



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 156.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, June 12, 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 and Minister of Energy

Hon. Ramalingam Chandrasekar, Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources

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. 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. 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 Viddyaratna, Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure

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. Arkam Ilyas, Deputy Minister of Power

Hon. Eranga Gunasekara, Deputy Minister of Urban Development

Hon. (Dr.) Prasanna Gunasena, Deputy Minister of Transport and Highways

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. Wasantha Piyathissa, Deputy Minister of Rural Development, Social Security and Community Empowerment

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. 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. Nalin Hewage, Deputy Minister of Vocational Education

Hon. Ajith Agalakada

Hon. Aboobucker Athambawa

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

Hon. Hector Appuhamy

Hon. (Prof.) L.M. Abeywickrama

Hon. (Dr.) Nihal Abeysinghe

Hon. (Dr.) Ramanathan Archchuna

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala

Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Ravi Karunanayake
Hon. (Ms.) Krishnan Kalaichelvi
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kathiravelu Shanmugam Kugathan
Hon. Chaminda Lalith Kumara
Hon. (Mrs.) Nilanthi Kottahachchi, Attorney at Law
Hon. Kaveenthiran Kodeeswaran
Hon. Thilanka U. Gamage
Hon. Nihal Galappaththi
Hon. Ajith Gihan
Hon. (Dr.) Jagath Gunawardana
Hon. (Mrs.) Samanmali Gunasingha
Hon. Kumara Jayakody
Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody
Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law
Hon. Mayilvaganam Jegatheeswaran
Hon. Rajeevan Jeyachandramoorthy
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
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. 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. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. Stepni Fernando
Hon. Kanthasamy Prabu
Hon. Lal Premanath
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. Jagath Manuwarna
Hon. S.M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Chanaka Madugoda
Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama
Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala
Hon. Danushka Ranganath
Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake
Hon. Asoka Sapumal Ranwala
Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. (Mrs.) Hasara Liyanage, Attorney at Law
Hon. Nayana Wasalathilaka
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya
Hon. R.G. Wijerathna
Hon. Priyantha Wijerathna , Attorney at Law

Hon. Darmapriya Wijesinghe
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana
Hon. Jagath Vithana
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Athula Welandagoda
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Gnanamuththu Srineshan
Hon. Fasmin Sharif
Hon. Thilina Samarakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera
Hon. (Ms.) Ambika Samivel
Hon. (Dr.) Elayathamby Srinath
Hon. Dewananda Suraweera
Hon. Chandana Sooriyaarachchi
Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara
Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj
Hon. Arjuna Sujeewa Senasinghe, Attorney at Law
Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law
Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi
Hon. Champika Hettiarachchi
Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law
Hon. Dinesh Hemantha
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

“A motion may be moved to refer the Question of Privilege raised by the Hon. S.M. Marikkar, M.P., in Parliament on 13th November 2025 to the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.”

II

“I wish to inform that the Hon. S.M. Marikkar, Member of Parliament, has been appointed to serve in the Select Committee of Parliament to conduct a comprehensive study on the lack of preparedness to face Cyclone Ditwah and report to Parliament and submit its proposals and recommendations in that regard in terms of the provisions of the Standing Order 106 of the Parliament, to fill the vacancy occurred due to the resignation of the Hon. Hector Appuhamy, from the Membership of the Committee.”

2. Presentation of Papers: (1) The Speaker presented the Seventh Report of the Constitutional Council submitted under Article 41G (1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government presented the Annual Report of the Local Loans and Development 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 Minister of Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs under Section 47 read with Section 46 of the Antiquities Ordinance (Chapter 188) and presented on 11th April 2026 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Reports from Committees: (1) Hon. Ravi Karunanayake, Member of the Committee, on behalf of the Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva, Chair of the Committee on Public Finance presented the Report of the Committee on Public Finance on the Supplementary Sum under Head 240 of Programme 02 of the Appropriation Act No. 3 of 2025 for the services of the financial year commencing on 01st January, 2026, and ending on 31st December, 2026 which was referred to the Committee.

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

(2) Hon. R.M. Gamini Rathnayake presented the Third Report of the Committee on Public Petitions for the First Session of the Tenth Parliament.

Ordered that the said Report do lie upon the **Table** and be printed.

(3) Hon. Hector Appuhamy, the Chair of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability presented the Report of the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability on National Environmental (Amendment) Bill which was referred to the Committee.

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

4. Presentation of Public Petitions:

- (1) Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga presented —
- (i) A petition dated 23.02.2026 from Mr. R.A.J. Rathnayake of No. 275/2, Alhenawatta, Suriyapaluwa, Kadawatha;
 - (ii) A petition dated 04.05.2026 from Mr. S.D.S. Melk of No. 534/3, Eksath Mawatha, Ihala Karagahamuna, Kadawatha; and
 - (iii) A petition dated 02.03.2026 from Mr. W.A.D. Pulastha Chathuranga Wijesinghe of No. 391, Mahara Nugegoda, Kadawatha.
- (2) Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama presented —
- (i) A petition dated 12.12.2025 from Mrs. Chithra Malini Henry of Yatawaka, Urapola; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 28.07.2025 from Mr. G.P. Chandrasiri of No. 104/22, Magalegoda, Veyangoda.
- (3) Hon. Chandima Hettiaratchi presented —
- (i) A petition dated 11.11.2025 from Mrs. J. Sumedha Jayaweera of No. 7 A, Stanmore Crescent, Colombo 07; and
 - (ii) A petition dated 13.09.2025 from Mr. M.A.M. Munas of No. 72, Munhena Road, Maggona.

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

5. Business of the Parliament (No. 1): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the Government Business shall have precedence this day.

Question put, and agreed to.

6. Business of the Parliament (No. 2): The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the proceedings on Item No. 76 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.

7. Privileges: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law, M.P. on 10th June, 2026 in Parliament to the effect that the privileges of Parliament 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. Sitzings of the Parliament: The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the hours of sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.. At 2.30 p.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

Question put, and agreed to.

9. Rules under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Act: The Minister of Health and Mass Media on behalf of the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education moved,— That 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, which were presented on 22.05.2026, be approved.

(At 11.15 p.m. the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

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

(At 1.38 p.m. the Deputy Chairperson of Committees took the Chair.)

Question put, and agreed to.

10. Supplementary Sum,— Head 240 — Programme 02: The Minister of Health and Mass Media 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 Twenty billion (Rs. 20,000,000,000) 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	<u>Rs. 20,000,000,000</u>
		Total Expenditure	<u>Rs. 20,000,000,000</u>

†Vide Supplementary Estimate No. 2 of 2026 presented on 09th June, 2026.

Total of Supplementary Estimates No. 1 Rs. 500,000,000,000

Question put, and agreed to.

11. Adjournment (Annual Economic Review Report of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka for the year 2025): The Minister of Labour and Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Order read for resuming the Adjourned debate on question (20th May 2026)

Question again proposed; and debate resumed.

The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs moved,— That Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 3.26 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Thushari Jayasingha, Attorney at Law took the Chair.)

Hon. E.M. Basnayaka, seconded by Hon. (Dr.) Najith Indika moved,— That Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.09 p.m. Hon. Wijesiri Basnayake took the Chair.)

Parliament was at 5.30 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member pursuant to the Resolution of this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026.