



(Ninth Parliament - Fifth Session)

No. 29.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Friday, June 07, 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

1916/2024

Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the endemic herbal plants in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether Sri Lanka exports herbal plants;
 - (iii) if so, what those herbal plant varieties are; and
 - (iv) of the annual revenue earned through the export of them?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

1939/2024

Hon. Milan Jayathilake,— To ask the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the extent of land owned by Sri Lanka Ports Authority;
 - (ii) of the extent of land out of the aforesaid extent that is being used for constructions and development activities by now;
 - (iii) whether those lands have been leased to the private sector;
 - (iv) if so, what those companies/institutions are; and
 - (v) of the annual revenue earned by the Authority through the leasing of lands?
- (b) If not, why?

3.

1967/2024

Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura,—To ask the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of raids carried out by the Consumer Affairs Authority since 2019 to date;

(2)

- (ii) of the number of raids to which legal actions have been taken;
 - (iii) of the number of settlements made in respect of the above number of raids; and
 - (iv) whether the operations of the Authority are being continued to ensure the security of consumers?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the measures taken regarding the sale of same product at different rates?
- (c) If not, why?

4.

1993/2024

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara,— To ask the Minister of Investment Promotion,— (1)

- (a) Will he admit that —
- (i) the administration of Sevanagala Sugar Factory, that came with police officers on 01.07.2023, has taken steps to disconnect the water and electricity supply of the houses of the Onduma housing complex;
 - (ii) the administration had promised to recruit dependents of workers at their retirement or to provide land for residence, during the period 1983-1986 when the employees were made to settle down in the houses of the said housing complex; and
 - (iii) those employees have worked for the betterment of the institution by residing in those houses for 30-40 years?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether he is aware that the resident employees are being treated unfairly and that plots of land in the establishment are being allotted to other outsiders for settlement; and
 - (ii) whether the workers residing in the above houses will be allowed to stay in them further?
- (c) If not, why?

5.

2006/2024

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of semi-government and private sector employees separately contributing to the Employees' Provident Fund;
 - (ii) of the amount of money in the fund at the moment;

(3)

(iii) whether those monies are used for other programs; and

(iv) if so, what those programs are?

(b) If not, why?

6.

2021/2024

Hon. Shanikiyan Rajputhiran Rasamanickam— To ask the Minister of Public Security,— (1)

(a) Is he aware that—

(i) a financial institution called Privelth Global (Pvt.) Ltd has been running since 05.02.2014 in the areas of Samanthurai, Kalmunai, Pothuvil, Eravur and Maruthamunai;

(ii) Ahmed Shereem Mohamed Sihaf (Sihaf Shereem) who was the director of the aforesaid institution and Fatima Farzana Markar have defrauded 1400 people of more than 1700 million rupees;

(iii) the aforementioned director and his family are currently absconding in India; and

(iv) complaints have been made to Kalmunai and Samanthurai police stations in this regard?

(b) Will he inform this House of the steps that will be taken to arrest the above persons and bring them to Sri Lanka?

(c) If not, why?

7.

2045/2024

Hon. Lalith Ellawala,— To ask the Prime Minister and the Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

(i) of the number of Economic Development Officers working in Grama Niladhari divisions, attached to the Ministry of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government;

(ii) of the year in which aforesaid officers were recruited to the public service as the Development Officers;

(iii) of the list of duties assigned to aforesaid Development Officers; and

(iv) of the reasons for non-absorption of those Development Officers to fill the vacancies in the Government Teaching Service ?

(b) If not, why?

(4)

8.

2057/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— To ask the Minister of Environment,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the name of the company engaged in the mining industry in Ambalamana Grama Niladhari Division of the Pathahewahata Divisional Secretariat Division in Kandy District;
 - (ii) the type of license issued to the said institution;
 - (iii) the type of minerals excavated by the said institution;
 - (iv) the land extent on which excavations are being carried out by the said institution; and
 - (v) the owners of the said land?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether the above excavation work has been carried out as per the prescribed standards; and
 - (ii) if not, of the measures that have been taken so far in that regard?
- (c) If not, why?

