



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 53.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

580/2025

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation,— (1)

(a) Will he admit that the —

- (i) Sri Lanka Railways Department, under the then Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, had prepared plans to construct a railway line from Kurunegala to Habarana via Dambulla and had commenced preliminary works thereon; and
- (ii) possession/tenure of the lands and properties of the Rangiri Dambulla Rajamaha Viharaya and the Bambawa Rajamaha Viharaya, and the people of the Galewela and Dambulla Divisional Secretariat Divisions, were legally acquired by the relevant Divisional Secretaries?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether steps will be taken to return the possession of those lands and properties taken over by the Divisional Secretaries to their original owners;
- (ii) if so, whether an amount of money in compensation/ex-gratia payment will be made for the damages caused to the said properties due to non-maintenance for the past 10 years and for the loss of income due to non-development of the lands;
- (iii) if so, of the procedure followed in that regard;
- (iv) of the date on which the said compensation/ ex-gratia payment will be made; and
- (v) if not, whether any such payment will not be made?

(c) If not, why?

(2)

2.

582/2025

Hon. Lal Premanath,—To ask the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether the Central Government allocates funds to the Provincial Councils for development activities; and
 - (ii) of the mechanism through which the Parliament is informed of the funds allocated to the Provincial Councils by the Central Government are spent?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the amount of money that was allocated to the last Provincial Council of the Southern Province;
 - (ii) of the amount channelled from such amount to the provincial cultural ministry in the Southern Province;
 - (iii) of the number of buildings of which the construction works have been commenced and have been stopped partway by the then provincial cultural ministry in the Southern Province;
 - (iv) whether action will be taken to conduct an investigation in this regard; and
 - (v) whether steps will be taken to utilize the above-mentioned buildings for the needs of the public?
- (c) If not, why?

3.

604/2025

Hon. Ruwanthilaka Jayakody,—To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the bridge located in Pansilgoda, Minuwangoda, in the Gampaha District, which is daily used by around 8,000 people in 09 villages, was dismantled and removed in 2021 for repairs; and
 - (ii) nevertheless, the construction of the bridge has not been completed for a period of 04 years and as a result, the people concerned have been facing inconveniences and as a result of the non-operation of the two buses that used to ply that route up to Gampaha?

(3)

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the amount that has been allocated for the construction of a new bridge in place of the aforesaid bridge;
- (ii) whether the full amount of the allocation has been credited to the relevant account;
- (iii) if so, of the name of that account and the name of the bank at which the account is maintained;
- (iv) whether he is aware that the State Development and Construction Corporation, which is responsible for the construction of the bridge concerned, was directed at the meeting of the Minuwangoda Divisional Coordination Committee held on 04.04.2024 to complete the construction of the bridge within two and a half months; and
- (v) of the length of time that will be taken to open that bridge?

(c) If not, why?

4.

611/2025

Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindrane Kiriella, Attorney at Law,—To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) amount of money received by the Lady Ridgeway Hospital in Colombo from donors to purchase the items required for surgeries, from 2024 to date;
- (ii) amount used from it and the amount not used, separately; and
- (iii) measures that will be taken to properly utilize the funds so received by that hospital from donors?

(b) If not, why?

5.

631/2025

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

(a) Will she inform this House —

- (i) separately, of the number of teacher vacancies in Sinhala medium and Tamil medium government schools for grades 1 to 5 and grades 6 to 11;
- (ii) separately, of the number of teacher vacancies in Sinhala medium and Tamil medium government schools of the Western province for grades 1 to 5 and grades 6 to 11;

(4)

- (iii) separately, of the number of teacher vacancies in Sinhala medium and Tamil medium government schools in the Colombo Education Zone, from grade 1 to grade 5 and from grade 6 to grade 11;
- (iv) of the steps that will be taken to fill the aforesaid teacher vacancies; and
- (v) of the time taken to fill the aforesaid teacher vacancies?

