



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 169.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Tuesday, August 04, 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

31/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of occasions on which rice shortages have arisen in Sri Lanka from 2015 to date;
 - (ii) of the number of occasions on which the Lanka Sathosa Limited imported rice during such periods, and of the quantity of rice imported on each such occasion, separately;
 - (iii) whether rice thus imported have been unlawfully sold by Lanka Sathosa Limited to other individuals and traders; and
 - (iv) if so, of the measures that will be taken in that regard?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

136/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) number of liquor licenses issued by the Excise Department in each year from the year 2015 up to now at the Divisional Secretariat Division level, separately;
 - (ii) methodology followed in issuing the said liquor licenses;
 - (iii) revenue generated from issuing the above licenses in each year, separately; and
 - (iv) steps that will be taken to change that situation in light of the significant social protest that occurred in the past regarding the methodology for issuing liquor licenses?
- (b) If not, why?

(2)

3.

1450/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) number of ‘Animal Vaccinators’ serving at district level in the Eastern Province;
 - (ii) total number of employees required for the above post in the said Province;
 - (iii) number of individuals who were recruited on casual basis as ‘Animal Vaccinators’ in the year 2019, out of those recruited on casual basis for the post of ‘Rabies Control Assistant’ under the Rabies Control Programme, in the year 2018; and
 - (iv) date on which action will be taken to grant permanent appointments to the employees thus recruited on a casual basis?
- (b) If not, why?

4.

2042/2026

Hon. Lieutenant Commander (Rtd.) Prageeth Madhuranga,— To ask the Minister of Defence,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the purpose of establishing the Rakna Arakshaka Lanka Ltd;
 - (ii) whether a commercial office complex named ‘Rakna Arakshaka Lanka Towers Project’ has been constructed;
 - (iii) if so, of the year of commencement of the said project and of the names of the persons who have granted approval for the same;
 - (iv) of the amount that is invested in the said project, of the areas on which investments have been made and of the funding sources for such investments;
 - (v) whether a market survey was conducted prior to the investments; and
 - (vi) if not, of the reasons therefor?
- (b) Will he state —
 - (i) whether an audit has been conducted regarding the disbursement of funds of the said project;
 - (ii) if not, the reasons therefor;
 - (iii) whether procurement guidelines and financial regulations have been followed therein;
 - (iv) if not, the areas in which such guidelines and regulations have not been followed; and
 - (v) whether the details of payments that have been made to contractors will be presented?

(3)

(c) Will he also state —

- (i) whether a financial loss has occurred as far as the cost of the said project is compared with the assets of the said company;
- (ii) if so, the amount of such loss;
- (iii) whether the said company can afford such a loss;
- (iv) whether a supervisory authority has been appointed in relation to the said project;
- (v) whether the said project is still in operation;
- (vi) whether the objectives of the said project have been achieved; and
- (vii) the future action that will be taken regarding the said project?

(d) If not, why?

5.

2054/2026

Hon. Sarath Kumara, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the annual freshwater fish production in the Monaragala District;
- (ii) of the tanks and reservoirs that contribute to the said production;
- (iii) whether breeding centres have been established for freshwater fish production in the said district;
- (iv) if so, of the names of such centres;
- (v) of the estimated cost of the ‘Muthukandiya Freshwater Fish Breeding Centre’ currently under construction in the Alugalage Grama Niladhari Division of the Madulla Divisional Secretariat Division; and
- (vi) whether the number of breeding centres available for the propagation of freshwater fish within Monaragala District will be sufficient after the construction of the said centre?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) of the number of landing sites in the Senanayake Samudraya located in Inginiyagala; and
- (ii) whether applications have been received to establish a landing site in the Baduluwela area associated with that reservoir?

(c) If not, why?

(4)

6.

2102/2026

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the year in which the Buddhist Temporalities Ordinance was introduced;
 - (ii) whether the said Ordinance is still in force;
 - (iii) of the key objective of introducing the said Ordinance; and
 - (iv) of the number of religious institutions in Sri Lanka that come under the scope of the said Ordinance?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) of the name of the Act under which permission has been granted to levy taxes on lands owned by religious institutions;
 - (ii) whether the taxable limits have been clearly specified as a percentage in the said Act;
 - (iii) of the maximum period of time for which a land owned by a religious institution can be leased out; and
 - (iv) of the manner in which a party who is wronged can get justice in case such an agreement is violated?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

2110/2026

Hon. Kanchana Welipitiya,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether he is aware that a large amount of tax revenue is collected annually by the government from the manufacture and sale of cigarettes;
 - (ii) if so, of the amount collected through the taxes imposed on cigarettes during the last 03 years, separately in respect of each year;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that, despite taxes being levied on the legal manufacture and sale of cigarettes, cigarettes are illegally imported and sold;
 - (iv) if so, of the measures that have been taken at present to control the illegal import and sale of cigarettes; and
 - (v) whether measures will be taken to identify individuals engaged in the illicit trades of cigarettes and to take legal action against them?
- (b) If not, why?

(5)

8.

2111/2026

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) applications have been called for the post of ‘Sub-Inspector of Police’ as per the Gazette No. 2378 dated 28.03.2024;
 - (ii) out of the said applications, 100 applicants were selected for the test;
 - (iii) Mr. H.G. Kaveesha Geethanjana Amarasinghe was among those selected candidates and that he had been informed in writing of the items to be brought when reporting for training; and
 - (iv) although the other selected individuals were called to the Police Training College, Kalutara on 18.04.2026, he has not been called?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) reasons for (a) (iv) above; and
 - (ii) measures that will be taken regarding the alleged injustice caused to him?
- (c) If not, why?

