



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 166.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

138/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) date on which the decision was taken to terminate the light rail project that was to be implemented with a credit facility from the Government of Japan;
 - (ii) factors that influenced that decision;
 - (iii) loss incurred by the government of Sri Lanka as a result of the aforesaid decision;
 - (iv) recommendations made in the audit report regarding that matter; and
 - (v) stance of the government on the aforesaid project?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

469/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the railway lines currently operating in Sri Lanka with their lengths in kilometers, separately;
 - (ii) of the annual total maintenance cost of these railway lines;
 - (iii) of the total number of staff, and the total annual expenditure on salaries and emoluments;
 - (iv) of the total revenue, total cost and, resulting profit or loss of the Department of Sri Lanka Railways for each of the last 05 years, separately;

(2)

- (v) whether railway tracks are shared with the private sector;
- (vi) if so, of the private operators involved and the annual revenue earned from such track sharing;
- (vii) of the total asset value of the Department;
- (viii) of the proposed modernization plans;
- (ix) of the measures intended to improve efficiency and value for money service; and
- (x) of the annual earnings from railway transportation, for each of the last 05 years, separately?

(b) If not, why?

3.

783/2025

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that a bus service was operated as Wattala-Bambalapitiya on route no. 104 a few years ago;
- (ii) whether he is aware that the said bus service is not operational at present; and
- (iii) whether steps will be taken to restart the said bus service by deploying a bus from the Ja-Ela depot and a bus from the Ratmalana depot?

(b) If not, why?

4.

1192/2025

Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) length of the bridge constructed from Velanaithurai in the Velanai Divisional Secretariat Division of the Jaffna District to Pungudutivu, Madaththuveli;
- (ii) year in which the said bridge was last renovated and the source of funds used for the purpose; and
- (iii) total cost of its renovation?

(3)

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that travelling on the said bridge is very risky and that accidents occur;
- (ii) if so, of the reasons for the occurrence of such accidents; and
- (iii) of the date on which the said bridge will be fully renovated?

(c) If not, why?

5.

1280/2025

Hon. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna,—To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether emission testing centres have been established in the depots of the Sri Lanka Transport Board to conduct emission tests on the board's buses;
- (ii) if so, of the number of such centres;
- (iii) of the depots in which they have been established;
- (iv) of the total cost incurred in establishing those emission testing centres; and
- (v) whether those emission testing centres are currently providing services?

(b) If not, why?

6.

1376/2025

Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law,—To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the number of defined routes in the Kandy District on which the Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB) is mandated to provide passenger transportation services;
- (ii) out of those roads, of the number of routes on which the SLTB buses provide passenger transport, and the number of routes on which passenger transport is not provided, separately;
- (iii) of the reasons for the non- provision of passenger transportation services on the routes identified as currently not being served by the SLTB;

(4)

- (iv) of the measures that will be taken to increase the bus operations of the SLTB in the Kandy District; and
- (v) of the measures that will be taken to develop the depots of the SLTB in the Kandy District?

(b) If not, why?

7.

1825/2026

Hon. (Dr.) Pathmanathan Sathiyalingam,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways and Urban Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that unauthorized buildings have been constructed by encroaching on reservation lands of roads and railways maintained by the Road Development Authority and the Department of Sri Lanka Railways;
- (ii) of the measures that will be taken to remove the buildings referred to above;
- (iii) of the institutions responsible for the maintenance and cleaning of the canals that facilitate the drainage of rainwater on the roads maintained by the institutes mentioned above;
- (iv) of the measures that will be taken to prevent flooding caused by the obstruction of the canals that facilitate the drainage of rainwater; and
- (v) of the institutions that should implement the measures referred to above?

(b) If not, why?

8.

907/2025

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that the buildings of the Government Maternity Hospital, Rajamalwatta, Modara are currently in a dilapidated condition; and
- (ii) of the measures that will be taken to develop the buildings and the other facilities of the said hospital?

(b) If not, why?

