



[ *Seventh Parliament - First Session* ]

No. 350.]

## ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Thursday, March 20, 2014 at 1.00 p.m.

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### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2904/'12

1.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(3)

- (a) Will he state—
  - (i) the names of the companies to which the licences have been issued to operate mobile and CDMA telephone lines to date;
  - (ii) the names of the directors of the above companies, separately;
  - (iii) the new frequencies and lines issued to mobile and CDMA companies after the year 2006;
  - (iv) the names of the directors of the above companies;
  - (v) the referrals obtained for the allocation of frequencies and telephone lines; and
  - (vi) the amounts paid by the aforesaid companies to the government separately, for the years 2011 and 2012 on per company basis?
- (b) Will he also state whether the licences have been issued to mobile operators at prices well below the market price?
- (c) If not, why?

3212/'12

2.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana;— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
  - (i) the national identity cards that had been issued up to the year 2004 to the Bhikkunis who hold the membership of Rangiri Dambulla Sangha Sabha indicated that the bearer is a Bhikkuni; and
  - (ii) the Commissioner of Buddhist Affairs has instructed not to issue such identity cards after the year 2004?

(2)

- (b) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he accepts that the aforesaid Bhikkunis, too, are citizens of this country;
  - (ii) if so, of the reasons for not issuing an identity card to those Bhikkunis indicating that they are ‘Bhikkunis’;
  - (iii) whether action will be taken to issue a national identity card to those Bhikkunis indicating that the bearer is a ‘Bhikkuni’ so that the dignity of the Bhikkunis is protected; and
  - (iv) if so, of the date on which those national identity cards will be issued?
- (c) If not, why?

3384/12

3.

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife Resources Conservation,—(2)

- (a) Will he state the number of counting of elephants that have been done in Sri Lanka since the year 1950, the years in which each of those counting were done and other information about each of those counting?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the total amount of money spent on the counting of elephants that was done in the year 2011;
  - (ii) whether the report of the aforesaid counting will be presented;
  - (iii) if not, of the reasons for not presenting that report; and
  - (iv) of the steps that have been taken to look after the elephants with respect to the increase of the number of elephants as per the aforesaid report?
- (c) Will he also inform this House —
- (i) whether places of observation have been arranged for foreign tourists to watch wild elephants and wild animals;
  - (ii) of the names of such places;
  - (iii) of the amount of money that is charged from a tourist at those places; and
  - (iv) Separately, on per year basis of the amount of money that has been earned by the government through such places during the last five years?

(3)

(d) Will he also state—

- (i) whether a report will be presented pertaining to the contribution of the Department of Wildlife Conservation towards the promotion of conservation of wildlife; and
- (ii) the measures that have been taken to ensure the safety of the wild animals of which the existence has been threatened due to the limitation of forests?

(e) If not, why?

4051/'13

4.

Hon. Ajith Kumara,— To ask the Minister of Highways, Ports and Shipping,—(1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) whether he is aware that the temporary bridge that has been built across the Kalu Ganga on the way to Dumbara Manana and Ketepola areas from Ellagawa on Panadura Road, Ratnapura is in dilapidated condition;
- (ii) the reasons for letting the buses belonging to SLTB and other heavy vehicles cross the aforesaid bridge that is in dilapidated condition;
- (iii) the name of the person who will take responsibility for any accident that could occur while crossing that dilapidated bridge;
- (iv) whether he is aware that merely the displaying of notice boards informing the public of the dilapidated condition of the aforesaid bridge and the danger in crossing the bridge would not be sufficient;
- (v) whether a permanent bridge will be constructed in place of the aforesaid temporary bridge; and
- (vi) if so, the date on which a permanent bridge will be constructed?

(b) If not, why?

4097/'13

5.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the Trincomalee Urban Council has signed an agreement with the United States of America;
- (ii) if so, the objectives of the aforesaid agreement;
- (iii) whether permission has been obtained from the Ministry of External Affairs to sign such an agreement; and
- (iv) whether an Urban Council has the power to sign agreements with foreign countries?

(b) If not, why?

