



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 42.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Monday, March 17, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

483/2025

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah,—To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he is aware that positions of Imam and Muadhdhin exist at Muslim Mosques which have been registered under the Department of Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs;
- (ii) whether he is aware that there has been no written record up to now pertaining to the minimum wages to be paid for the employees serving in those positions; and
- (iii) if so, whether a conclusion will be reached in relation to the minimum wages to be paid to employees in Imam and Muadhdhin positions, and a decision will be taken to pay an equal wages to those employed in those positions at every Mosque?

(b) If not, why?

2.

493/2025

Hon. Padmasiri Bandara,—To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the number of Ayurveda hospitals in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) of the number of graduates who have completed their degrees from universities of indigenous medicine;
- (iii) whether he is aware that there is a shortage of Ayurveda doctors at local Ayurveda hospitals at present; and
- (iv) if so, of the measures that will be taken in that regard?

(2)

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) whether he is aware that there is a physiotherapy unit at the Minneriya Ayurveda Hospital;
- (ii) of the name of the contractor who constructed the physiotherapy unit concerned;
- (iii) whether he is aware that there has been a fraud in relation to that contract;
- (iv) if so, whether an investigation has been conducted in that regard; and
- (v) of the current progress of that investigation?

(c) If not, why?

3.

504/2025

Hon. Nishantha Perera,—To ask the Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) year in which the 'Tea Shakthi' Fund was established;
- (ii) total number of members in the said Fund;
- (iii) current amount of funds available in the said Fund; and
- (iv) programmes that have been planned to be implemented in the future using these funds?

(b) If not, why?

4.

510/2025

Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara,—To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) whether the SANASA Development Bank is subject to the regulation of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka;
- (ii) whether the SANASA Development Bank has introduced a loan scheme called "Utthamachara" for retired military officers;
- (iii) of the number of persons to whom loans have been issued so far under the loan scheme concerned and the total amount issued as loans as aforesaid;
- (iv) of the number of persons to whom loans have been issued from year 2020 to 2024 and the total amount of the loans so issued;

(3)

- (v) of the percentage of the pension taken into account in granting the loans; and
 - (vi) of the minimum and the maximum repayment periods of the loans?
 - (b) Will he also state —
 - (i) whether he is aware that the recipients of loans have had to pay a grater amount of interest than the amount of loan as a result of extending the loan recovery period during the Covid-19 pandemic;
 - (ii) whether he is aware that the said extension has been given at the discretion of the Bank;
 - (iii) whether banks can give such an extension at its discretion; and
 - (iv) whether justice will be accorded to the persons who have been aggrieved by this measure?
 - (c) If not, why?
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AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sectoral Oversight Committees,— Seven (07) Sectoral Oversight Committees be appointed as follows to function in accordance with the provisions of the Standing Order 111 of the Parliament:—

1. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Economic Development and International Relations
2. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Infrastructure and Strategic Development
3. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Education, Manpower and Human Capital
4. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Health, Media and Women's Empowerment
5. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Environment, Agriculture and Resource Sustainability
6. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Science, Technology and Digital Transformation
7. Sectoral Oversight Committee on Governance, Justice and Civil Protection

Each Sectoral Oversight Committee shall consist of twelve (12) Members of Parliament to be nominated by the Committee of Selection. The quorum of each Sectoral Oversight Committee shall be three (03) Members.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*a1.

Appropriation Bill— (Twenty Second Allotted Day) — Committee (Progress, 15th March).

*2.

The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— Annual Report of the Galle Heritage Foundation (2021),— That the Annual Report of the Galle Heritage Foundation 2021 together with the observation of the Auditor-General as prepared for the year ended 31.12.2021 and presented on 06.12.2023 under Section 16 of Part III of the Galle Heritage Foundation Act, No. 7 of 1994, be approved.

(Considered by the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage and New Citizen on 10.07.2024 and presented its report to Parliament on 03.09.2024)

*3.

The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports,— Annual Report of the National Youth Services Council (2021),— That the Annual Report of the National Youth Services Council 2021 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2021 and presented on 17.10.2023 under Section 31 of the National Youth Services Act, No. 69 of 1979, be approved.

(Considered by the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Media, Youth, Heritage and New Citizen on 10.07.2024 and presented its report to Parliament on 03.09.2024)

*4.

The Minister of Energy,— Annual Report of the Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL) (2021),— That the Annual Report of the Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL) 2021 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2021 and presented on 13.12.2023 in terms of Section 2(1) of the Conversion of Public Corporation or Government Owned Business Undertaking into Public Companies Act, No. 23 of 1987 under the Companies Act, No. 17 of 1982, be approved.

(Considered by the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy and Transport on 08.05.2024 and presented its report to Parliament on 09.07.2024)

*5.

The Minister of Energy,— Annual Report of the Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL) (2022),— That the Annual Report of the Ceylon Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL) 2022 together with the observations of the Auditor-General for the year ended 31.12.2022 and presented on 05.03.2024 in terms of Section 2(1) of the Conversion of Public Corporation or Government Owned Business Undertaking into Public Companies Act, No. 23 of 1987 under the Companies Act, No. 17 of 1982, be approved.

(Considered by the Sectoral Oversight Committee on Energy and Transport on 08.05.2024 and presented its report to Parliament on 09.07.2024)

*6.

Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

Proceeds of Crime Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Regulation under the Finance Act,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 12 of the Finance Act, No. 12 of 2013 read together with the provisions of the Finance Act, No. 12 of 2012 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2411/56 of 22nd November 2024, which was presented on 14.02.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Resolution under the Inland Revenue Act,— That this Parliament resolves that the Protocol entered on 16th December 2024 amending the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of India for the avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, under Section 75(1) of Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 and passed by the Parliament on 26th July 2013 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1828/9 dated 17th September 2013, which was presented on 20.02.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Regulations under the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 112 read with Section 16 of the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act, No. 43 of 2000 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2415/79 of 22nd December 2024, which were presented on 22.02.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

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. 2421/04 of 27th January 2025, which were presented on 25.02.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

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. 2421/44 of 31st January 2025, which were presented on 25.02.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) as amended from time to time, regarding Excise Duty on Liquor, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2418/42 of 10th January 2025, which was presented on 27.02.2025, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 01/2025)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*14.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, relating to Excise Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2418/43 of 10th January 2025, which was presented on 27.02.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*15.

Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business.*

NOTICES OF AMENDMENTS RELATING TO ORDERS OF THE DAY

a1.

For amendments in Committee on the “Appropriation” Bill — See separate Paper “Supplement to the Orders of the Day”.