(5)

9.

908/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the objectives of establishing the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute;
 - (ii) of the allocations provided by the government to the said institution since 2015 to date, separately for each year;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that this institution has deviated from its original objectives and has become an income generating institution; and
 - (iv) if so, of the measures that will be taken in this regard?
- (b) If not, why?

10.

1281/2025

Hon. Susantha Kumara Nawarathna,— To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the total number of Offices of the Regional Medical Officers of Health established in the Anuradhapura District;
 - (ii) whether there are any vacancies for medical officers in the said offices;
 - (iii) if so, of the number of vacancies;
 - (iv) of the number of maternity and child clinics functioning under each of the above-mentioned Offices of the Regional Medical Officers of Health, separately;
 - (v) whether the number of maternity and child clinics that are required to be established in each division of the Regional Medical Officers of Health in the Anuradhapura District has been identified; and
 - (vi) if so, of the said number of clinics separately in terms of each division?
- (b) If not, why?

11.

1658/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the total extent of land of the old Mahamodara Maternity Hospital in Galle;

(6)

- (ii) of the government properties currently remaining on the said hospital premises;
- (iii) whether health services are currently being conducted within the said hospital building;
- (iv) whether there are plans to utilize the said premises for any other purpose;
- (v) if so, of such planned activity; and
- (vi) of the services and facilities provided by the 'Helmut Kohl Memorial Maternity (Teaching) Hospital' in Karapitiya compared to the old Mahamodara Maternity Hospital?

(b) If not, why?

12.

1828/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether actions will be taken to introduce a pension scheme and insurance coverage for regional correspondents;
- (ii) whether steps will be taken to introduce a concessional loan scheme to purchase media equipment or to provide transport facilities (such as electric motorcycles);
- (iii) whether there is a plan to formulate a permanent salary structure or a formal allowance scheme for journalists registered with the Department of Government Information who have completed a minimum of 10 years of service;
- (iv) whether measures will be taken to increase the 'minimum fee paid for a news story' by the media institution and to ensure due recognition to the media identity card; and
- (v) if not, of the actions that will be taken forthwith to address the economic difficulties faced by these journalists?

(b) If not, why?

13.

137/2024

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

(a) Will she inform this House of the —

- (i) number of President's Houses in Sri Lanka at present;
- (ii) their locations;

(7)

- (iii) annual cost of maintenance for each of those President's Houses from 2018 to date each year, separately; and
- (iv) measures that will be taken to turn the statements made by the current government during the last election campaign—that these Presidential residences would be used for productive purposes—into a reality?

(b) If not, why?

14.

608/2025

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— (1)

(a) Will she inform this House of the —

- (i) number of positions approved for lecturers and professors for the entire university system, indicating the number of currently filled and vacant, separately;
- (ii) departments with the highest number of vacancies;
- (iii) reasons for the creation of the aforesaid vacancies;
- (iv) impact made on the university students due to the existence of the aforesaid vacancies; and
- (v) steps that will be taken to fill the said vacancies?

(b) If not, why?

15.

1034/2025

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna,—To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— (1)

(a) Will she inform this House of the —

- (i) number of students who died and got injured due to incidents of ragging in the university system from the year 2020 to date, separately for each university;
- (ii) number of committees appointed at the university level regarding the said incidents;
- (iii) measures taken based on the reports of those committees; and
- (iv) actions that have been taken to prevent the inhumane ragging, that is taking place in the state university system?

(b) If not, why?

16.

1036/2025

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— (1)

(a) Will she inform this House of the —

- (i) number of undergraduates currently enrolled in state university system in Sri Lanka who receive the Mahapola Scholarship and Bursary payments, separately;
- (ii) amount received per student under each of the aforesaid schemes at present, separately; and
- (iii) measures taken to ensure that these allowances are disbursed to students duly and on time?

(b) If not, why?

17.

