



(Tenth Parliament - First Session)

No. 59.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Friday, June 06, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

12/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of —
- (i) the number of Dedicated Economic Centers that have been established in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) their locations;
 - (iii) the purpose of establishing such Dedicated Economic Centers; and
 - (iv) the measures that would be adopted to regularize the business and administrative matters of such centers?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

74/2024

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,—To ask the Minister of Health and Mass Media,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether he is aware that a permanent building has not been provided for the post office located in the Palukamam area of the Porathivupattu Divisional Secretariat Division in the Batticaloa District and is being operated in a temporary building;
 - (ii) if so, whether steps will be taken to construct a permanent building for the above post office; and
 - (iii) of the time frame it will be constructed?
- (b) If not, why?

(2)

3.

95/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) names of the major ports in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) income and expenditure of each of such ports in each year from 2015 up until now, separately; and
 - (iii) measures that have been taken to develop the said ports?
- (b) If not, why?

4.

158/2024

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Transport, Highways, Ports and Civil Aviation,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of —
 - (i) the name of the Chairman of the Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited;
 - (ii) his qualifications;
 - (iii) the number of members of the Board of Directors of the said company; and
 - (iv) the name, address, and educational qualifications, of each of those board members, the positions they have held so far, the institutions in which they had held those previous positions and the positions they currently hold in other institutions, separately?
- (b) If not, why?

5.

191/2024

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,—To ask the Minister of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the —
 - (i) number of state-owned sugar companies in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) names of the factories referred to above;
 - (iii) quantity of sugar imported to Sri Lanka from the year 2022 up to now and the amount of money spent on the imports each year, separately;
 - (iv) quantities of unsold sugar and Ethanol found accumulated in the state-owned sugar factories, separately; and

(3)

(v) measures that will be taken to increase the sugar production in Sri Lanka?

(b) If not, why?

6.

214/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Justice and National Integration,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House of the —

(i) number of prisons existing in Sri Lanka at present;

(ii) names of those prisons;

(iii) number of prisoners detained in each of those prisons at present, separately; and

(iv) steps that will be taken to reduce congestion prevailing in those prisons?

(b) If not, why?

7.

223/2024

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House —

(i) of the progress of land acquisition process for the export processing zone, in which construction work has been commenced by the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka in the Milleniya area, Bandaragama in the Kalutara district ;

(ii) of the amount of compensation that has been paid so far for the lands acquired;

(iii) of the amount spent by the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka to develop the road system, provide pipe-borne water and supply electricity to the above-mentioned export processing zone, separately;

(iv) of the progress of the development of the road system of the zone concerned; and

(v) whether steps will be taken to complete the remaining development work of the aforementioned export development zone considering this as a project of national importance?

(b) If not, why?

(4)

8.

390/2025

Hon. Chamara Sampath Dasanayake,—To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education,— (2)

- (a) Will she inform this House —
- (i) whether the Anti-Corruption Committee Office established in 2015 was established under the Office of the then Prime Minister;
 - (ii) whether the Cabinet Memorandum and the Cabinet decision regarding the establishment of the aforesaid committee will be presented;
 - (iii) of the number of members who were at the aforesaid committee;
 - (iv) of the names and addresses of those members, separately;
 - (v) of the number of complaints that had been received by the Anti-Corruption Committee Office by the time of its closure; and
 - (vi) of the number of cases that had been filed at courts of law?
- (b) Will she also inform this House —
- (i) of the name and address of the person who served as the Director General of the aforesaid Anti-Corruption Committee; and
 - (ii) whether she is aware that he has driven a vehicle without permission, causing an accident?
- (c) If not, why?

9.

619/2025

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he is aware that a programme called ‘Mahaweli Punaruda Sathiya’ (Mahaweli Re-awakening Week) was implemented recently;
 - (ii) of the objective of the aforesaid programme;
 - (iii) of the total amount of money spent on the programme; and
 - (iv) of the measures that were implemented under the aforesaid programme to empower the Mahaweli farmers?
- (b) If not, why?

(5)

10.