9.

2075/2024

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) separately, of the total amount charged by the Ceylon Electricity Board as deposits when providing new electricity connections from year 2015 to date each year;
 - (ii) of the total interest payment to be made to the electricity consumers by the Ceylon Electricity Board for the aforesaid deposits; and
 - (iii) of the measures that will be taken to make the aforesaid interest payments to the electricity consumers as soon as possible?
- (b) If not, why?

10.

2084/2024

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Tourism and Lands,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that,—
 - (i) Sri Lanka is due to receive a hybrid grant of Rupees 4100 Crores from a well known Insurance Company in Great Britain with a view of developing the small and medium scale Tourism in Sri Lanka; and
 - (ii) the Small and Medium Scale Tour Operators Association of Sri Lanka has pointed out that a group of large scale businessmen are trying to prevent the receipt of that grant?

(5)

- (b) Will he inform this House of the measures that would be taken to receive that grant which is meant for the advancement of the small and medium scale tour operators in Sri Lanka?
- (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 (No. 1),— That the Government Business shall have precedence this day.

2.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Business of the Parliament (No. 2),— That the proceedings on Item No. 54 and 55 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

1.

P.1/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Minimizing the damage caused to bio-diversity by invasive plants and animals,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should make interventions to identify and name the invasive plants and animals that can cause damage to bio-diversity in Sri Lanka and to prohibit breeding and importing of such plants and animals in order to protect the environment in Sri Lanka and that appropriate action should be taken promptly to formulate necessary laws in that regard.

2.

P.2/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Formulating the research theses of the students of universities and other tertiary education institutions with a focus on the development work undertaken by the relevant ministries,— That this Parliament resolves that a formal procedure be formulated by the government to make use of the research theses written by the students of the universities and the other tertiary education institutions to achieve the long-term, medium-term and short-term objectives of the relevant ministries when the future development processes are undertaken as it is of utmost importance to draft the research theses of the students of universities and other tertiary education institutions functioning in Sri Lanka at present related to their courses of study, with a focus on the economic, social and cultural developments in Sri Lanka, and whereas an officer responsible for each ministry at ministry level is required to be appointed to coordinate between the thesis supervisor and the ministry concerned.

3.

P.3/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Taking the initiative to protect the Buddhist places of worship worldwide,— That this Parliament resolves that an appropriate programme be formulated by the government enabling Sri Lanka to initiate advocating the Buddhist leaders and organizations around the world with a view to establishing a strong organization to tighten the security of the Buddhist temples worshipped by the Buddhists living around the world to lobby on behalf of Buddhists at the international level.

4.

P.4/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Expanding the Maintenance Boards for Elders island wide,— That this Parliament resolves that the necessary steps be taken by the government enabling the expansion of Maintenance Boards for Elders functioning under the National Council and Secretariat for Elders of the Ministry of Health to the provincial, district and divisional secretariat levels with the objective of facilitating the elders, who spend the last stage of life, to lodge complaints regarding various injustices faced by them due to the discrimination caused by their family members and certain organizations.

5.

P.5/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Combining the knowledge on Sri Lankan food culture with the teaching process,— That this Parliament resolves that an appropriate programme be implemented by the government to make the food culture of Sri Lanka known among local and foreign people and elevate the Sri Lankan identity by endowing the future generations with the Sri Lanka food culture pedagogy through pedagogical methodologies as food art of Sri Lanka is comprised of a number aspects including the art of flavors and mixation, art of cooking food, art of coloring and the art of food carving.

6.

P.6/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Suppressing the drug rackets carried out through online marketing,— That this Parliament resolves that a proper programme be formulated and implemented by the government whereas substandard pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and beauty culture products are hugely sold online at present and this makes a huge threat to the safety of the lives of the people of our country.

7.

