



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 168.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Friday, July 24, 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

29/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi, Attorney at Law,—To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (1)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) a large amount of money is spent on the importation of milk powder; and
- (ii) a significant economic benefit, as well as an improvement in the health status of the public, can be achieved by empowering dairy farmers?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the quantity of milk produced in the country out of the total daily requirement;
- (ii) whether the government has implemented any programme to uplift and incentivize dairy farmers; and
- (iii) if so, of the said programme?

(c) If not, why?

2.

120/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation,— (3)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he is aware that an audit report has been issued regarding the import of organic fertilizer from China;
- (ii) of the financial loss that has been caused by the import of organic fertilizer from China as per the said audit report;

(2)

(iii) of the recommendations that have been made in the audit report concerned; and

(iv) of the steps that will be taken to implement the said recommendations?

(b) If not, why?

3.

658/2025

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development,— (1)

(a) Is he aware that —

(i) there is a tile factory in the Elayapattuwa area of the Anuradhapura District;

(ii) the said tile factory is currently in a non-functional state; and

(iii) as a result, the valuable machinery of the said factory is deteriorating?

(b) Will he inform this House of the measures that will be taken to restart the said factory?

(c) If not, why?

4.

1413/2025

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the amount of money that was allocated in the budget for this year for the construction or renovation of new post office buildings;

(ii) whether he is aware that the Kiran Post Office is housed in a private building; and

(iii) whether actions will be taken to construct a new post office building for the Kiran Post Office?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that the elderly and widows receive their allowances from the Chitthandi Sub-Post Office due to the absence of a post office in the Mavativembu area of the Eravurpattu Chenkalady Divisional Secretariat Division in the Batticaloa District;

(ii) whether actions will be taken to establish a new post office in the Mavativembu area; and

(3)

(iii) of the procedure that will be followed to upgrade a sub-post office to a post office?

(c) If not, why?

5.

1889/2026

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

(a) Is she aware that —

- (i) problems have arisen in administrative and academic activities due to the large number of vacancies in the posts of principals in national schools located outside urban areas in the Eastern Province; and
- (ii) many schools in the Ampara District continue to function without principals despite the existence of an excess number of qualified principals in certain coastal education zones within the district?

(b) Will she inform this House —

- (i) of the necessity of calling upon officers of the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service (SLEAS) to fill existing principal vacancies, at a time when the service requires new officers for the implementation of national education reforms;
- (ii) whether there is any possibility of relieving such officers from the duties performed in the capacity of principals in order to enable them to focus on policy formulation, implementation, and education reform initiatives;
- (iii) of the steps that will be taken to streamline employment opportunities for officers in the Sri Lanka Educational Administrative Service (SLEAS) and the Principals' Service on an equal basis; and
- (iv) of the measures that will be adopted to ensure the appointment of qualified principals to school administration without delay?

(c) If not, why?

6.

1980/2026

Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether action has been taken to exempt 'assistive devices' used by persons with disabilities from import tariffs;

(4)

- (ii) if so, of the percentage of such exemptions; and
 - (iii) of the types of tariff exemptions that have been given and the types of equipment that have been exempted from such tariffs?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
- (i) whether it is possible to provide tax relief when importing adapted vehicles for personal use by persons with disabilities;
 - (ii) if so, of the procedures that has to be followed in obtaining such tax relief;
 - (iii) of the existing legal framework relating to that and details of the circulars in effect in that respect;
 - (iv) if there are obstacles in importing assistive devices or adapted vehicles within the provisions of the existing circulars and legal framework, whether steps will be taken to amend such laws;
 - (v) whether assistive devices and adapted vehicles that are personally received by persons with disabilities or organizations of such persons, as donations from foreign countries have been exempted from import tariffs; and
 - (vi) whether there is any possibility of providing some tax relief for used equipment and vehicles that are received as donations?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

2061/2026

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he admits that foreign training opportunities are important for the development of the competencies, skills and attitudes of public servants;
 - (ii) of the number of public servants who have participated in foreign training programmes from the year 2020 to date, their names and the cost incurred on such training; and
 - (iii) of the measures that will be taken to formulate a proper mechanism to ensure that such foreign training opportunities are distributed fairly among all public servants?
- (b) If not, why?

8.

2093/2026

Hon. Dewananda Suraweera,— To ask the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs,— (1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of children under the age of 18 years who are in police custody in the Colombo District since 2025 for drug use;
- (ii) whether there is a methodology for rehabilitating children who are addicted to drugs;
- (iii) if so, of that methodology;
- (iv) the number of institutions available in Sri Lanka for the rehabilitation of children who are addicted to drugs;
- (v) the names of those institutions;
- (vi) whether he is aware that children who are addicted to drugs are detained in child detention centers for a long period of time after being produced before the courts until they are referred to rehabilitation centres; and
- (vii) if so, the measures that will be taken to ensure prompt rehabilitation of such children?

