



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 14.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

103/2024

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law,—To ask the Minister of Energy,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) number of litres of petrol, diesel and kerosene and the number of barrels of crude oil imported to Sri Lanka during the period from 21st October to 30th November 2024, separately;
 - (ii) amount of tax levied by the Government per liter of each type of fuel, separately;
 - (iii) total amount of tax levied by the Government for each type of fuel mentioned above, separately;
 - (iv) amount paid as unloading/landing fees for the aforesaid quantities of fuel ?
- (b) If not, why ?

2.

111/2024

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,—To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether he accepts that developing adequate infrastructure at an Export Processing Zone is important;
 - (ii) in that case, of the amount of money that has been spent so far on infrastructure development at the Bingiriya Export Processing Zone; and
 - (iii) of the measures that will be taken to further develop the Bingiriya Export Processing Zone including further developing of the infrastructure at the Zone concerned?
- (b) If not, why?

(2)

3.

149/2024

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,—To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether he accepts that the "Palpola Interchange" is a project of national importance, as it provides access from the Southern Expressway to highly populated areas such as Kalutara Town, Millaniya, Wadduwa and Morontuduwa, which are very important for the tourism industry and have various industries established therein;
 - (ii) of the date on which the construction work of the said project was commenced;
 - (iii) of the amount of money given to the Road Development Authority by the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka for the aforesaid project;
 - (iv) of the amount of money that has hitherto been spent on the said project;
 - (v) of the amount spent on land acquisition for the said purpose;
 - (vi) of the amount needed to complete the said project;
 - (vii) of the timeframe within which the project is expected to be completed;
 - (viii) of the distance from the Galanigama Interchange to the Dodangoda Interchange?
- (b) If not, why?

4.

176/2024

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the date of incorporation of the Bank of Ceylon;
 - (ii) of the names of the present Chairman, Board of Directors and the CEO;
 - (iii) of the number of branches and employees;
 - (iv) of the paid-up capital as of today;
 - (v) whether is it in compliance with “BASEL” requirement of capital adequacy; and
 - (vi) of the steps taken to address non-compliance, if any?
- (b) Will he also inform this House separately of the —
 - (i) profit for the last 10 years and expected profit for the next 3 years;

(3)

- (ii) return on investment for the last 10 years as per (i) above;
- (iii) administration cost and lending margin rate for the last 5 years;
- (iv) administration cost as a percentage of lending rate; and
- (v) balance sheet values from 2019 to date?

(c) Will he further inform this House —

- (i) whether loans over Rs.1 billion were written off;
- (ii) of the names of the entities involved; and
- (iii) of the legal procedures adopted for the write-offs?

(d) if not, why?

5.

241/2024

Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera,— To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) what is expected of creating a field of specialist training named “Family Medicine”;
- (ii) whether the specialist physicians of that category have been posted so that what is expected, as referred to above, is achieved, i.e. to be close to the society and the primary healthcare service; and
- (iii) or else, whether they have been posted to hospitals close to towns based on certain personal interests?

(b) If not, why?

6.

250/2024

Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House separately with regard to the COVID-19 disease in Sri Lanka during the period from 2019 to 2022 of the—

- (i) total number of laboratory-confirmed cases;
- (ii) total number of confirmed deaths; and
- (iii) breakdown of deaths based on age, sex, province and district of residence, ethnicity and religion of the deceased?

(b) Will he also inform this House separately with regard to the COVID-19 deaths in Sri Lanka during the period from 2019 to 2022 of the—

- (i) method/s used for death disposals;
- (ii) total number of death disposed of by cremation;
- (iii) total number of death disposed of by burial; and

(4)

- (iv) breakdown of death disposed of by cremation and burial based on age, sex, province and district of residence, ethnicity and religion of the deceased?

(c) If not, why?

7.

254/2024

Hon. Ravindra Bandara,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,—(1)

(a) Will she inform this House—

- (i) whether the proposed educational reforms that had been submitted by the previous government will be implemented;
- (ii) whether she will approve the removal of the subjects such as Aesthetics, Information Technology and Accounting proposed by the aforesaid proposals;
- (iii) whether there is an intention to introduce any changes to the education system implemented in Sri Lanka;
- (iv) as to how the new education proposals will minimize the pressure on students?

(b) Will she also inform this House of the plans that —

- (i) have been made to distribute resources equally among every government school;
- (ii) have been made to reduce the fierce competition in education; and
- (iii) will be made to expand the university education opportunities ?

(c) If not, why?

8.

260/2024

Hon. (Ms.) Lakmali Hemachandra, Attorney at Law,—To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that Mr. Peter Breuer, IMF's Senior Mission Chief for Sri Lanka, stated during the media briefing held on 23.11.2024 that Sri Lanka has not reached the targets set for it by the IMF in terms of social spending;
- (ii) of the total amount of funds allocated by the Budget for 2024 for the beneficiaries of Asvesuma, the elderly, the people with chronic illnesses, and the disabled citizens;
- (iii) of the amount which had been spent out of the aforesaid funds as at 23.11.2024;
- (iv) how much it is as a percentage;
- (v) of the amount of money that had been allocated for social spending for the year 2024 according to the target set by the IMF for it; and

(5)

(vi) of the reasons for not allocating the funds concerned for the purpose adequately?

(b) If not, why?

9.

295/2024

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,—(1)

(a) Will she inform this House —

(i) of the number of vehicles assigned to the members of the Government party of the Tenth Parliament;

(ii) of the basis on which those vehicles have been provided;

(iii) whether those vehicles have been provided by the Presidential Secretariat;

(iv) if not, of the institutions that have provided them;

(v) whether government drivers have been provided for those vehicles;

(vi) of the institutions that provide fuel, maintenance costs and periodic services for those vehicles;

(vii) of the amount of money spent monthly on those vehicles?

(b) If not, why?

10.

317/2024

Hon. Dewananda Suraweera,— To ask the Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

(i) whether a group of businessmen who were conducting business at Olcott Mawatha, Colombo-11 have been removed from their business premises and given shops at the place called "Floating Market";

(ii) whether he is aware that the said shops have now become unsuccessful due to insufficient sale;

(iii) whether he is aware that the above-mentioned businessmen are demanding that their previous business premises be restored to them;

(iv) if so, whether it is possible to restore the previous business premises to them; and

(v) what steps have been taken so far to improve the "floating market"?

(b) If not, why?

(6)

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament,— 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 3.30 p.m. Standing Order 8(5) of the Parliament shall operate. At 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No. 1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development 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. 2413/37 of 04th December 2024, which were presented on 07.01.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*2.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Notification under the Strategic Development Projects Act,— That the Notification made by the then Minister of Investment Promotion under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 as amended relating to Jay Jay Textiles Lanka (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2399/16 of 26th August 2024, which was presented on 03.12.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No. 2),— That the Regulations made by the then Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies 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. 2384/35 of 17th May 2024, which were presented on 07.01.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(7)

*4.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act,— That the Order made by the then Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2377/39 of 28th March 2024, which was presented on 07.01.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business.*