P.7/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Making the society aware of the value of school children,— That this Parliament resolves that a national level programme be formulated and implemented by the government in regard to the manner in which children should be protected in the face of social challenges for the future betterment of the society and the country, having explained the value of children in a simple manner through sociological and psychological methodologies to the persons such as parents, teachers, sports coaches, school van drivers that always associate with school children.

8.

P.8/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Strengthening the economy of elderly communities through a loan scheme,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should make a suitable arrangement to implement a loan scheme through the banking system for those who are above 60 years of age, whereas the contribution of the elderly community over 60 years can be obtained to enhance the development in the entire Sri Lankan economy by strengthening their livelihood, and whereas they are discriminated against in the society as that elderly community is not granted loan facilities through the banking system.

9.

P.9/2024

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Launching a book on the history of Sri Lanka,— That this Parliament resolves that suitable steps be taken by the government to launch a book on the history of Sri Lanka on the sponsorship of the government under a proficient board of editors upon studying archeology, literature, folklore and Roman, Greek and Persian history from the human evolution.

10.

P.10/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— The need for preventing religious extremism,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should prepare an expeditious program to prevent the attempts made to surface and promote religious extremism and to rehabilitate those who have already become victims of it, since having extremist views in any field in any country can be immensely harmful, whereas there has been a serious discourse in society regarding religious extremism following the Easter Sunday attack taken place.

11.

P.11/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Continuing the construction work of Ruwanpura Expressway,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary measures to carry out the construction work of Ruwanpura Expressway continuously at least in phases since not only the people living in Ratnapura district but also in Badulla and Hambanthota districts will be benefitted from the construction of the Expressway as it would help gain immense benefits despite the economic difficulties the country is currently experiencing.

12.

P.12/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Extending the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take measures to extend the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura since it is considered as one of the railway lines that generate a higher income for the Sri Lanka Railways Department, whereas people living in a number of districts, including Ratnapura, Hambanthota and Badulla will be benefitted from extending the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura.

13.

P.13/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Uplifting the collapsed financial institutions,— That this Parliament resolves that a programme be formulated by the Government with immediate effect to uplift the financial institutions of the country, whereas several such institutions have collapsed throughout the past period and whereas the depositors of the said institutions encounter a number of common issues in spite of the fact that a significant impact is made by these financial institutions towards the economic development and on the financial market of a country.

14.

P.14/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Increase of the local canned fish production,— That this Parliament resolves that action be taken by the Government to initiate a programme with immediate effect to develop the local canned fish industry, whereas a substantial amount of money is annually spent on the importation of canned fish required by the country amidst Sri Lanka being a country surrounded by the sea.

15.

P.15/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Repairing the disposable vehicles in Local Authorities,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should prepare an accelerated programme to repair the disposable vehicles that are piled up in Local Authorities, which is a common scene, whereas a large amount of money can be saved by repairing those vehicles without purchasing new vehicles.

16.

P.16/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Ensuring welfare for migrant workers,— That this Parliament resolves that steps be taken expeditiously to launch a programme ensuring welfare for the families of migrant workers who contribute most of the foreign exchange to Sri Lanka.

17.

P.17/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Developing the bee honey industry,— That this Parliament resolves that an expedited programme should be implemented by the government to develop the local bee honey industry as bee honey is of very high medicinal value and in great demand in the local and international market.

18.

P.18/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Filling all public sector job vacancies on the basis of Z-score obtained by students in the G.C.E (Advance Level) Examination,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should take necessary measures to take into account the Z-score obtained in the G.C.E (Advance Level) Examination by the students when filling vacancies at all government departments, corporations, authorities, boards and provincial councils affiliated institutions, whereas the policies adopted by the former and existing governments in recruitment to the public service on the basis of political allegiance or preferences have seriously damaged the independence of the

(9)

public service, and due to the fact that it is necessary to make the highly politicized public service completely independent, as giving jobs only on the basis of educational qualification will ensure justice and fairness to the talented and qualified youth, and eradicate youth unrest, and as the vacancies arising in the district would be given to the residents of the respective district will assure the economic security of the employees and create the opportunity to get a highly efficient service to the public sector.

19.

