas several interim reports have been presented by these Committees; and

Whereas no action has been taken to implement the recommendations of these Committees;

That this Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to review the laws dealing with Elections and report to Parliament and submit its proposals and recommendations in that regard, including the following:—

- (a) review the laws dealing with elections more particularly the Registration of Electors Act, the Local Authorities Elections Act, the Provincial Council Elections Act, the Parliamentary Elections Act and the Presidential Elections Act, together with the several amendments made to the said Acts over the years and the Special Provisions Acts made applicable to the provisions of the Acts set out above;
 - (b) assess the need to revise, amend and consolidate these Acts;
 - (c) recommend the reform and amendments necessary to the current laws dealing with elections, excluding Provincial Council Elections;
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 one year (01) of the date of its first sitting or such other or further time as Parliament may grant.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

(At 6.17 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 6.34 p.m. adjourned by the Deputy Chairperson of Committees pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 18.2026.