(b) If not, why?

6.

634/2025

Hon. Hector Appuhamy,—To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) number of Sri Lankan workers who have left for employments in Israel's agriculture sector in each year from 2015 up to now, separately;
- (ii) procedure adopted in selecting the workers referred to above; and
- (iii) measures that will be taken to ensure transparency in providing the employment opportunities mentioned above?

(b) If not, why?

7.

648/2025

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana,—To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the date on which the preliminary plan for the construction of the East Terminal of the Colombo Port was prepared;
- (ii) of the date on which a new road plan was prepared with regard to it;
- (iii) whether he is aware that the trade unions of the Colombo Port have pointed out that the new road plan has been prepared arbitrarily; and
- (iv) if so, of the steps that will be taken in that regard?

(b) If not, why?

(5)

8.

666/2025

Hon. Lasith Bhashana Gamage,—To ask the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of warehouses of the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment existing in Welisara;
 - (ii) whether he is aware that a few of them have been leased out to some other institutions;
 - (iii) of the institutions who have obtained them on lease basis;
 - (iv) of the rent charged for the warehouses which have been leased out, separately; and
 - (v) of the measures that will be taken to re-acquire the warehouses in question if they have been let or leased out on rents that are far below the prevailing market values?
- (b) If not why?

9.

667/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that Dr. Sathyamoorthy Thangamuththu holds an end post as the Director of the Teaching Hospital, Jaffna;
 - (ii) of the date on which Dr. Thangamuththu was appointed to this position;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that Dr. Thangamuththu was appointed to this post by the previous government with the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers;
 - (iv) of the basis on which this appointment was approved by the previous government;
 - (v) whether the Cabinet of Ministers has the authority to appoint a consultant to an end post;
 - (vi) whether he is aware that Dr. Thangamuththu does not hold Board Certification and is only an Acting Consultant; and
 - (vii) if so, of the reasons justify his appointment as a Director despite the availability of many Board-Certified Consultants?
- (b) If not, why?

(6)

10.

669/2025

Hon. Asitha Niroshana Egoda Vithana,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the extent of land purchased by Ceylinco Developers and Real Estate Company from lands of the Steel Corporation in Oruwala for the construction of the Millennium City Housing Complex, for which the plan was presented to the Urban Development Authority for its approval;
 - (ii) whether a plan approved by the Urban Development Authority for its construction will be presented if one is available;
 - (iii) if not, of the reasons for it;
 - (iv) of the extents of lands that should be set aside for the common amenities of the complex, of the extent of lands set aside according to the plan, and of the extent physically set aside, separately;
 - (v) whether the lands physically set aside are shown in the approved plan;
 - (vi) if not, of the reasons for it;
 - (vii) whether lands have been set aside for common amenities from the marshy lands outside the complex;
 - (viii) whether it is legal; and
 - (ix) if not, of the measures that will be taken?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the —
 - (i) extent of land that has been alienated out of the extent set aside for common amenities;
 - (ii) measures taken against it; and
 - (iii) measures taken to re-acquire the lands concerned?
- (c) If not why?

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Order under the Finance Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 2(1) of the Finance Act, No. 25 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/30 of 31st January 2025, which was presented on 08.05.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(7)

*2.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Notification under the Finance Act,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 19 read with Section 51 of the Finance Act, No. 35 of 2018 relating to Luxury Tax on Motor Vehicles and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2421/41 of 31st January 2025, which was presented on 08.05.2025, 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,— 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. 2428/07 of 19th March 2025, which were presented on 08.05.2025, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the establishment and maintenance of places of unlawful detention and torture chambers at the Batalanda Housing Scheme,— Adjourned debate on question (10th April 2025) Motion made and question proposed,— “Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the establishment and maintenance of places of unlawful detention and torture chambers at the Batalanda Housing Scheme, which was tabled in Parliament on 14th March 2025, be considered by Parliament.”

** Indicates Government Business.*