P.19/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Compilation of the Constitution of Sri Lanka in “Braille” and “Audio” mode,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary actions be taken by the Government to compile the Constitution of Sri Lanka in “Braille” and “Audio” mode for hearing and visually impaired community to gain knowledge and understanding of the fundamental law of the country, whereas the Constitution is the fundamental law and the basic model of the state in any country, whereas almost two million citizens out of nearly twenty two million Sri Lankan citizens are from the disabled community, and whereas almost six hundred thousand citizens from among the disabled community are hearing and visually impaired citizens as well .

20.

P.20/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Computing the Z-score, the index used to select the university admissions on National Merits and School Basis at 50% each,— That this Parliament resolves that steps be taken by the government to categorize all three thousand forty two schools (3042) within the school system in which A/L stream is available computing the Z-score for university entrance admissions based on National Merits and school basis distinctively at 50% each in place of the district and remote district basis, whereas the number of university admissions eligible for all faculties except for art faculties among the students who have passed the A/L examination is based on the Z-score as the accepted index, accordingly, whereas 40% of the Z-score is based on national merits, 55% is based on district basis and 5% is based on the remote district basis and whereas it is unfair and unjustifiable to consider or substitute the same cut-off mark for all schools in each district.

21.

P.21/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Mentioning only the initials of the family name along with the first name or the National Identity Card number when calling out the name of a person publicly,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary measures to mention only the initials of the family name along with the first name or the National Identity Card number when calling out the name of a person publicly abolishing the law, the custom or the tradition that is rejected by the present generation and which cannot be applicable to the modern world whereas many persons are left embarrassed when their first names are called out loud along with the family name during a court hearing or when a voter is asked to cast the vote during an election or when an undergraduate’s name is announced during a convocation whereas in the Sri Lankan society family names are mainly based on the duties vested to each person in the feudal society and the positions their ancestors had served the king therefore indicating the caste relevant to each profession.

22.

P.22/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Converting all Colleges of Education in Sri Lanka into University Faculties,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary action be taken by the Government to enforce the Cabinet decision regarding which the proposal was presented and approval obtained by me on 13th February 2020 as the Minister of Education to convert the currently functioning nineteen Colleges of Education into University Faculties to be suitable for awarding a four-year degree course with a three-year theoretical course and one-year school-based training, whereas it is necessary to make all the teachers in the school system into trained graduate teachers by the year 2023 in order to upgrade the education in Sri Lanka to the advanced international level, and whereas the majority of teachers are currently awarded a higher diploma at the end of a three-year theoretical and practical course.

23.

P.23/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Giving at least 5% representation to citizens with disabilities in the election of representatives to all public representative bodies,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should amend the relevant Acts and Laws so that citizens with disabilities have at least 5% representation in the preparation of nominations for electing representatives to all public representative bodies, whereas the disabled community in this country has exceeded 8% of the total population as per the last census conducted in Sri Lanka, whereas the space is very little for the disabled community to be elected to public representative bodies from the local government where the rural administration takes place to the Parliament where national policies are formulated and whereas the policies related to the disabled citizens of this country have not been made and are not made in accordance with the concepts of developed countries.

24.

P. 24/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Providing opportunities for sportsmen and sportswomen who represent a national sports team or claim a national level record to read for any degree course related to the field of sports,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should prepare the necessary legal and higher educational structure for sportsmen and sportswomen who represent any national sports team in Sri Lanka or claim a national level record to pursue any degree course related to the field of sports, not based on their basic educational qualification or the Z-score.

25.

P.25/2024

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— Speedy implementation of the Nilwala River Development Project,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should implement speedily the preliminary plans of the Nilwala river development project with a focus on diverting the Uruboku Oya and Kirama Ara to Hambantota district in the arid zone, creating the Batuwita reservoir, Athuraliya reservoir, Kadawedduwa reservoir and Dediyaagala reservoir of the lower basin and reconstructing the abandoned bunds after making fresh studies on the safe zone and unsafe zone, all of which have a direct bearing on the districts of Matara and Hambantota, and whereas the daily lives and the economy of the people living in the Matara district and the Nilwala basin are faced with a severe crisis owing to the failure of the completion of the Nilwala River Development Scheme which was initiated in the 1980's.