917/2025

Hon. M. Nizam Kariapper, PC,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he is aware that certain individuals holding dual citizenship are serving as Ambassadors and High Commissioners representing Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) if so, of the names of such Ambassadors and High Commissioners, their dates of appointment and other relevant details separately;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that appointing of individuals with dual citizenship to high-level diplomatic positions could give rise to potential conflicts of interest; and
 - (iv) if so, of the measures that are intended to be taken to prevent/address such conflicts of interest?
- (b) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

1.

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— Leave to introduce Bill (No. 1),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Chiththa Advanced Psychological Studies Open Institute of Sri Lanka”

2.

Hon. Waruna Liyanage,— Leave to introduce Bill (No. 2),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Tredzo Development Foundation”

3.

Hon. Waruna Liyanage,— Leave to introduce Bill (No. 3),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the National Photographic Art Society of Sri Lanka”

(6)

Votes of Condolence

- (i) The late Hon. Kosala Nuwan Jayaweera, ex-Member of Parliament.
- (ii) The late Hon. Mavai S. Senathirajah, ex-Member of Parliament.
- (iii) The late Hon. Donald Dissanayake, ex-Member of Parliament.
- (iv) The late Hon. J.R.P. Suriyapperuma, ex-Member of Parliament.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

1.

P. 3/2024

Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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.

2.

P. 4/2024

Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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 the then Minister on 13th February 2020 as the then 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 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.

3.

P. 5/2024

Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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.

(7)

4.

P. 6/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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, Badulla and Hambanthota will be benefitted from extending the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura.

5.

P. 7/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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.

6.

P. 8/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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.

7.

P. 9/2024

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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.10/2024

Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— 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.

9.

P.14/2024

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Developing a programme to properly monitor the cooperative rural banks system,— That this Parliament resolves that the cooperative rural banks, which are the closest to people, be properly monitored by the government in order to address the prevailing situation as depositors of these banks are faced with various difficulties because of the collapse of a number of these banks for various reasons.

10.

P.16/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Formulating a programme to streamline the appointments made to the Sri Lanka Foreign Service,— That this Parliament resolves that the government prepare a programme to make all appointments to the foreign service, which is tasked with uplifting Sri Lanka's image before the international community, based on the results of competitive examinations and on merit in order to prevent political appointments made to the foreign service, which have led to the deterioration in the quality of the service leading to failure to achieve its desired objectives.

11.

P.17/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Formulating a proper procurement methodology for purchasing goods and services to depots of the Sri Lanka Transport Board,— This Parliament resolves that the government do formulate a proper procurement methodology for purchasing goods and services to depots of Sri Lanka Transport Board with a view to preventing corruption as the absence of such a methodology is the main cause of the corruption rampant in the Sri Lanka Transport Board.

12.

P.18/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Formulating a program to make school students aware of the University of Vocational Technology,— That this Parliament resolves that a program be developed by the government to make schoolchildren aware of the courses of the University of Vocational Technology, which targets at the job market and vocational technology, deviating from the traditional university framework in Sri Lanka.

13.

P.20/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Preparing the subjects falling under the provincial councils in a scientific methodology,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should prepare an appropriate programme to allocate the subjects coming under the purview of the provincial councils according to a proper methodology based on a scientific basis to avoid the situation that has arisen since the subjects coming under the purview of the provincial councils have been currently allocated in a way that has no scientific basis, and that various problems have arisen because of this.

14.

P.21/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri, — Developing a proper methodology to strengthen the Sri Lanka Transport Board, — That this Parliament resolves that the Government should develop a proper methodology to prevent fraud and corruption that occur during the procurement of goods and services by the Sri Lanka Transport Board, since strengthening the public transport service in Sri Lanka is an essential matter.

15.

P.22/2024

Hon Chaminda Wijesiri,— Formulation of a programme to increase milk production,— That this Parliament resolves that a program to increase the milk production in Sri Lanka should be implemented by the government to avoid the substantial amount of foreign exchange outflow on the annual importation of milk.

16.

P.23/2024

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Enhancing the contribution of the livestock sector to the national product, — That this Parliament resolves that the Government of Sri Lanka should develop a programme to enhance the contribution of the livestock sector to the country's national product.

17.

