



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 115.]

MINUTES OF PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, November 23, 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. (Dr.) Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Plantation

Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris, Foreign Minister

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. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health

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. Wimal Weerawansa, Minister of Industries

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Weerasekera, Minister of Public Security

Hon. M .U. M. Ali Sabry, Minister of Justice

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. D. V. Chanaka, State Minister of Aviation and Export Zones Development

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. Piyanakara Jayaratne, State Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Market Diversification

Hon. (Prof.) Channa Jayasumana, State Minister of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, State Minister of Batik, Handloom and Local Apparel Products

Hon. Piyal Nishantha De Silva, State Minister of Women and Child Development, Preschools & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services

Hon. Mohan Priyadarshana De Silva, State Minister of Coast Conservation & Low-Lying Lands Development

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake, State Minister of Solar Power, Wind and Hydro Power Generation Projects Development

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake, State Minister of Wildlife Protection, Adoption of Safety Measures including the Construction of Electrical Fences and Trenches and Reforestation and Forest Resource Development

Hon. Sanath Nishantha, State Minister of Rural and Divisional Drinking Water Supply Projects Development

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle, State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID Disease Control

Hon. (Dr.) Susil Premajayantha, State Minister of Education Reforms, Open Universities and Distance Learning Promotion

Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya, State Minister of Regional Co-operation

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. 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. 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 Wijsekera**, 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. 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. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya**
- Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena**
- Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal**
- Hon. Thavaraja Kalai Arasan**

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Naseer Ahamed
Hon. Thisakutti Arachchi
Hon. M. Udayakumar
Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura
Hon. (Major) Pradeep Undugoda
Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna
Hon. Lalith Ellawala
Hon. Gayantha Karunatilleka
Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam
Hon. Faizal Cassim
Hon. Jayantha Ketagoda
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Udayana Kirindigoda
Hon. Gevindu Cumaratunga
Hon. (Mrs.) Geetha Samanmale Kumarasinghe
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. A. Aravindh Kumar
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Karunadasa Kodithuwakku
Hon. (Mrs.) Diana Gamage
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene
Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena
Hon. Sivanesathurai Santhirakanthan
Hon. Milan Jayathilake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Premalal Jayasekara
Hon. Kulasingam Dhileeban
Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. S. B. Dissanayake
Hon. (Mrs.) Manjula Dissanayake
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. Sarathi Dushmantha

Hon. Isuru Dodangoda
Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. H. Nandasena
Hon. (Dr.) Gayashan Nawananda
Hon. Asanka Navarathna
Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. S. Noharathalingam
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Anupa Pasqual
Hon. Nimal Piyathissa
Hon. Jagath Pushpakumara
Hon. Dilan Perera
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi
Hon. Sajith Premadasa, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament
Hon. Uddika Premarathne
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. Shantha Bandara
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Sudath Manjula
Hon. K. Kader Masthan
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff
Hon. Mohomad Muzammil
Hon. Anura Priyadharshana Yapa
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Nipuna Ranawaka
Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara
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. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. Ranil Wickremesinghe
Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe
Hon. C.V. Wigneswaran
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri
Hon. M. W. D. Sahan Pradeep Withana
Hon. Madhura Withanage
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. (Prof.) Tissa Vitarana
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody
Hon. D. Weerasingha
Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan
Hon. Mahinda Samarasinghe
Hon. Dharmalingam Sithadthan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. John Seneviratne
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. H. M. M. Harees
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath

Hon. Jayarathna Herath

Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka

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. Presentation of Papers : (1) The Minister of Education 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 Office of the Leader of the House of Parliament 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) 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 Office of the Chief Government Whip of Parliament 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.

(3) The Minister of Highways presented the Annual Performance Report of the Ministry of Health for the year 2020.

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

(4) The Minister of Education on behalf of the Minister of Finance presented the List of Proposed Alterations in the Legends of Draft Estimates - 2022.

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

2. Presentation of Public Petitions :

Hon. Duminda Dissanayake presented a petition dated 09.08.2021 from Mr. K. C. A. Jayalath of No. 7/A, 4th Post, Usgala Junction, Vijithapura.

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

3. Appropriation Bill — (Eighth Allotted Day) : Considered in the Committee.*(In the Committee)*

The Speaker took the Chair.

Clause 1 was agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 10 were postponed until after consideration of the First, Second and Third Schedules.

First Schedule

Sums Payable for General Services.

Head 1

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella proposed that the Programme be reduced by Rs. 10/-.

(At 11.20 a.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

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

(At 2.11 p.m. Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene took the Chair.)

(At 3.06 p.m. Hon. Ajith Rajapakse took the Chair.)

(At 4.44 p.m. the Speaker took the Chair.)

Question put, and negatived.

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,309,980,000 for Head 1, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 378,820,000 for Head 1, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 100,000,000 for Head 1, Programme 02 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 2

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,172,450,000 for Head 2, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 219,500,000 for Head 2, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 4

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 301,900,000 for Head 4, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 12,300,000 for Head 4, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 5

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 177,150,000 for Head 5, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 26,300,000 for Head 5, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 6

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 256,053,000 for Head 6, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 12,000,000 for Head 6, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 7

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 109,922,000 for Head 7, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,450,000 for Head 7, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 8

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 134,600,000 for Head 8, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,710,000 for Head 8, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 9

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 31,155,000 for Head 9, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 200,000 for Head 9, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 10

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 534,405,000 for Head 10, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 52,500,000 for Head 10, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 11

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 94,616,000 for Head 11, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 4,700,000 for Head 11, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 13

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 221,264,000 for Head 13, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,600,000 for Head 13, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 16

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 2,931,850,000 for Head 16, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 195,200,000 for Head 16, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 17

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 59,100,000 for Head 17, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,250,000 for Head 17, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 18

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 137,100,000 for Head 18, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,800,000 for Head 18, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 19

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 154,880,000 for Head 19, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 17,800,000 for Head 19, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 20

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 860,600,000 for Head 20, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 107,000,000 for Head 20, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 21

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 1,959,200,000 for Head 21, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 39,000,000 for Head 21, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 22

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 25,830,000 for Head 22, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 200,000 for Head 22, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Head 25

Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 12,070,000 for Head 25, Programme 01 (Recurrent Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure)

Question that the sum of Rs. 125,000 for Head 25, Programme 01 (Capital Expenditure), be inserted in the Schedule, put, and agreed to.

At 5.00 p.m. the Chairman left the Chair to make his report to Parliament.

Committee report progress; to sit again on Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

4. Adjournment (Programme to Address Issues of Traditional Industrialists) : The Leader of the House of Parliament moved,— That this Parliament do now adjourn.

Question proposed, and debated.

The State Minister of Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industrial Promotion moved,—That Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe do take the Chair.

Question put, and agreed to.

(At 5.01 p.m. Hon. Weerasumana Weerasinghe took the Chair.)

And it being 5.30 p.m. Parliament was adjourned by the Presiding Member, without Question put.

Parliament adjourned accordingly until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 pursuant to the Resolution of Parliament of 20th November 2021.