*(Tenth Parliament - First Session)*

**No. 178.]**

# ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

## FOR

**Wednesday, September 09, 2026 at 9.30 a.m.**

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

2114/2026

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

(a) Is he aware that —

(i) there is a shortage of staff in the newly established Divisional Secretariats in the Nuwara Eliya District;

(ii) the public is facing inconvenience due to the inadequate building facilities in the aforesaid offices; and

(iii) more than a thousand people receive services from a single Grama Niladhari Division?

(b) If so, will he inform this House of the measures that will be taken to resolve the aforesaid problems?

(c) If not, why?

2.

2122/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that the Central Bank of Sri Lanka has provided instructions to install Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) equipped with voice guidance and Braille keyboards in order to safeguard the financial privacy of visually impaired persons when carrying out banking transactions;

(ii) whether he admits that the mobile applications and websites of banks should comply with the International Web Content Accessibility Guidelines;

(iii) of the measures that will be taken to establish these technical and audio facilities in all Public and Private banks; and

(iv) whether a specific timeframe will be presented for the implementation of the said programme in its entirety?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

(i) whether the Central Bank of Sri Lanka conducts proper compliance audits in relation to the implementation of the financial inclusion directions by banks;

(ii) of the measures that will be taken against banks and insurance companies that violate Consumer Charters; and

(iii) whether steps will be taken to establish a 'Special Consumer Relief Mechanism' under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to provide relief to persons with disabilities who encounter unfair treatment within the banking system?

(c) If not, why?

3.

2126/2026

Hon. Dewananda Suraweera,— To ask the Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the number of Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies in the Western Province;

(ii) whether those societies have been registered under the Cooperative Societies Act;

(iii) if not, of the number of Cooperative Societies that have not been registered;

(iv) of the number of cooperative banks in the Province that are regulated by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, covered by the Deposit Insurance Scheme, and not covered by the scheme;

(v) of the number of depositors and the value of deposits in the cooperative banks operating within the Province as at 31.12.2025;

(vi) of the number of cooperative banks that have defaulted on the repayment of deposits to depositors, and the value of such unpaid deposits as at the said date; and

(vii) of the names of those banks?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

(i) whether expedited mechanisms have been established for the recovery of deposits and loans;

(ii) if so, of the said mechanisms; and

(iii) of the legal actions that will be taken against cooperative societies that are not registered and not subject to the regulation of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, and against the management of such societies that has committed corruption and irregularities?

(c) If not, why?

4.

2195/2026

Hon. J.C. Alawathuwala,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) whether he is aware that an interest rate of 15% was provided for fixed deposits of Rs. 1.5 million for senior citizens;

(ii) whether he admits that the Budget proposals presented on 17.02.2025 proposed to provide an additional interest of 3% above the prevailing market rate for fixed deposits with a value of Rs. 1 million maintained by senior citizens;

(iii) whether he is aware that the senior citizens are not entitled to the said additional interest of 3% for fixed deposits opened after 31.12.2025;

(iv) whether action will be taken to extend this interest concession to public servants and individuals who attain senior citizen status after 31.12.2025, taking into consideration the hardships caused to them by their exclusion; and

(v) whether action will be taken to continuously provide the said interest concession even after the expiry of the deposit period of depositors who currently maintain fixed deposits under this interest concession?

(b) If not, why?

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## NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Chief of Defence Staff (Repeal) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*2.

The Minister of Women and Child Affairs,— Determination under the Women Empowerment Act,— Whereas the remunerations of the Members of the National Commission on Women, who are appointed in terms of the provisions of the Women Empowerment Act, No. 37 of 2024, shall be determined by Parliament and shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund in terms of Section 13 of the said Act;

And whereas, by considering the provisions set out in Section 5(5) of the Act relating to the appointment of at least three (03) full-time members to the Commission including the Chairperson, and recognizing the extent of the responsibilities to be discharged by the Chairperson and the Members, approval has been granted by Cabinet decision No. 26/1522/819/010-I dated 10.08.2026 for the payment of remunerations and allowances to the Chairperson and Members of the National Commission on Women, as follows:—

(i) Payment of monthly remunerations of Rs. 135,000.00 for the Chairperson, and Rs. 90,000.00 for the Members;

(ii) Payment of monthly Communication Allowance of Rs. 6,000.00 for the Chairperson, and Rs. 4,250.00 for the Members; and

(iii) Payment of monthly Fuel Allowance and Transport Allowance as follows:

| | **Fuel Allowance** | **Transport Allowance*** |
|---|---|---|
| Chairperson | 220L | Rs. 50,000.00 |
| Other Members | - | Rs. 25,000.00 |

*The Transport Allowance is entitled for the Chairperson only in instances where an official vehicle with a driver cannot be provided by the Government.