(b) If not, why?

9.

2095/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the privileges attached to the public representatives holding the office of Chairperson of each of the nine Provincial Councils in Sri Lanka, separately in respect of each Provincial Council;
- (ii) of the reasons as to why the office of Chairperson of a Provincial Council does not cease to function after the dissolution of the Provincial Councils; and
- (iii) considering the privileges attached to the said office and the public expenditure incurred for it, whether there is a possibility of causing the office to cease functioning upon the dissolution of the Provincial Councils?

(b) If not, why?

10.

2101/2026

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of registered driving schools in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether there are driving schools operating under State intervention; and
 - (iii) whether there are driving schools operated by the Sri Lanka Transport Board?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of private and State-operated driving schools operating within the Kurunegala District;
 - (ii) whether there is a driving school operated by the Sri Lanka Transport Board in the Pothuhera area; and
 - (iii) of the income earned by the said driving school during the last 05 years?
- (c) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

1.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Business of the Parliament,— That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of Standing Orders 27 of the Parliament.

2.

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 5.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament.

3.

Hon. D. V. Chanaka,— Leave to introduce Bill,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Economic and Rural Resources Development Foundation.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

1.

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Hon. Sajith Premadasa
Hon. Dilith Jayaweera
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law
Hon. Gayantha Karunathilleka
Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake
Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. Kabir Hashim
Hon. Chithral Fernando, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Imran Maharoof
Hon. M.S. Uthumalebbe
Hon. M.A.M. Thahir
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. Amila Prasad
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. B. Ariyawansha
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. (Mrs.) Chamindrane Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. M.S. Abthul Wazeeth
Hon. Chathura Galappaththi
Hon. Suranga Rathnayaka
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Rohitha Abeygunawardhana
Hon. Mujibur Rahman
Hon. Jagath Vithana

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri

Hon. D. V. Chanaka

Hon. Chanaka Madugoda

Hon. Ajith P. Perera

Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna

Hon. S.M. Marikkar

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake

Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi

Hon. Anuradha Jayaratne, Attorney at Law,— Vote of No Confidence against the Hon. Harshana Nanayakkara, Attorney at Law, Minister of Justice and National Integration,— Whereas, due to clashes that erupted between groups of inmates within the Negombo Prison on the 05th and 06th of July 2026, 31 individuals, including prison officers and inmates, have lost their lives, and over 100 others have sustained injuries;

And whereas this marks one of the gravest clashes within a prison in the recent history of the country, thereby raising serious concerns regarding the supervision and security management of the Department of Prisons, which functions under the Ministry of Justice and National Integration;

And whereas, the failure to secure the weaponry and security equipment of the Negombo Prison, alongside the failure to implement necessary precautionary measures to prevent clashes among inmates, demonstrates a severe inefficiency in prison administration;

And whereas, due to the failure of the Minister in charge of the subject of Justice to take prompt, adequate, and timely measures to resolve the clash when it commenced on the 05th of July 2026, the violence intensified on the 06th of July;

And whereas, deploying prison officers, who are state officials, to the site of the clash without a prior strategic plan placed the lives of the said officers in grave jeopardy;

And whereas, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the safety of the lives of inmates and officers within the state prison system rests with the Minister in charge of the subject of Justice, and this august Assembly believes that he has failed to fulfill the said responsibility;

And whereas, the Minister in charge of the subject of Justice has failed to responsibly execute the duties assigned to him under Gazette Extraordinary No. 2412/08 of 25th November 2024, of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, which includes the formulation and implementation of policies, plans and programmes in relation to prison reforms, prison administration and reforms, and developing infrastructure and minimize overcrowding of prisons;

And whereas, the Minister has acted contrary to the public mandate by failing to implement the measures concerning prisons as outlined in the policy statement of "A Thriving Nation – A Beautiful Life"; and

And whereas, in light of the foregoing, the Minister in charge of the subject of Justice has failed to discharge the duties vested in him with a sense of responsibility and it is *prima facie* evident that the Minister acts without any accountability regarding his functions;

That this Parliament resolves that it has no confidence in the competence of the Hon. Harshana Nanayakkara, Attorney at Law, Minister of Justice and National Integration to properly discharge the duties of Minister of Justice and National Integration any longer.

*2.

Protection of Occupants Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

Rent (Repeal) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

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

*5.