1883/2026

Hon. Sunil Rajapaksha,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— (2)

(a) Will she inform this House —

- (i) of the state educational institutions in Sri Lanka that offer Bachelor of Education degree programme;
- (ii) of the non-state educational institutions that offer the said degree;
- (iii) whether the Bachelor of Education degrees offered by state and non-state institutions are recognized as equivalent qualifications in the recruitment of teachers;
- (iv) if not, why;
- (v) whether the duration and content of the Bachelor of Education courses offered by state and non-state institutions are the same;
- (vi) if not, why;
- (vii) whether completion of a practical teacher training is mandatory for the Bachelor of Education degree programmes offered by the relevant institutions; and
- (viii) if so, of the duration of the said training?

(b) If not, why?

18.

944/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of Sri Lankan migrant workers currently employed abroad, separately according to each country;
 - (ii) of the number of workers, out of those, who contribute to the social security systems implemented in the respective countries;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that issues have arisen regarding the reclamation of those funds when they return to this country upon completion of their service period; and
 - (iv) if so, of the steps that will be taken to resolve those issues?
- (b) If not, why?

19.

1527/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether he is aware that the Kokkilai and Nayar lagoon in the Mullaitivu district, the wetlands and bird habitats near them are suitable environments for the development of eco-tourism;
 - (ii) of the current situation of the facilities including eco-friendly accommodation (Eco-Hotels) for tourists in those areas;
 - (iii) whether a feasibility study or a master plan has been prepared to develop those areas as eco-tourism destinations and attract more tourists;
 - (iv) of the measures that are being taken to promote sustainable eco-tourism, and protect the biodiversity and habitats of migratory birds in those areas; and
 - (v) of the livelihood opportunities currently being implemented and planned to be initiated in the future, including training of local people in the fields of eco-tourism guidance, boat services and accommodation facilities?
- (b) If not, why?

20.

1924/2026

Hon. Dewananda Suraweera,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of school children belonging to families of migrant workers in the Colombo District;
 - (ii) whether a programme to provide school equipment for the children referred to above is being implemented;
 - (iii) if so, whether the said programme is being implemented by the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau;
 - (iv) of the number of Foreign Service Officers serving attached to the Divisional Secretariats;
 - (v) of the number of school children in the age groups of 2-5, 6-10 and 11-18 years, separately, as reported by the said officers; and
 - (vi) of the quantity of school equipment provided for the year 2025?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) whether the officers referred to in (a) (iv) above have the ability to obtain a report containing the above information based on the data provided by the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau;
 - (ii) whether there are instances where the grant of school equipment is refused; and
 - (iii) if so, of the criteria in that regard?
- (c) If not, why?

21.

2106/2026

Hon. (Mrs.) M.A.C.S. Chathuri Gangani,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) number of rest houses belonging to the Ministry that are located within the Wellawaya Divisional Secretariat Division;
 - (ii) extent of land of such rest houses, separately;
 - (iii) period for which such rest houses have been leased; and
 - (iv) names of the persons by whom such rest houses have been leased?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) whether he is aware that the rest house located on Ella road, Wellawaya, has been sub-leased;
 - (ii) if so, of the name of the sub-lessee;

(11)

(iii) whether he is aware that the original lessee of the said rest house, while misappropriating the assets thereof, has cut down and sold 08 teak trees on two occasions without obtaining any permission; and

(iv) of the legal measures that have been taken in this regard?

(c) If not, why?

22.

831/2025

Hon. Kins Nelson,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

(i) number of businessmen who have been engaged in granite quarrying on lands belonging to the Sri Lanka Mahaweli Authority since year 2015 up to now;

(ii) amount of money that has been collected as land use fee during the said period;

(iii) amount of money that is still outstanding; and

(iv) measures that will be taken to recover the said outstanding amount?

(b) If not, why?

23.