P. 26/2024

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Making Sports Bodies in Sri Lanka free from politicization,— That this Parliament resolves that the elected politicians should be prohibited from contesting and holding leading positions in sports bodies, as it is evident that these organizations have become heavily politicised in Sri Lanka.

18.

P. 27/2024

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Making every Youth Member a gainfully employed person or self employed entrepreneur,— That this Parliament resolves that every youth member attaining the age of 18 years should have the right to gainful employment or if not employed, be provided with financial assistance to become a self-employed entrepreneur.

19.

P. 30/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Banning the naming of political parties according to ethnicities or religions,— That this Parliament resolves that naming of political parties based on ethnicities or religions be banned and such a change be effected in the names of presently functioning political parties bearing names denoting ethnicities or religions, taking into consideration the situation that has arisen in Sri Lanka at present.

20.

P. 31/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Payment of 1% return for employees in relation to inflation,— That this Parliament resolves that the Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Trust Fund which are administered by government institutions shall ensure that the employees receive returns at least 1% higher than the annual inflation rate.

21.

P. 32/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Provision of free travelling facilities to senior citizens,— That this Parliament resolves that all senior citizens be provided with free transport facilities in public transport services.

22.

P. 33/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Setting up of a unit with legal powers to solve the problems faced by the migrant employees,— That this Parliament resolves that a unit with legal powers be set up to look into problems faced by migrant employees including assault, abduction, rape, sexual abuse, homicide, financial fraud and facilitate the safe return of affected workers to Sri Lanka and look into their safety.

23.

P. 34/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Formulation of a National Programme to introduce New Inventors to the World,— That this Parliament resolves that a national programme be formulated to introduce new inventors and citizens who are endowed with various skills to the world and to improve their skills and creations.

24.

P. 35/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Tax concession to industrialists who utilize indigenous raw materials,— That this Parliament resolves that a two year tax concession be granted to local industrialists who utilize more than 75% indigenous raw materials in the production of goods for the international market.

25.

P. 36/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Enabling the Right to Vote,— That this Parliament resolves that every individual above the age of eighteen shall be allowed to vote as there is a greater number of registered voters that have been deprived of voting and if an individual does not vote after the name appears on the register they should be fined which help to create a more participatory democratic process.

26.

P. 39/2025

Hon. Lal Premanath,— Taking actions to prevent public dissatisfaction with all local government institutions at the grassroots level,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary steps to give more attention to all local government institutions at the grassroots level, which are the public representative bodies closest to the people, as there is often a very dissatisfied feeling among people towards these institutions.

27.

P. 40/2025

Hon. T.K. Jayasundara,— Designation of the ecosystem comprising the towns of Pitigala, Udugama, Neluwa and Deniyaya as a tourist zone,— That this Parliament resolves that, since the country's tourism industry is contributing to increasing domestic revenue in a situation where Sri Lanka has entered a new era of renaissance, necessary steps be taken by the government to designate the ecosystem comprising the towns of Pitigala, Udugama, Neluwa and Deniyaya as a tourist zone and develop it since this area encompasses the Sinharaja Forest, a world heritage site among the low-country rain forests of Sri Lanka and the Kanneliya forest, which are home to unique species of flora & fauna, and the biosystem of Hiniduma mountain (Haycock), which is an ecosystem that has attracted special attention of foreign tourists.

28.

P. 41/2025

Hon. Hesha Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— Preparation of a program to amend the constitution including the composition of Sri Lanka Cricket,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should take measures to amend the constitution including the composition of Sri Lanka Cricket as there has been a great deal of discussion in society regarding the Sri Lanka Cricket at present, and the Sri Lanka Cricket has become an institution where irregularities are common due to the power of a certain group of societies in its elections and such situation needs to be prevented.

29.

P. 42/2025

Hon. Ruwan Mapalagama,— Integrating law and ethics to the school curriculum,— That this Parliament resolves that the government do take necessary action to integrate lessons on the basic law of the country to the Citizen Education syllabus of school children from Grade 6 to Grade 11 while preventing the school curriculum from turning complex as the lack of awareness in the basic law necessary for the day-to-day life has been identified as a major cause for problems faced by the general public of this country, and as ignorance of the law does not become an excuse before the law.