26.

P.30/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Developing sports in estate sector,— That this Parliament resolves that a Sports development program should be launched in order to get the youth contribution of the estate sector for the sports development of the country, as they have displayed their skills locally and internationally, and they do not have any sports facilities in their estate schools as well as the estate areas where they live.

27.

P.31/2024

Hon. Velu kumar,— Developing cricket in up country estate areas,— That this Parliament resolves that a special program should be implemented to provide necessary training facilities to the areas whether many talented players are residing, in order to get the contribution of the talented cricket players in estate areas, as Sri Lanka is a country which had earned international recognition in Cricket and the performance of the Sri Lankan Cricket team was very unsatisfactory in the recent past.

28.

P.32/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Improvement of Traditional Arts of Up Country People into a Commercial Activity,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should establish a suitable centre in order to facilitate the protection of Traditional Arts and improve them as commercial activity as up country people of Indian Origin of Estate Sector is a community representing Sri Lanka, and Traditional arts such as Nadagam, Kohombakale dance, kavadi dance and traditional stick dance are seen within this community.

29.

P.33/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Setting up a Standard and a Regulatory System for Child Day Care Centers,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take appropriate steps to set up a proper standard and a regulatory system with regard to Day Care Centers for the safety and the welfare of the children who decide the future of the country, as private parties run Day Care Centers in different areas of the country and no proper standard, methodology and a regulatory system in regard to such centers that are run by estate Companies.

30.

P.34/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Improving the process of forest cultivation in the Central Province,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should initiate necessary measures to stop cultivating the pine trees completely and launch the natural afforestation system as an alternative whereas most of the water catchment areas in Sri Lanka are located in the central hills, especially in the Kandy and Matale districts have severely been affected by pine cultivation.

31.

P.35/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Providing drinking water supply to the Estate community of the upcountry,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary measures be taken for the inclusion of plantation areas in the Government programme for the provision of potable water, having paid attention to the need for the implementation of drinking water supply

programme carried out in other areas since the people of the plantation sector in the upcountry fulfill their drinking water requirement from natural water springs, rivers, canals and wells as a result of the poor implementation of plans for the supply of drinking water, whereas these people have to face various health problems owing to a situation where they are unable to find water suitable for drinking due to increasing population and environment pollution caused by excessive use of agrochemicals, and whereas a scarcity of water has occurred due to the diversion of water in plantation areas to other parts of the country.

32.

P.36/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Acquisition of estate roads to the Government,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary steps be taken to acquire the estate roads to be under the Local Government and Provincial Council roads as the ownership, as management and administration of estates that have a significant place in the plantation sector of Sri Lanka are subjected to changes at different times whereas the dwellings of the plantation workers are located in the middle of the estates far away from the main road and whereas the estate roads used by these people are in highly dilapidated condition with no development.

33.

P.37/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Declaring the Day of the Martyrs of the Hill Country Trade Union,— That this Parliament resolves that the Hill Country Trade Union Martyrs Day be declared in order to commemorate the first worker and all the martyrs who laid down their lives in the pursuit of non-violent struggle for the rights and welfare of the plantation workers and that the day shall be set on the 10th of January as it aligns with the sacrifice of the first Hill Country martyr, “Mulloya Govinthan”, who had been shot dead by a white national in the face of their opposition to the struggle, during the first trade union struggle for salary hikes of plantation workers in Sri Lanka unfolded from December 1939 to January 1940, and whereas through democratic means, the Hill Country plantation workers have fervently fought for and secured their rights and as a testament to their struggles, the Hill Country people of Indian origin have long demanded that these martyrs who selflessly laid down their lives in the pursuit of democracy be commemorated on a designated day, and the Hill Country plantation workers stand as a community in Sri Lanka’s history, having made significant contributions to its economic growth.