883/2025

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (3)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that the landless persons have applied to the Koralaipattu, Valaichchenai Divisional Secretariat with the aim of acquiring land, during the period from 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2025;

(ii) if so, of the number of such persons, their names and relevant details;

(iii) whether such persons have been issued with Deeds of Grant or Land Permits; and

(iv) if so, of the number of such persons along with their names and relevant details?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that the majority of the persons who have settled down in government lands in the Koralai Pattu, Valaichchenai Divisional Secretariat Division have not been issued with Deeds of Grant or Land Permits so far;

(12)

- (ii) if so, of the number of such persons, their names and relevant details; and
- (iii) of the reasons for not issuing Deeds of Grant or Land Permits to the aforementioned persons so far?

(c) If not, why?

24.

885/2025

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah,—To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (2)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that persons are residing on state lands in the Koralaipattu, Valaichenai Divisional Secretariat Division of the Batticaloa district without a ‘Deed of Grant’ or a ‘Land Permit’ awarded by the government;
- (ii) if so, of the number of such individuals, their names and relevant details;
- (iii) whether the respective Divisional Secretary has filed action at the court of law against them during the period from 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2025 to legally evict those individuals from the state lands referred to above;
- (iv) if so, of the number of such individuals, their names and their relevant details;
- (v) of the number of evicted individuals from the state lands on court orders along with their names and relevant details, out of the total number of individuals prosecuted by the relevant Divisional Secretary during the above mentioned period;
- (vi) whether there are persons against whom the Divisional Secretary has not filed action although he should have;
- (vii) if so, of the number of such persons, their names and other relevant details; and
- (viii) of the reasons for filing case against only a few of them while not filing case against most?

(b) If not, why?

25.

945/2025

Hon. Hector Appuhamy,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the date on which a Senior Assistant Secretary to the President sent a letter to the Land Reform Commission, instructing it ‘not to alienate’ the lands owned by the Commission;

(13)

- (ii) whether he is aware that the lands have been alienated even after receiving the aforesaid letter;
 - (iii) if so, of the extent of the lands, so alienated;
 - (iv) of the reason for such alienation of lands;
 - (v) of the names of the individuals to whom aforesaid lands have been allocated; and
 - (vi) of the measures that will be taken to bring the lands owned by the Commission under proper regulation?
- (b) If not, why?

26.

1268/2025

Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe,—To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House whether —
- (i) he is aware that, the District Secretary of the Ampara District has held a land kachcheri in the Navaladiwattai area of the Irakkamam Divisional Secretariat Division in the years 1986, 1989, 1991 and 1997 and that permits have been issued to 21 farmers by the Ampara District Secretariat with the approval of the Commissioner General of Lands;
 - (ii) he is aware that 21 farmers who have been engaged in agricultural and highland cultivation activities for the past 30 years have been repeatedly obstructed time to time by the Divisional Secretary of Irakkamam, acting on the orders of the District Secretary, Ampara, by informing them not to engage in agricultural activities on those lands;
 - (iii) he is aware that a team including the Divisional Secretary and officers of the Survey Department of Sri Lanka have been appointed by the District Coordinating Committee, Ampara, and sent to that area to identify and return the lands belonging to those farmers, and that a group of people have obstructed the handover of those lands to the farmers concerned; and
 - (iv) whether steps will be taken to return those lands to the said farmers?
- (b) If not, why?

27.

1449/2025

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he is aware that salinity infiltrates the water in paddy fields located closer to catchment areas, and that crops are destroyed since paddy fields get submerged due to floods during *Maha* season; and

(14)

(ii) if so, of the measures that will be taken to prevent the said conditions?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that it would be possible to cultivate paddy during both seasons by constructing salinity barriers between Mahiloor Periyakulam and the paddy fields, and also between Mandur 1 and 2 paddy fields and the river, which come under the Pattiruppu Divisional Irrigation Engineer's Office in Batticaloa; and

(ii) if so, of the measures that will be taken to construct salinity barriers in order to reinstate that condition?

(c) If not, why?

28.