Telecommunication Levy (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

Finance (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

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.”

8.

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

9.

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

10.

Land Development (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

11.

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.

2082/2026

Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran,— To ask the Minister of Energy,— (1)

- (a) Will he state in respect of Mullaitivu, Mannar and Vavuniya districts and during the first 05 months of 2026 —
 - (i) the number of power outages reported, separately in each district;
 - (ii) the period for which each power outage lasted; and
 - (iii) the reasons for the said power outages?
- (b) Will he inform this House in respect of Mullaitivu, Mannar and Vavuniya districts —
 - (i) of the number of houses in which solar power systems have been installed, separately by Divisional Secretariat Division;
 - (ii) of the subsidies, loans and incentives provided for the installation of such systems;
 - (iii) of the programmes to be implemented in 2026 to promote the use of renewable energy, and of the financial allocation made for those programmes;
 - (iv) whether an assessment has been conducted on the impact exerted on the education, small industries, and agricultural sectors due to the breakdown in the continuity of electricity supply;
 - (v) of the subsidies or schemes available to low income families for obtaining electricity connections; and
 - (vi) of the number of families that have benefited under those schemes during the last 05 years, separately?
- (c) If not, why?

2.

2083/2026

Hon. Thurairasa Ravikaran,— To ask the Minister of Energy,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House, separately of the number of houses —
 - (i) in Sri Lanka with access to electricity by district;
 - (ii) without access to electricity and requiring electricity connections by district;
 - (iii) with access to electricity in the Districts of Mullaitivu, Mannar and Vavuniya, by Divisional Secretariat Division; and
 - (iv) without access to electricity and requiring electricity connections in those districts by Divisional Secretariat Division?
- (b) Will he also inform this House, separately of the number of —
 - (i) houses provided with new electricity connections during the past 05 years in the districts referred to in (a)(iii) above; and
 - (ii) of electricity consumers in those districts who have registered, and who have not registered, to receive electricity bills via the Short Message Service (SMS)?
- (c) Will he further inform this House of the —
 - (i) projects implemented in 2026 to improve electricity services in those districts, and the financial allocation made for those projects; and
 - (ii) programmes being implemented to expand electricity connections in the rural and remote areas of those districts?
- (d) If not, why?

3.

2117/2026

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) the number and total value of loans approved under the 'Jaya Isura' Programme since inception;
 - (ii) whether the concessionary interest subsidy of 4% - 5% has been paid;
 - (iii) if so, the number of beneficiaries and the benefits derived through the programme;
 - (iv) whether participating commercial banks complied with the programme and received the relevant interest differential from the Ministry;

(12)

- (v) whether borrowers who settled their loans through other commercial banks remained eligible for the subsidy;
 - (vi) if so, whether it was granted; and
 - (vii) whether he is aware of any disparity between the Programme's objectives and the benefits received by intended beneficiaries?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
- (i) whether approvals were granted through Sampath Bank between April and November 2019;
 - (ii) if so, their number and value; and
 - (iii) the status of the application submitted by Glenrock (Pvt) Ltd., and if approved, the reasons for not granting the relevant benefits?
- (c) If not, why?

4.

2121/2026

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
- (i) name of the present Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
 - (ii) date on which he was appointed to that position; and
 - (iii) academic and the professional qualifications he possesses which made him qualified to hold that position?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
- (i) whether the present Secretary to the Ministry is a citizen of Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether he has acquired citizenship of this country by birth or by registration;
 - (iii) whether he had been a citizen of Australia;
 - (iv) whether he held a dual citizenship;
 - (v) of the date on which he renounced his Australian citizenship;
 - (vi) whether he has obtained Sri Lankan citizenship again after renouncing Australian citizenship; and
 - (vii) if so, of the said date?

(13)

- (c) Will he further inform this House whether he accepts that a person who is not a citizen of Sri Lanka cannot hold the office of the Secretary to the Ministry?
- (d) If not, why?

5.

2166/2026

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

- (a) Will she inform this House, separately by each district of the —
 - (i) number of government schools damaged by Cyclone ‘Ditwah’;
 - (ii) nature of the damage caused to those schools and the estimated value of such damage;
 - (iii) financial provisions made thus far by the Government, the Ministry, Provincial Councils, foreign aid programmes and other institutions for damage restoration and the implementation of reconstruction activities in those schools;
 - (iv) number of schools that have been fully reconstructed through the utilization of those financial provisions; and
 - (v) number of schools in which repair or reconstruction activities have not yet been fully completed?
 - (b) Will she also inform this House of the total amount of money required to restore the schools that have not yet been repaired or reconstructed?
 - (c) If not, why?
-