(4)

4138/'13

6.

Hon. (Alhaj) A.H.M.Azwer, — To ask the Minister of Transport,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
  - (i) the bus service between Akkaraipattu and Colombo has been suspended by now; and
  - (ii) passengers traveling to Colombo from Akkaraipattu via Irakkamam and Hingurana have to face severe difficulties within that context?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether early action will be taken to start a direct bus service between Akkaraipattu and Colombo, in the light of the said situation?
- (c) If not, why?

4158/'13

7.

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,— (2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
  - (i) National Water Supply and Drainage Board had charged Rs. 500 and Rs. 1500 from a domestic water consumer and a business venture respectively at the time of the disconnected water supplies are reconnected;
  - (ii) the reconnection fee has been increased up to Rs. 2300 and Rs. 6900 for a domestic water consumer and a business venture respectively; and
  - (iii) all the water consumers are under a severe pressure, as the new reconnection fee has gone up by five times than the previous fee?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to provide a relief for all water consumers by revising the present fee, that is charged for the reconnection of disconnected water supplies?
- (c) If not, why?

4221/'13

8.

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of the steps taken for the welfare of consumers in the years 2011,2012 and 2013 separately?
- (b) If not, why?

9.

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of members who got elected throughout the period from the year 2004 up to now for the Pradeshiya Sabhas, Urban Councils and Provincial Councils and by now have allegations leveled against them with regard to corruption, crimes and other illegal activities;
  - (ii) separately, the names of them, the political parties to which they belong, and the positions held or being held by them in the Provincial Council, Urban Council and Pradeshiya Sabha;
  - (iii) of the number of elected members out of the aforesaid number that the legal actions have been taken; and
  - (iv) of the number of members who were brought before the law and were convicted and punished by the court of law?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) whether he accepts that there is a possibility for the organized corruption, crimes and various types of illegal activities to take place as a result of the representation of those corrupt groups in Provincial Councils and Local Authorities; and
  - (ii) of the steps that will be taken in future to prevent the corrupt persons who are engaged in illegal activities and criminals entering into provincial and local level politics?
- (c) If not why?

(6)

4280/'13

10.

Hon. Dunesh Gankanda,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
  - (i) the number of complaints lodged with the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption against Ministers (Cabinet and Non Cabinet), Deputy Ministers and Members of Parliament, within the period from 19<sup>th</sup> November 2005 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013;
  - (ii) the names of the Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Members of Parliament against whom such allegations have been leveled; and
  - (iii) the allegations leveled against each Minister, Deputy Minister and Member of Parliament separately?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
  - (i) of the number of complaints with regard to which investigations have been concluded by the said Commission;
  - (ii) of further action taken in relation to complaints with regard to which investigations have been concluded separately;
  - (iii) whether speedy and proper investigations will be carried out regarding the complaints with regard to which investigations have not been concluded up to now; and
  - (iv) the time frame envisaged for that?
- (c) If not, why?

4285/'13

11.

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Livestock and Rural Community Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
  - (i) of the number of litres of liquid milk produced in Sri Lanka presently;
  - (ii) of the local milk production expected to be made by the year 2016 under the Mahinda Chinthana Programme, in litres;
  - (iii) whether the amount of milk that will be required for consumption by the year 2016 has been calculated;
  - (iv) if so, the aforesaid amount of milk; and
  - (v) of the programme that the government has already implemented and the programme it expects to implement in the future in order to achieve these targets?

(7)

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the amounts of liquid milk, milk powder, milk products such as butter and cheese that have been imported from January 2013 up to now along with their value and the countries from which they were imported, separately;
- (ii) the steps taken by the government to minimize this import expenditure; and
- (iii) the proportion of the contribution made by the private sector/multi national companies in regard to milk production, local milk powder production and other milk products, separately?

(c) If not, why?

4313/'13

12.