1758/2025

Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the number of persons that applied to obtain deeds under the 'Urumaya' programme in the Pottuvil Divisional Secretariat Division from 01.01.2020 to 01.01.2025 and their names;

(ii) whether deeds were provided under the aforesaid 'Urumaya' programme to the persons who applied for deeds during the period mentioned above;

(iii) if so, of the number of those applicants and their names;

(iv) whether he is aware that most of the 'Urumaya' applicants have not been received the deeds;

(v) if so, of the number of those persons and their names; and

(vi) of the reasons for not issuing the deeds to those persons up to now?

(b) If not, why?

29.

1909/2026

Hon. B. Ariyawansha,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

(i) annual revenue earned from cinnamon exports in each year from the year 2015 to date, separately;

(ii) number of families that are currently engaged in cinnamon cultivation; and

(15)

- (iii) measures that will be taken to resolve the problems faced by cinnamon cultivators and to promote cinnamon cultivation?

(b) If not, why?

30.

1926/2026

Hon. T.K. Jayasundara,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (2)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he accepts that the ‘Apthop Watta’ land in the Nagoda Divisional Secretariat Division of the Galle District is a state land;
- (ii) of the manner in which the said land has been transferred from the past to the present;
- (iii) of the extent of the said land;
- (iv) of the number of residents that reside on the said land at present;
- (v) of the extent of the land that is occupied by the said residents;
- (vi) of the number of persons who are not settled, but only carry out cultivation activities on the said land;
- (vii) of the extent of the land that is in their possession at present; and
- (viii) whether the rough plan of the said land will be presented?

(b) Will he also inform this House whether disaster-prone areas identified by the National Building Research Organization (NBRO) are located within the said land?

(c) If not, why?

31.

1770/2025

Hon. Lal Premanath,— To ask the Minister of Plantation and Community Infrastructure,— (2)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether the objectives of introducing a QR system on distributing fertilizer subsidy for tea plantations has been fulfilled;
- (ii) if so, of the available data to demonstrate such success;
- (iii) of the practical limitations of the current QR code system;
- (iv) whether there have been instances where the objectives were not achieved by implementing this system;

(16)

- (v) if so, of the main reasons for such an outcome;
- (vi) of the alternative facilities or reliefs provided by the Government to the tea planters who were placed at a disadvantage by the said QR code system;
- (vii) whether the Government is to take prompt measures to improve or enhance the efficiency of the said QR code system; and
- (viii) if so, of such measures that will be taken?

(b) If not, why?

32.

1645/2025

Hon. Imran Maharoof,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources,— (1)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) there is a delay in issuing licenses for vessels engaged in the ring net fishing industry in the Northern and Eastern provinces;
- (ii) owing to the delay, it has not been possible to harvest fish that are available only at a specific time; and
- (iii) fishermen, fishing gear and vessels engaged in fishing activities without licenses are apprehended by Navy officers and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Department officers, produced before the courts and fined?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the reasons for the delay in issuing the licenses mentioned in (a) (i) above; and
- (ii) whether steps will be taken to issue licenses within the stipulated time in the future?

(c) If not, why?

33.

1020/2025

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

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) steps taken by the Combined Services Division of the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government and the Public Service Commission to address the absence of approved service minutes for Development Officers;
- (ii) primary role and responsibilities assigned to Development Officers (MN 4), who entered the service with degree qualifications; and

(17)

- (iii) specific duties assigned to Management Service Officers (MN 3), who entered the service with Advanced Level qualifications?

(b) If not, why?

34.

1021/2025

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether there are established distinctions in job roles between Development Officers and Management Service Officers in practice; and
- (ii) if so, how such distinctions are implemented within Ministries and Departments?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) whether only Management Service Officers are eligible for postings to Sri Lankan Foreign Missions through a structured examination and interview process;
- (ii) if so, the reasons for not introducing a similar mechanism for Development Officers; and
- (iii) whether steps will be taken to ensure equal professional development opportunities, including overseas employment opportunities, for Development Officers on par with Management Service Officers?