34.

P.38/2024

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Regularization of the Postal Service of Sri Lanka in the Plantation Sector,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary measures be initiated by the Government to regularize the postal services for the plantation community, who have been integral to the nation for nearly two centuries, whereas marking two centuries since the establishment of settlements by plantation communities in Sri Lanka, it is noteworthy that this community has faced with various difficulties due to the deprivation of the convenience of door step mail delivery, and whereas Sri Lanka’s postal service has a history spanning two centuries which commenced in 1798 and subsequently came under regularization by the English in 1882, and whereas after independence, the Postal Service of Sri Lanka has emerged as one of the pivotal government service run by the Postal Department.

35.

P.39/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Formulation of a programme to establish the foundational framework for the digital education system,— That this parliament resolves that the government should formulate a programme to establish a foundational framework necessary for the digital education system in Sri Lanka, given the rapidly evolving global landscape at present, requiring a corresponding change in the education system accordingly.

36.

P.40/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Preparation of a programme to strengthen the audit and legal sections of the Ministry of Sports,— That this parliament resolves that, whereas, many sports associations in Sri Lanka including cricket have become extremely corrupt at present, the government should develop a programme aimed at strengthening the audit and legal sections of the Ministry of Sports to effectively mitigate this situation.

37.

P.41/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Protection of depositors' savings in Co-operative Rural Banks,— That this parliament resolves that the government should implement a suitable program to ensure justice for the depositors who find themselves in dire straits as certain rural banks, such as Dehiwala-Mount Lavinia Co-operative Rural Bank and Maharagama Co-operative Rural Bank have gone bankrupt despite the high level of trust that rural people have in co-operative rural banks that are part of the co-operative movement.

38.

P.42/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Investing the monies of the Employees' Provident Fund effectively,— That this parliament resolves that a suitable programme should be implemented by the government to invest monies of the Employees' Provident Fund in productive sectors so that private sector employees could yield more benefits, whereas the National Audit Report has disclosed that no benefit has been yielded by investing the funds of the Employees' Provident Fund that has been established for the welfare of private sector employees, in the shares of companies that are not listed in the share market.

39.

P.43/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Preparation of an institutional structure flexible to the timely changes in the Department of Railways,— That this parliament resolves that the government should prepare an institutional structure flexible to the timely changes in the Department of Railways whereas the department can no longer be maintained under the departmental framework introduced during the colonial period, in a rapidly developing world with emerging technology.

40.

P.44/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Enhancement of Financial Literacy,— That this parliament resolves that the government should prepare a suitable programme to make the public aware of Financial Literacy from school age as financial literacy is still at a low level, whereas the literacy rate, that is the ability to read and write is high in Sri Lanka.

41.

P.45/2024

Hon. Roshan Ranasinghe,— Providing formal national career guidance to the Sri Lankan student community to help them succeed in their future,— That this parliament resolves that a permanent national course of action be established by the government to provide correct career guidance aimed at making the student community understand formally and informed of the degree courses conducted in the current system of universities in Sri Lanka, the technical and technological colleges and their courses, recognized private universities, world-recognized foreign universities and methods of obtaining local and foreign scholarships whereas hundred thousands of students appear for G.C.E(O/L) and G.C.E(A/L) in Sri Lanka every year, whereas it has been observed that the majority of the above students and their parents do not have a proper understanding of how to mould the future of the students who pass and fail these exams, whereas it appears that the government institutions established to provide correct career guidance are not fulfilling their duties and responsibilities properly.

42.

P.46/2024

Hon. (Dr.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle,— Increasing the representation of women among the office bearers in political parties,— That this parliament resolves that necessary steps be taken by the government to ensure that every registered political party appoints at least 30% women within the decision-making level/capacity of its executive committee as a holistic approach to increasing women's participation in politics and women's representation in Parliament.

*43.