30.

P. 43/2025

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Formulating a course of action to prevent the misuse of the positions of professors and doctors,— That this Parliament resolves that the government do take necessary action to formulate a course of action through the University Grants Commission for preventing the situation, where many persons in our society misuse the titles such as Professor and Doctor.

31.

P. 44/2025

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Implementing the recommendations given in the audit report 2023 pertaining to the Sri Lanka Ports Authority,— That this Parliament resolves that a proper course of action be formulated by the government to implement the recommendations given in the National Audit Report pertaining to the Sri Lanka Ports Authority, which is like the heart of the Sri Lankan economy, as important recommendations have been given in the Report concerned.

32.

P. 45/2025

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,—Using the money of local government institutions for public services in a proper manner,— That this Parliament resolves that a proper course of action be formulated by the government to prevent the state of affairs, whereas facts have been unveiled to the effect that many local government institutions deposit their money in fixed deposits with the objective of earning a profit instead of using such money for purposes such as providing public and health services as well as common amenities and improving public thoroughfares.

33.

P. 46/2025

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana,— Formulating a programme for the proper functioning of the National Drug Quality Assurance Laboratory,— That this Parliament resolves that, whereas the National Drug Quality Assurance Laboratory was established about 35 years ago, whereas the laboratory is not functioning properly at present, and as a consequence a large number of imported drugs are not subjected to proper quality testing, and therefore, a proper course of action be formulated to overcome this situation.

34.

P. 47/2025

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Initiation of an insurance scheme for the farming community,— That this Parliament resolves that an insurance scheme be established for the farming community, who constitute the majority of the people of this country, as it is the responsibility of a government to ensure the welfare of the farming community of a country.

35.

P. 48/2025

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,—Bringing Industries related to Petroleum, Fuel and Water under the regulation of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka,— That this Parliament resolves that, whereas industries related to electricity, petroleum, fuel and water should be regulated, industries related to petroleum and water have not been subjected to regulation for more than 21 years because the Acts relevant to the supervision of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the National Water Supply and Drainage Board have not been amended and therefore, necessary legal procedures be implemented to change this state of affairs.

36.

P. 49/2025

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— Formulation of a programme to regulate the process of issuing licenses for filling stations,— That this Parliament resolves that, as the process of issuing filling station licenses in Sri Lanka is highly irregular, a regulatory programme be formulated to streamline the process of issuing filling station licenses.

37.

P. 50/2025

Hon. Ravindra Bandara,— Formulating a methodology to prevent the damage caused by the pinus plantations to sources of water and the environment,— That this Parliament resolves that a methodology be formulated to remove pinus plantations and to substitute useful indigenous plants considering the damage caused to sources of water and the environment by pinus plantations, which have been grown especially in mountainous areas including the Uva Province.

38.

P. 51/2025

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— Establishment of a Faculty of National Languages, — That this Parliament resolves that a Faculty of National Languages should be established in order to teach Sinhala, Tamil and English to teachers.

39.

P. 52/2025

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Formulating a program to exercise justice to the individuals who have become the victims of microfinance loans,— That this Parliament resolves that a program should be formulated to ensure justice to the individuals who have obtained microfinance loans due to the fact that the majority of them have now become victims of the loans concerned.

40.

P. 53/2025

Hon. Heshu Withanage Ankumbura Arachchi,— Formulation of a program to develop and regulate the Teledrama industry, — That this Parliament resolves that a regulatory body be established to develop and regulate the teledrama industry, which is a major industry that provides entertainment to the people of the country.

41.

P. 54/2025

Hon. Lal Premanath,— Taking action against those who committed large-scale misappropriation of public funds in local government institutions,— That this Parliament resolves that investigations should be conducted expeditiously into the large-scale misappropriations of public funds that have taken place in all the local government institutions situated throughout Sri Lanka and action should be taken to have punishments meted out to all authorities who were involved in such acts in accordance with the existing laws.

*42.

Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill — Committee.

*43.

Sri Lanka Electricity (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*44.

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.”

* *Indicates Government Business.*
