



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 152.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, May 22, 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. (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 and 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. 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. (Dr.) Hiniduma Sunil Senevi, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs

Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament

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. 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. Sugath Thilakaratne, Deputy Minister of Sports
Hon. Gamagedara Dissanayake, Deputy Minister of Buddhasasana, 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. T. B. Sarath, Deputy Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply
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. Ajith Agalakada
Hon. Amirthanathan Adaikkalanathan
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. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathanan
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. Ajantha Gammeddage
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi

Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Kumara Jayakody
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law
Hon. T.K. Jayasundara
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. Jeevan Thondaman
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Thanura Dissanayake
Hon. Susantha Dodawatta, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
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. Nanda 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. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga
Hon. S.M. Marikkar

Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharroof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Faiszer Musthapha, PC
Hon. R.M. Samantha Ranasinghe
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
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. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
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. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development presented the Rules made by the Chairman of the Governing Board and Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka under Section 105 read with Sections 106 and 78(b) of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Act, No. 16 of 2023 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2479/54 of 12th March 2026 and moved that those Rules be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

(2) The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the —

- (i) 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 Registrar General's Department in the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament; and
- (ii) Reports 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 District Secretariats – Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Puttalam, Kurunegala, Polonnaruwa, Matale, Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Kegalle, Ratnapura, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Ampara, Badulla, Monaragala, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Mullaitivu and Vavuniya in the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament

and moved that those Reports be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(3) The Minister of Ports and Civil Aviation and Minister of Energy 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 Energy (Power Section) in the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

(4) The Minister of Minister of Justice and National Integration 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 Defence in the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts which was presented to Parliament and moved that the Report be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Question put, and agreed to.

2. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Harshana Nanayakkara, Attorney at Law presented a petition dated 18.09.2025 from Mr. L.N. De Zoysa of No 1, Fifth Lane, Nelumpura South, Ratmalana.
- (2) Hon. Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi presented a petition dated 07.04.2025 from Mr. M.M. Sirilal of No. 112, Sanda Kirana Mawatha, Bokundara, Piliyandala.

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

3. Votes of Condolence: The Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development moved the Votes of Condolence on the late Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana, late Hon. S.C. Muthukumarana, late Hon. Chandradasa Galappaththi, late Hon. Nandana Gunathilake, late Hon. Janak Mahendra Adhikari, late Hon. T. Kanagasabai, ex-Members of Parliament.

(At 11.25 a.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,— That Hon. Chanaka Madugoda do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 2.15 p.m. Hon. Chanaka Madugoda took the Chair.)

The Presiding Member announced that the Speaker and himself associated together with the sentiments expressed by both sides of the Parliament on the deaths of the late Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana, late Hon. S.C. Muthukumarana, late Hon. Chandradasa Galappaththi, late Hon. Nandana Gunathilake, late Hon. Janak Mahendra Adhikari and late Hon. T. Kanagasabai, ex-Members of Parliament and directed the Secretary-General of Parliament to send copies of the Official Report (Hansard) containing proceedings of this day to the members of their bereaved families.

4. Adjournment : The Minister of Justice and National Integration moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question put, and agreed to; Parliament was at 4.29 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 09th, 2026.