(c) If not, why?

35.

2062/2026

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) qualifications that must be fulfilled to enter the Sri Lanka Administrative Service;
- (ii) procedure for the recruitment of officers to that service;
- (iii) designations to which the officers of that service are appointed;
- (iv) designations or acting designations that belong to the Administrative Service but are currently held by officers belonging to other services along with their places of work; and

(18)

- (v) measures that will be taken to place the said officers in appropriate work places in order to maintain the Administrative Service as a proper public service?

(b) If not, why?

36.

2109/2026

Hon. Major General (Rtd.) G.D. Sooriyabandara,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) number of staff employed in the Department of Pensions at present; and
- (ii) measures that have been taken to ensure the data security of the said Department?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) of the number of public officers who have been sent on retirement as at 31.12.2019, from 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2024, and from 01.01.2025 to 30.04.2026, separately;
- (ii) of the total public sector pension payments as a percentage of the gross national product;
- (iii) whether the pensions increased in the 2025 budget have been paid to all pensioners by now;
- (iv) if not, of the number of pensioners who are yet to be paid such payments;
- (v) of the reasons for such delay and of the expected time frame for making those payments;
- (vi) whether the pension increase is also applicable to those who were sent on retirement prior to 2026;
- (vii) of the number of pensioners who have not received financial benefits from this pension increase; and
- (viii) of the reasons for not receiving such financial benefits?

(c) If not, why?

37.

2112/2026

Hon. (Dr.) V.S. Radhakrishnan,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— (1)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) additional Divisional Secretariats have been established in the Nuwara Eliya District; and

(19)

- (ii) nearly 120,000 people reside in each of the Hanguranketha, Walapane and Kotmale areas, and that only one Pradeshiya Sabha has been established in each of those areas to provide services to their residents?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether it is possible to establish 02 Pradeshiya Sabhas in such areas by delimitation in accordance with the population of the respective areas; and
- (ii) if so, of the measure that will be taken therefor?

(c) If not, why?

38.

30/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the number of District Cricket Associations currently operating in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) of the names of the said Associations;
- (iii) of the number of officers employed in each of those Associations and their names separately;
- (iv) whether he is aware that there is a disparity between the salary scales of the employees of the Sri Lanka Cricket and the salary scales of the employees of the District Sports Associations; and
- (v) if so, of the measures will be taken to rectify the said disparity?

(b) If not, why?

39.

675/2025

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the losses incurred by Sri Lankan Airlines from 2015 to date, separately for each year;
- (ii) of the amounts provided to Sri Lankan Airlines by the General Treasury to cover those losses, separately for each year;
- (iii) of the date that government decided to continue operating Sri Lankan Airlines as a State-owned entity at a time when it was incurring losses;

(20)

- (iv) of the reasons that led to that decision; and
- (v) whether the decision to operate it as a government institution will be reconsidered?

(b) If not, why?

40.

1106/2025

Hon. S.M. Marikkar,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (2)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) total value of the foreign direct investments that have been received by Sri Lanka from 01.10.2024 up to now in US dollars;
- (ii) names of the investment projects related thereto;
- (iii) nature of each of those investment projects and the amount invested in each project in US dollars, separately; and
- (iv) date on which each of the said investment projects was initiated/ will be initiated, the date of completion and the number of employment opportunities generated by each project separately?

(b) If not, why?

41.

235/2024

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Justice and National Integration,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) definition given by the Government of Sri Lanka for the term 'political prisoner';
- (ii) number of political prisoners currently in the custody of the Government of Sri Lanka;
- (iii) name of each of the political prisoners and the reason for his or her arrest, separately; and
- (iv) timeframe for the release of the said political prisoners?

(b) If not, why?

42.

