



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 118.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Friday, November 26, 2021 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT :

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana, Speaker

Hon. Angajan Ramanathan, Deputy Chairperson of Committees

Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing

Hon. Rohitha Abegunawardhana, Minister of Ports & Shipping

Hon. Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Environment

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma, Minister of Mass Media

Hon. Mahindananda Aluthgamage, Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Udaya Gammanpila, Minister of Energy

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, Minister of Education and Leader of the House of Parliament

Hon. (Dr.) Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Trade

Hon. S. M. Chandrasena, Minister of Lands

Hon. Janaka Bandara Thennakoon, Minister of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government

Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister of Labour

Hon. Douglas Devananda, Minister of Fisheries

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara, Minister of Water Supply

Hon. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Plantation

Hon. Johnston Fernando, Minister of Highways and Chief Government Whip

Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga, Minister of Tourism

Hon. C. B. Rathnayake, Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation

Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, Minister of Irrigation and State Minister of National Security & Disaster Management and State Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Namal Rajapaksa, Minister of Youth & Sports, Minister of Development Co-ordination and Monitoring and State Minister of Digital Technology and Enterprise Development

Hon. Basil Rohana Rajapaksa, Minister of Finance

- Hon. Dilum Amunugama**, State Minister of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry and State Minister of Community Police Services
- Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Seetha Arambepola**, State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation
- Hon. Lasantha Alagiyawanna**, State Minister of Co-operative Services, Marketing Development and Consumer Protection
- Hon. Siripala Gamalath**, State Minister of Canals and Common Infrastructure Development in Settlements in Mahaweli Zones
- Hon. (Dr.) Nalaka Godahewa**, State Minister of Urban Development, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness
- Hon. Sisira Jayakody**, State Minister of Indigenous Medicine Promotion, Rural and Ayurvedic Hospitals Development and Community Health
- Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne**, State Minister of Tanks, Reservoirs and Irrigation Development related to Rural Paddy Fields
- Hon. Piyankara Jayaratne**, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification
- Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara**, State Minister of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products
- Hon. Duminda Dissanayake**, State Minister of Solar Power, Wind and Hydro Power Generation Projects Development
- Hon. Sanath Nishantha**, State Minister of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development
- Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha**, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion
- Hon. Vijitha Berugoda**, State Minister of Dhamma Schools, Pirivenas and Bhikkhu Education
- Hon. Prasanna Ranaweera**, State Minister of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion
- Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe**, State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government
- Hon. Lohan Ratwatte**, State Minister of Gem & Jewellery related Industries
- Hon. Shasheendra Rajapaksa**, State Minister of Promoting the Production & Regulating the Supply of Organic Fertilizer, and Paddy and Grains, Organic Foods, Vegetables, Fruits, Chilies, Onion and Potato Cultivation Promoting, Seed Production and Advanced Technology Agriculture
- Hon. Nimal Lanza**, State Minister of Rural Roads and other Infrastructure
- Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura**, State Minister of Development of Minor Crops including Sugarcane, Maize, Cashew, Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Betel Related Industries and Export Promotion
- Hon. Vidura Wikramanayaka**, State Minister of National Heritage, Performing Arts and Rural Arts Promotion

- Hon. Kanchana Wijesekera**, State Minister of Ornamental Fish, Inland Fish & Prawn Farming, Fishery Harbour Development, Multi day Fishing Activities and Fish Exports
- Hon. Thenuka Vidanagamage**, State Minister of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Improvement
- Hon. S. Viyalanderan**, State Minister of Backward Rural Areas Development and Promotion of Domestic Animal Husbandary & Minor Economic Crop Cultivation
- Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera**, State Minister of Warehouse Facilities, Container Yards, Port Supply Facilities and Boats and Shipping Industry Development
- Hon. Shehan Semasinghe**, State Minister of Samurdhi, Household Economy, Micro Finance, Self Employment and Business Development
- Hon. Indika Anuruddha Herath**, State Minister of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Material Industries
- Hon. Kanaka Herath**, State Minister of Company Estate Reforms, Tea and Rubber Estates Related Crops Cultivation and Factories Modernization and Tea and Rubber Export Promotion
- Hon. D. B. Herath**, State Minister of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries
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- Hon. Selvam Adaikkalanathan**
- Hon. A. L. M. Athaullah**
- Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala**
- Hon. Kapila Athukorala**
- Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala**
- Hon. Sampath Athukorala**
- Hon. Tissa Attanayake**
- Hon. Hector Appuhamy**
- Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal**
- Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan**
- Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala**
- Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi**
- Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura**
- Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda**
- Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna**
- Hon. Lalith Ellawala**
- Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka**
- Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam**

Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Nalaka Bandara Kottegoda
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. Udayakantha Gunathilaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. Anura Dissanayaka
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya
Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Dilan Perera

Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Nalin Fernando
Hon. Ashoka Priyantha
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
Hon. (Ven.) Athuraliye Rathana Thero
Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka
Hon. Ali Sabri Raheem
Hon. Ishak Rahuman
Hon. Mujibur Rahuman
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Ajith Rajapakse
Hon. Gunathilaka Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) Thilak Rajapakshe
Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. M. Rameshwaran
Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Gamini Waleboda
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe

Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. Jayantha Weerasinghe, PC
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Marjan Faleel

Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake, Secretary-General of Parliament

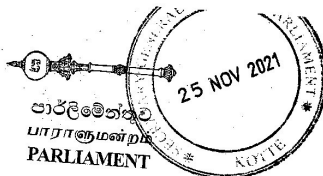
Mrs. Kushani Rohanadeera, Chief of Staff and Deputy Secretary-General of Parliament

Mr. Tikiri K. Jayathilake, Assistant Secretary-General

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

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

“I wish to inform Parliament that the Secretary-General of Parliament has received the Letter of Resignation from the Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe, Member of Parliament. The Letter of Resignation will be read now.”



Secretary General
of Parliament
by Damsika Dissanayake.

Dear Secretary General

This is to inform you that I
am submitting herewith my resignation
as a member of Parliament as of today
(25/11/21).

Yours sincerely
Damsika Dissanayake

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2. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Speaker presented the Tenth Instalment – Part III of the Special Audit Report of the Auditor-General on the Operations of the Galoya Plantation (Pvt) Limited established for the Operations of the Hingurana Sugar Factory in terms of Article 154(6) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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

(2) The Minister of Highways presented the Performance Report of the Presidential Secretariat for the year 2020.

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

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the Report on the submission of 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 Sustainable Development and Wildlife 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 Highways presented the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2252/30 of 03rd November 2021 and moved that those Regulations be referred to the Committee on Public Finance.

Question put, and agreed to.

3. Presentation of Public Petitions :

- (1) Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi presented a petition dated 02.10.2021 from Mr. R. A. Senevirathne of Puwakgasara Gedara, Aralugahamadiththa, Walgammulla, Kirama.
- (2) Hon. Madhura Withanage presented a petition dated 11.08.2021 from Mr. Keerthi Kumara Bulathsinhala of No. 36/2D, Thalapatthipitiya Road, Nugegoda.

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

4. Appropriation Bill — (Eleventh Allotted Day) : Considered further in the Committee.

(In the Committee)

The Speaker took the Chair.

Head 118

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.10 a.m. Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna took the Chair.)

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

(At 1.58 p.m. Hon. Velu Kumar took the Chair.)

(At 3.08 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

(At 4.51 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Ministry of Agriculture

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 7 in page 26 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 23,557,100,000”

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 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 837,500,000 for Head 118, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 37,100,000 for Head 118, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 11 in page 26 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities 4,140,000,000 22,000,000,000”

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.

Head 285

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 514,500,000 for Head 285, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 61,500,000 for Head 285, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,346,000,000 for Head 285, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,458,500,000 for Head 285, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 407

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 115,300,000 for Head 407, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 17,000,000 for Head 407, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 118,000,000 for Head 407, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 275,000,000 for Head 407, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 426

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 455,220,000 for Head 426, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 17,500,000 for Head 426, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 35,195,000,000 for Head 426, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 600,000,000 for Head 426, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 281

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 486,000,000 for Head 281, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 74,500,000 for Head 281, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 7,446,000,000 for Head 281, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,524,000,000 for Head 281, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

State Ministry of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 25 in page 27 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 1,800,000,000”

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.

Head 427

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 328,500,000 for Head 427, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 11,000,000 for Head 427, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 5 in page 28 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities - 1,270,000,000”

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.

Head 292

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 644,600,000 for Head 292, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 84,000,000 for Head 292, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 435,000,000 for Head 292, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Ministry of Irrigation

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 16 in page 48 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 64,242,000,000”

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.

Head 198

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 189,000,000 for Head 198, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 47,000,000 for Head 198, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 20 in page 48 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities 173,000,000 54,607,000,000”

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.

Head 282

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 742,000,000 for Head 282, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 40,000,000 for Head 282, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,501,000,000 for Head 282, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 9,548,000,000 for Head 282, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 428

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 65,000,000 for Head 428, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,000,000 for Head 428, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,900,000,000 for Head 428, Programme 02 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,991,000,000 for Head 428, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

State Ministry of Tanks, Reservoirs and Irrigation Development related to Rural Paddy Fields

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 16 in page 49 and substitute the following:—

“Capital 3,000,000,000”

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.

Head 429

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 77,000,000 for Head 429, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 7,000,000 for Head 429, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

The Minister of Highways on behalf of the Minister of Finance proposed an amendment to leave out line 21 in page 49 and substitute the following:—

“Programme 02 Development Activities - 2,993,000,000”

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.

At 5.05 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Saturday, November 27, 2021.

5. Adjournment (Expeditious Payment of Retirement Gratuity) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The State Minister of Provincial Councils & Local Government moved,—That Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.21 p.m. Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara took the Chair.)

And it being past 5.30 p.m. Parliament was at 5.41 p.m. adjourned by the Presiding Member without Question put, pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament this day.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, November 27, 2021 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 20th November 2021.