Accordingly, this Parliament determines that the Chairperson and Members of the National Commission on Women be paid the aforesaid remunerations and allowances to be charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Government, in terms of Section 13 of the Women Empowerment Act, No. 37 of 2024.

*3.

Promotion of Export Agriculture (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

Chartered Institute of Media Professionals of Sri Lanka Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

Twenty Second Amendment to the Constitution Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

Judicature (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

Anti-Corruption (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

Protection of Occupants Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

Rent (Repeal) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

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

*11.

Telecommunication Levy (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

Finance (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

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."

14.

Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

15.

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

16.

Land Development (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

17.

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

18.

Tredzo Development 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.

2202/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

(i) Indigenous Medicine hospitals approved by the Ministry for Siddha Medicine graduates passing out from the University of Jaffna and the Eastern University to undergo mandatory internship training, separately according to each district;

(ii) number of Siddha Medicine graduates admitted to each hospital providing internship training facilities in each year from 2021 to 2025, separately;

(iii) districts lacking facilities to provide internship training for Siddha Medicine graduates of the above universities; and

(iv) reasons for the absence of internship training facilities in any of the Indigenous Medicine hospitals situated in those districts?

(b) If not, why?

2.

2203/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the names of the hospitals approved by the Ministry, for Indigenous Medicine graduates to undergo their mandatory internship training, separately according to each district;

(ii) of the maximum number of Siddha, Ayurveda, and Unani undergraduates that can be admitted to each hospital equipped with facilities to provide the said internship training, separately;

(iii) whether short-term or long-term plans have been prepared by the Ministry to develop Ayurveda hospitals situated in districts lacking the necessary facilities for internship training by equipping them with such facilities;

(iv) if so, of the details of the said plans;

(v) if such plans have not been prepared up to now, of the reasons for it;

(vi) whether steps will be taken to provide such facilities in at least one Ayurveda hospital within the year 2027 in the districts that lack the necessary facilities for internship training up to now; and

(vii) if not, of the details regarding the time period, the expected financial allocations, and the methodology of implementation required to establish such facilities in every district?

(b) If not, why?

3.

2204/2026

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) out of the total number of Ayurveda hospitals functioning in Sri Lanka, of the number of rural Ayurveda hospitals with in- patient departments (IPDs) and those without such departments, separately;

(ii) of the reasons for not providing in-patient ward facilities up to now for rural Ayurveda hospitals that do not possess such facilities;

(iii) of the bed capacity that should be available in Rural, District, and Base Ayurveda hospitals according to the procedures and standard recognized by the government, separately;

(iv) of the number of beds allocated to each Ayurveda hospital situated in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, with a separate breakdown for each hospital;

(v) of the number of doctors and Siddha medical specialists required for Rural, District and Base Ayurveda hospitals, respectively, according to the standards recognized by the Government;

(vi) of the number of Ayurveda doctors and Ayurveda specialists currently employed in each Ayurveda hospital in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, separately; and

(vii) of the reasons for not establishing a Provincial Ayurveda Hospital in those provinces so far?

(b) If not, why?

4.

2257/2026

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Energy,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) whether a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Sri Lanka and India on 05.04.2025 for establishing a High Voltage Direct Current interconnection for the import and export of electricity;

(ii) of the parties to the said agreement;

(iii) of the progress made to date in implementing the said agreement;

(iv) of the cost incurred to date by the Government of Sri Lanka or the government affiliated institutions towards implementing the said agreement;

(v) of the benefits that Sri Lanka stands to derive from implementing the said agreement; and

(vi) of the obstacles encountered in implementing the said agreement?

(b) If not, why?