



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 16.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Wednesday, February 05, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

150/2024

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Energy,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether steps will be taken to repeal the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No. 36 of 2024;
 - (ii) or else, whether measures will be taken to introduce amendments to the aforesaid Act;
 - (iii) if so, what the amendments are?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

177/2024

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 People's Bank;
 - (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;

(2)

- (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?

3.

243/2024

Hon. S.M. Marikkar,—To ask the Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the number of housing units situated in blocks of flats that were constructed by the Urban Development Authority since the year 2010 up to now within the Colombo District, separately in respect of each multi-storey flat complex and the divisional secretariat division;
 - (ii) of the number of those housing units for which deeds have been granted so far, among the said housing units;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to grant deeds to those housing units for which deeds have not been granted so far; and
 - (iv) if so, of the date on which it will be done?
- (b) If not, why?

4.

249/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether the Minister of Health is in agreement with the statement made by the State Minister of Indigenous Medicine on 29/11/2022 that the Ministry of Health was misled on its policy decision with regard to the cremation of COVID-19 deaths by a ‘Committee of Experts’; and
 - (ii) whether the aforementioned Committee was a government appointed Committee?

(3)

- (b) If the above Committee was a government appointed Committee, will he also inform this House—
- (i) of the recommendations of it specifically on COVID-19 death disposals;
 - (ii) of the appointing authority;
 - (iii) of the terms of Reference and/or mandate;
 - (iv) of the names of the members and designations;
 - (v) of the name of the Chair;
 - (vi) whether it meets continuously;
 - (vii) if not, the last date it met;
 - (viii) of the number of meetings held to date;
 - (ix) of the place where meetings held; and
 - (x) of the names of the individuals chaired each of the meetings, separately;
- (c) If not, why?

5.

255/2024

Hon. (Dr.) Nishantha Samaraweera,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he is aware that the “Walahanduwa Estate” land in Nugaduwa of Galle District was planned to be subdivided and allocated for various projects;
 - (ii) of the present status of those projects;
 - (iii) of the amount of money that has been spent on those projects so far;
 - (iv) whether the need for and the expected benefits of each project have been identified;
 - (v) accordingly, which of the projects are essential;
 - (vi) if some of those projects have now been halted midway, whether there is a possibility of restarting those projects; and
 - (vii) if not, of the loss that those projects will incur?
- (b) If not, why?
-

(4)

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,— Order under the Foreign Exchange Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 22 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2415/56 of 19th December 2024, which was presented on 21.01.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*2.

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. 2415/35 of 18th December 2024, which were presented on 21.01.2025, 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 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. 2416/11 of 24th December 2024, which were presented on 21.01.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(5)

*4.

The Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development,— Regulations under the Intellectual Property Act,— That the Regulations made by the then Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security, Co-operative Development, Industry and Entrepreneurship Development under Section 204 read with Sections 160A, 161B, 161C, 161D, 161E, 161F, 161G, 161I, 161K and 161L of the Intellectual Property Act, No. 36 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2407/04 of 22nd October 2024, which were presented on 21.01.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

Local Authorities Elections (Special Provisions) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

Appropriation Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business.*

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS

289/2024

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

(a) Will he inform this House,—

- (i) whether he is aware that due to local and international protests against the cremation of the bodies of those who died of COVID-19, the bodies were buried in a plot of land in the “Majma Nagar” area of Batticaloa;
- (ii) of the name, address, religion and gender of each person who died and was buried in this manner, the number under which his or her remains were registered, the date of burial, the number of persons permitted to attend the burial for each deceased person, and the names and addresses of those persons who attended separately;
- (iii) whether attendees at the burial of each deceased person were charged any fee;
- (iv) if so, what amount was so charged; and
- (v) of the institutions/individuals that were authorized to collect the money?

(b) If not, why?