Hon. Tissa Attanayake,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife Resources Conservation,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) the people living in areas like Udawalawa, Yala, Wilpattu, Wasgamuwa, Galgamuwa and Anuradhapura still become victims of attacks by wild elephants; and
- (ii) as a remedial measure to protect the people of those areas from the wild elephant menace, persons were recruited as casual labourers from the year 2002 to serve in the Department of Wildlife Conservation for activities such as maintenance of electric fences, chasing away wild elephants, bringing to book hunters and sellers of game, etc.?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of employees recruited as mentioned in (a)(ii) above;
- (ii) whether he admits that the danger caused by wild elephants has increased again in those areas as the service of the said employees has been suspended with effect from 01.01.2013 and that those people who lost their jobs have been subjected to severe inconvenience; and
- (iii) if so, whether action will be taken to re-instate those employees, confirm them in service and solve the wild elephant issue that prevails in those areas?

(c) If not, why?

3221/'12

13.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the percentages in Sri Lankan population on the basis of each religion separately in the year 2012;
- (ii) whether the above details are conformed through the National Survey done in the year 2012;
- (iii) the number of cases reported pertaining to the forceful conversion of the religions of the people separately on per district basis; and
- (iv) the action taken against the people found to be forcefully converting religions of people?

(b) If not, why ?

3590/'13

14.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of motor vehicles that have been imported to Sri Lanka from the year 2005 to date;
- (ii) separately, on per year basis the number of the aforesaid motor vehicles imported in terms of the engine capacity; and
- (iii) separately, on per year basis the amount of foreign exchange spent on the importation of motor vehicles?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) separately, of the deficit or the surplus of the balance of payment statement on per year basis from the year 2005 to the year 2012;
- (ii) whether he admits that spending of foreign exchange on the importation of motor vehicles has exerted an impact on the increase of the deficit of the balance of payment; and
- (iii) if so, of the action that has been taken to minimize the pressure that has been exerted on the balance of payment in that manner?

(c) If not, why?

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NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

\*1.

Medical (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

\*2.

The Minister of Investment Promotion,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under sub-section (4) of Section 3 of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 as amended, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1847/35 of 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014, which was presented on 18.02.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*3.

The Minister of Investment Promotion,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under sub-section (4) of Section 3 of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 as amended, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1847/36 of 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014, which was presented on 18.02.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*4.

The Minister of Investment Promotion,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.3),— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under sub-section (4) of Section 3 of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 as amended, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1847/37 of 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014, which was presented on 18.02.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*5.

Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

\*6.

The Minister of External Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.1),— That this Parliament resolves under Article 157 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the State of Kuwait for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 05<sup>th</sup> November 2009, being an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in Sri Lanka of such foreign State, its nationals or corporations, companies and other associations incorporated or constituted under its Laws, which was presented on 07.09.2011 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*7.

The Minister of External Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.2),— That this Parliament resolves under Article 157 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009, being an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in Sri Lanka of such foreign State, its nationals or of corporations, companies and other associations incorporated or constituted under its Laws, which was presented on 07.09.2011 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*8.

The Minister of Transport,— Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203), read with subsection (2) of Section 5 and Section 19 of the aforesaid Act, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1821/31 of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013, which were presented on 22.11.2013, be approved.

\*9.

The Minister of Labour and Labour Relations,— Regulations under the Employees' Provident Fund Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Labour and Labour Relations under Section 46 of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, No. 15 of 1958 as amended from time to time and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1810/20 of 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013, which were presented on 21.06.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*10.

The Minister of Lands and Land Development,— Regulations under the Registration of Title Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Lands and Land Development under Section 67 of the Registration of Title Act, No. 21 of 1998 read with Section 60 and 62 of that Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1616/23 of 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009, which were presented on 06.05.2010, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*11.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Order under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance,— That the Order made by the Minister of Agrarian Services and Wildlife under subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (Chapter 469) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1735/21 of 06<sup>th</sup> December 2011, which was presented on 13.12.2011, be approved.

12.

Sri Lanka Women's Conference (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

13.

Institute of Martial Arts (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

14.

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

15.

Samastha Lanka Sasanarakshaka Mandalaya (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

16.

The Rehabilitation of Buddhist Temples Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

17.

Al-Jamiathul Ghawsiyyah (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

18.

Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

\* *Indicates Government Business*

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