Public Debt Management Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*44.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2364/37 of 31st December 2023, which was presented on 02.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*45.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Resolution under the Inland Revenue Act,— That this Parliament resolves under Section 75(1) of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017 that the Convention between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the avoidance of Double Taxation and the prevention of Tax Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, entered in to on 26th January 2023, which was presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*46.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No. 1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2360/52 of 30th November 2023, which was presented on 25.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*47.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No. 2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 5 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2365/04 of 02nd January 2024, which was presented on 25.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*48.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No. 3),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2365/84 of 07th January 2024, which was presented on 25.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*49.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No. 4),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2372/06 of 19th February 2024, which was presented on 25.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*50.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No. 5),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 5 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2373/42 of 01st March 2024, which was presented on 25.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*51.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulation under the Inland Revenue Act,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 123(8) of the Inland Revenue Act, No. 24 of 2017, as amended by the Inland Revenue (Amendment) Act, No. 4 of 2023 relating to the Information to be Shared on a Regular Basis to the Commissioner General of Inland Revenue and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2376/25 of 21st March 2024, which was presented on 07.05.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*52.

Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Welfare Benefits Act,— That the Regulations made by the President under Section 27 read with Sections 7(3), 8, 10, 11 and 12 of the Welfare Benefits Act, No. 24 of 2002 and Article 44(3) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, relating to Welfare Benefits and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2382/02 of 29th April 2024, which were presented on 22.05.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*53.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act,— That the Order made by the Acting Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2350/45 of 21st September 2023, which was presented on 22.02.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*54.

Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Aswesuma Welfare Benefit Payment Scheme under the Welfare Benefits Act,— That the Aswesuma Welfare Benefit Payment Scheme made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 9 of the Welfare Benefits Act, No. 24 of 2002, relating to Welfare Benefits and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2384/30 of 17th May 2024, which was presented on 04.06.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*55.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Resolution under the Essential Public Services Act,— That this Parliament resolves that the Proclamation made and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2387/11 of 04th June 2024 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the president in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979, which was presented on 06.06.2024, be approved.

*56.

Women Empowerment Bill — Adjourned debate on question (04th June 2024) [1].

*57.

Microfinance and Credit Regulatory Authority Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*58.

Anti Terrorism Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*59.

Animal Welfare Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*60.

Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*61.

Gender Equality Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*62.

Sri Lanka Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*63.

Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*64.

Public Financial Management Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*65.

Economic Transformation Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*66.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Investment Promotion in consultation with the Colombo Port City Economic Commission under Section 71 read with Section 52(5) of the Colombo Port City Economic Commission Act, No. 11 of 2021 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2355/30 of 25th October 2023, which were presented on 02.12.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*67.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No. 1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2324/45 of 24th March 2023, which were presented on 25.04.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*68.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No. 2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2296/30 of 09th September 2022, which were presented on 06.10.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*69.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Casino Business (Regulation) Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 4 read with Section 3 of the Casino Business (Regulation) Act, No. 17 of 2010 relating to Issuance of Casino Business License and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2366/33 of 12th January 2024, which were presented on 02.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*70.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Casino Business (Regulation) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 4 read with Section 3 of the Casino Business (Regulation) Act, No. 17 of 2010 relating to Issuance of Casino Business License and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2369/42 of 02nd February 2024, which was presented on 02.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*71.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Notification under the Finance Act,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 51 read with Section 19 of the Finance Act, No. 35 of 2018 relating to Luxury Tax on Motor Vehicles and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2368/24 of 24th January 2024, which was presented on 02.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*72.

Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under Section 3 (4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 relating to “Dedicated Textile Manufacturing Zone” in Eravur, Batticaloa District and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2377/41 of 28th March 2024, which was presented on 14.05.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*73.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Resolution under the Essential Public Services Act,— That this Parliament resolves that the Proclamation made and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2385/11 of 21st May 2024 and Schedule thereto by virtue of the powers vested with the president in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979, which was presented on 22.05.2024, be approved.

*74.