746/2025

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana,—To ask the Minister of Justice and National Integration,— (2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the number of officers of the Attorney General's Department who have left Sri Lanka in each year from 2015 up to date each year, separately;

(21)

- (ii) whether he is aware that because of the current shortage of officers with special talents in the Attorney General's Department, one officer has to handle approximately 200–300 files;
- (iii) of the measures that will be taken to minimize the delay caused because of the above reason; and
- (iv) of the steps that will be taken to fill the vacancies existing in the Attorney General's Department?

(b) If not, why?

43.

1377/2025

Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindranee Kiriella, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Environment,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) number of domesticated elephants and tuskers in Sri Lanka at present; and
- (ii) measures that will be taken to resolve the problems faced by those domesticated elephants and tuskers, and their owners?

(b) If not, why?

44.

1549/2025

Hon. (Dr.) Nandana Millagala,— To ask the Minister of Environment,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that there is a forest reserve along the Poonugala - Wewelthalawa Estate Road in the Yatiyanthota Divisional Secretariat Division;
- (ii) of the biodiversity of the said forest reserve and its unique characteristics;
- (iii) whether he is aware that there is an unauthorized construction in the said forest reserve;
- (iv) of the measures taken by the relevant plantation company and the police to control the illegal activities carried out in the said forest reserve; and
- (v) of the measures taken by the relevant plantation company and the government separately to protect the said forest reserve?

(b) If not, why?

45.

1963/2026

Hon. Ajith Gihan,— To ask the Minister of Environment,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) coastal belt in the Puttalam District is undergoing severe erosion; and
 - (ii) boat and fishing craft landing sites have eroded into the sea to the state that is impossible to carry out fishing activities there?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether necessary provisions have been allocated for the construction of rock revetments to prevent coastal erosion;
 - (ii) whether steps will be taken to provide the Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management with the machinery required for coast conservation; and
 - (iii) whether the causes of coastal erosion around the island will be provided based on scientific information and data?
- (c) If not, why?

46.

2105/2026

Hon. U.P. Abeywickrama, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs,— (1)

- (a) Will he accept that, although the drug addicts are successfully rehabilitated through Government-operated or approved rehabilitation centres, there is a tendency for such persons to relapse into drug use or become involved in criminal networks due to factors such as unemployment, obstacles encountered in seeking foreign employment, difficulties in obtaining police clearance certificates, exclusion from the society, and being treated as suspects by security divisions?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of recognized rehabilitation centres currently in operation;
 - (ii) of the average number of persons rehabilitated annually through such centres;
 - (iii) of the procedures adopted for referring persons to the rehabilitation process;
 - (iv) of the measures that will be taken to prevent relapse into drug use and re-involvement in crimes after rehabilitation;

(23)

(v) whether there is a possibility of introducing a mechanism whereby persons charged with minor offences may, upon the successful completion of a prescribed rehabilitation process and a specified probationary period, be exonerated from such criminal records and the purpose of issuing police clearance certificates; and

(vi) if not, of the reasons therefor?

(c) If not, why?

47.

1355/2025

Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that 130 applications submitted to the Department of Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs for the purpose of registering Arabic schools, have not been approved by the said Department in the last 04 years; and

(ii) if so, whether steps will be taken to register the 130 Arabic schools referred to above?

(b) If not, why?

48.

1666/2025

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the qualifications required for the post of General Manager and the post of Legal Officer of the National Film Corporation, separately; and

(ii) whether the officer currently serving as the Legal Officer of the Corporation has fulfilled the aforementioned qualifications?

(b) If not, why?

49.

2134/2026

Hon. Kitnan Selvaraj,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the number of cultural centres registered under the Department of Hindu Religious and Cultural Affairs;

(ii) of the manner in which the administrative structure (Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer) of the said centres is constituted;

(24)

- (iii) whether the financial statements (statement of accounts) of the above centres are audited annually;
- (iv) whether the said centres are functioning in a manner suitable for public use;
- (v) whether the cultural centres located in the Badulla and Nuwara Eliya districts are functioning under government administration; and
- (vi) of the amount of money spent by the government for Hindu cultural centres through the Department in the year 2025?

(b) If not, why?

50.