9.

2115/2026

Hon. Sugath Wasantha de Silva,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— (1)

- (a) Will she inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of vocational training institutions operating in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of the courses available at those institutions;
 - (iii) of the number of trainees with disabilities enrolled in those courses during the last year, classified by the type of disability;
 - (iv) whether physical access and communication facilities have been provided to enable trainees with disabilities to pursue these courses; and
 - (v) whether special opportunities have been provided for trainees with disabilities who are unable to meet the prescribed qualifications for trainee recruitment due to disability-related or inclusion barriers to enroll in these courses?

(6)

(b) Will she also inform this House —

- (i) whether programmes have been implemented for trainers in vocational training institutions to develop special skills required to work with persons with disabilities;
- (ii) whether attention has been paid to establishing an inclusive and disability-friendly institutional framework to enable trainees to pursue their preferred courses at the nearest vocational training institution; and
- (iii) if so, of the measures that have been taken in that regard and the provisions allocated for that purpose?

(c) If not, why?

10.

2124/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House, separately of the number of —

- (i) Agricultural Research and Production Assistant Divisions in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) officers currently serving in the said Divisions;
- (iii) Agricultural Research and Production Assistant Divisions in the Anuradhapura District; and
- (iv) officers currently serving in the said district?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) whether actions will be taken to fill the vacancies in the post of Agricultural Research and Production Assistant; and
- (ii) if not, whether action will be taken to abolish the said position?

(c) If not, why?

(7)

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

The Minister of Defence,— Chief of Defence Staff (Repeal),— Bill to repeal the Chief of Defence Staff Act, No. 35 of 2009 and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Supplementary Sum,— Head 240,— Programme 02— †That this Parliament resolves that an additional sum not exceeding Rupees Seventy One Thousand Seven Hundred million (Rs. 71,700,000,000) shall be payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, or any other fund or finances possessed by the Government, or any loan obtained by the Government at the discretion of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, for the services of the financial year commencing on 01st January, 2026, and ending on 31st December, 2026, and that the said sum may be expended in the manner specified in the schedule hereto:-

SCHEDULE

Head 240	-	Department of National Budget	
Programme 02	-	Development Activities	
		Recurrent Expenditure	<u>Rs. 71,700,000,000</u>
		Total Expenditure	<u>Rs. 71,700,000,000</u>

(Cabinet approval signified.)

†Vide Supplementary Estimate No. 3 of 2026 presented on 24th July, 2026

Total of Supplementary Estimates Nos. 1 and 2 Rs. 520,000,000,000

*2.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— Determination under the Constitution,— Whereas Mrs. L. S. I. Jayarathna has been appointed as the Auditor-General with effect from 05.02.2026, as per the approval of the Constitutional Council in terms of Articles 153(1) and 41C(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka;

And whereas the duties and functions of the Auditor-General have been determined in terms of Article 154 of the Constitution, and the salary shall be determined by Parliament and shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Government in terms of the Article 153(2) of the Constitution;

And whereas the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted, according to the Cabinet Decision No. ෧෧෪/26/1258/801/020 and dated 06.07.2026 pursuant to the Cabinet Memorandum of 20.06.2026 submitted by the President to pay salaries to Mrs. L. S. I. Jayarathna, Auditor-General as follows:-

- (a) To place Auditor-General Mrs. L. S. I. Jayarathna, on the 5th salary step of the SL-4 salary scale (175,000 - 12x5,300 - 238,600) in accordance with the Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 with effect from the date of her appointment on 05.02.2026, and accordingly to pay the salary placing at the salary step of Rs. 170,528/- in terms of Schedule III compatible to the salary step of Rs. 196,200/- under Schedule II of the said circular; and
- (b) To pay annual salary increments as indicated in the said salary scale and make salary conversion subject to the amendments made from time to time in the above circular.

Accordingly, that this Parliament determines that Mrs. L. S. I. Jayarathna, Auditor-General be paid the aforesaid monthly salary to be charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Government in terms of Article 153(2) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

*3.

Animals (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

National Water Supply and Drainage Board (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

Protection of Occupants Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

Rent (Repeal) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

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

*8.

Telecommunication Levy (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

Finance (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

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.”

11.

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

12.

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

13.

Land Development (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

14.

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

15.

Tredzo Development Foundation (Incorporation) Bill,— Second Reading.

16.

National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka (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.

896/2025

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 South, Kiran Divisional Secretariat Division 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?

(b) If not, why?

2.

897/2025

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 South, Kiran 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 relevant details;
- (v) of the number of evicted individuals from the state lands on court orders during said period along with their names and relevant details, out of the total number of individuals prosecuted by the relevant Divisional Secretary;

(11)

- (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 relevant details; and
- (viii) of the reasons for filing action against only a few of them while not filing action against most?

(b) If not, why?

3.

2120/2026

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Justice and National Integration,— (2)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether the government has taken a policy decision to extend the retirement age of the Judges of the Supreme Court from 65 years to 67 years, and that of the Judges of the Court of Appeal from 63 years to 65 years;
- (ii) if so, whether the Cabinet of Ministers has granted approval in principle to draft a Constitutional Amendment Bill for that purpose;
- (iii) whether the Minister or the Secretary to the Ministry has instructed the Legal Draftsman's Department to prepare such a draft bill; and
- (iv) of the grounds on which the extension of the retirement age of superior court judges is justified?

(b) If not, why?