The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— Regulations under the Antiquities Ordinance,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs on 25th May 2023 under Section 47(1) read with Section 46 of the Antiquities Ordinance No. 9 of 1940 (Chapter 188) and which were presented on 05.07.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*75.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Rules under the Incorporated Council of Legal Education Ordinance,— That the Rules made by the incorporated Council of Legal Education with the concurrence of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 7 of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education Ordinance (Chapter 276) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2332/02 of 15th May 2023, which were presented on 18.07.2023, be approved.

*76.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Regulations under the Judicature Act (No. 1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 61 read with Section 45 of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2360/22 of 27th November 2023, which were presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*77.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Regulations under the Judicature Act (No. 2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 61 read with Section 45 of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2371/13 of 13th February 2024, which were presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*78.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Order under the Tourism Act (No. 1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 26(1) of the Tourism Act, No. 38 of 2005, on the recommendation of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2348/38 of 07th September 2023, which was presented on 23.01.2024, be approved.

*79.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Order under the Tourism Act (No. 2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 26(1) of the Tourism Act, No. 38 of 2005 on the recommendations of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority with regard to the declaration of a tourist development area and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2352/47 of 06th October 2023, which was presented on 20.02.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*80.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Order under the Tourism Act (No. 3),— That the Order made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 26(1) of the Tourism Act, No. 38 of 2005 on the recommendations of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority with regard to the declaration of a tourist development area and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2352/48 of 06th October 2023, which was presented on 20.02.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*81.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Regulations under the Title Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 67 of the Registration of Title Act, No. 21 of 1998 relating to Registrations of Title and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2308/27 of 01st December 2022, which were presented on 05.03.2024, be approved.

*82.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Order under the Tourism Act (No. 4),— That the Order made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 26(1) of the Tourism Act, No. 38 of 2005 on the recommendation of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority with regard to the declaration of a Tourist Development Area and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2360/62 of 01st December 2023, which was presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

*83.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Order under the Tourism Act (No. 5),— That the Order made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 26(1) of the Tourism Act, No. 38 of 2005 on the recommendation of the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority with regard to the declaration of a Tourist Development Area and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2360/63 of 01st December 2023, which was presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

*84.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Regulations under the Crown Land Ordinance,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Sections 95 and 96 read with Sections 8 and 22 of the Crown Lands Ordinance (Chapter 454) on 09th April 2024, which were presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

*85.

The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Regulations under the Convention Against Doping in Sports Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs under Section 34 read with Section 3 of the Convention Against Doping in Sports Act, No. 33 of 2013 with regard to the Prohibited Substances Lists and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2373/14 of 27th February 2024, which were presented on 24.04.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*86.

The Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries,— Resolution under the Coconut Development Act,— That this Parliament resolves under sub section (1) of section 33 of the Coconut Development Act, No 46 of 1971, that the cess shall be charged, levied and paid in-respect of uncompressed and compressed coir pith exported under HS code 1404-90-93 specified in column I of the schedule hereto the rate specified in the column II of the schedule:

Schedule

		<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>
HS Heading	HS Code	Coconut Product	CESS Amount
	1404-90-93	Coconut coir pith (Compressed or Uncompressed)	10 cents per kg

(Cabinet approval signified.)

87.

Matara Season Organization (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

88.

Lions Clubs International District 306A - National Development Foundation Trust (Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

89.

Tobacco Tax (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

90.

Roshan Ranasinghe Janasahana Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

91.

Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

92.

Institute of Sport for Peace, Education, Empowerment and Development (SPEED) (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

93.

Public Health Emergency Bill — Second Reading.

94.

Sri Lanka Insurance Institute (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

95.

Marriages (General) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

96.

Muslim Marriage and Divorce (Repeal) Bill — Second Reading.

97.

Plastics and Rubber Institute of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

98.

Marriage Registration (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

99.

Minimum Age of Marriage Bill — Second Reading.

100.

Community Association of Professionals (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

101.

Arundika Fernando Relief Services and Godfrey Fernando Memorial Foundation (Incorporation) Bill— Second Reading.

102.

Institute of Drafting Technologists Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill— Second Reading.

103.

Hector Appuhamy Helping Hand Charity Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

104.

Janaraja Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business.*

[1].

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