1411/2025

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Housing, Construction and Water Supply,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

- (i) amount allocated for the drinking water projects of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board in the 2025 budget for the Batticaloa District;
- (ii) number of new water connections expected to be provided for the Batticaloa District; and
- (iii) number of new water connections provided for the Batticaloa District as of 31.07.2025?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that the Board has not provided water connections to Thumbala village of the Dikgoda Grama Niladhari Division of the Porativu Pattu Divisional Secretariat Division in the Batticaloa District; Sinnawatta Upper Division, Pudumunmarichchola, Palaiyadivaddai, Kannapuram East, Kannapuram, and Nellikkadu of the Sinnawatta Grama Niladhari Division; and Sinnakalaipottamadu village of the Illuppadichenai Grama Niladhari Division of the Manmunai West Divisional Secretariat Division; and
- (ii) if so, of the specific date by which water connections will be provided to these villages?

(c) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Minister of Health and Mass Media,— Chartered Institute of Media Professionals of Sri Lanka,— Bill to provide for the establishment of the Chartered Institute of Media Professionals of Sri Lanka with a view to introducing and maintaining the professional standards for media professionals and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

2.

The Minister of Labour,— Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children (Amendment),— Bill to amend the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, No. 47 of 1956.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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 read with Sections 4(1), 6 and 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2493/03 of 15th June 2026, which were presented on 10.07.2026, 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. 2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under Section 20 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2493/39 of 18th June 2026, which were presented on 10.07.2026, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

Protection of Occupants Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

Rent (Repeal) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

Penal Code (Amendment) Bill,— Adjourned debate on question (24th September 2025) [1].

*6.

Telecommunication Levy (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

Finance (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

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.”

9.

Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

10.

Institute of Facilities Management Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill,— Second Reading.

11.

Land Development (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

12.

Kodhagoda Gunarathana Nahimi Foundation (Incorporation) Bill,— Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business.*

[1].

Motion made and question proposed “That the Bill be now read a second time.”

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

890/2025

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah, — To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform the House —
 - (i) whether he is aware that, people have settled in the state lands for which ‘Deeds of Grant’ or ‘Land Permits’ were given during the period from 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2025 out of the state lands situated in the Divisional Secretariat Division of Koralaipattu North, Vakaraï in the Batticaloa District; and
 - (ii) if so, of total number of such people, their names and relevant details?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

891/2025

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah, — To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether he is aware that the landless persons have applied to the Koralaipattu North, Vakaraï Divisional Secretariat by with the aim of acquiring land during the period from 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2025;
 - (ii) if so, of the number of such persons, their names and relevant details;
 - (iii) whether such persons have been issued with Deeds of Grant or Land Permits; and
 - (iv) if so, of the number of such persons along with their names and relevant details?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) whether he is aware that the majority of the persons who have settled down in government lands in the Koralaipattu North, Vakaraï Divisional Secretariat Division have not been issued with Deeds of Grant or Land Permits so far;
 - (ii) if so, of the number of such persons, their names and relevant details; and
 - (iii) of the reasons for not issuing Deeds of Grant or Land Permits to the aforementioned persons so far?
- (c) If not, why?

3.

892/2025

Hon. (Dr.) M.L.A.M. Hizbullah, — To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform the House —
 - (i) of the number of people who applied for ‘Urumaya’ freehold deeds in the Koralaipattu North, Vakara Divisional Secretariat Division, Batticaloa from 01.01.2019 to 31.03.2025 and their names;
 - (ii) whether ‘Urumaya’ freehold deeds have been granted to the persons referred to above under a special programme of the then government;
 - (iii) if so, of the number of such persons and their names;
 - (iv) whether he is aware that some of the persons who applied for ‘Urumaya’ freehold deeds have not been granted the deeds concerned;
 - (v) if so, of the number of such persons and their names; and
 - (vi) of the reasons for not granting ‘Urumaya’ freehold deeds to them, so far?
 - (b) If not, why?
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