



[Seventh Parliament - First Session]

No. 378.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

3833/'13

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Economic Development,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether he is aware that a tank desilting project was implemented in the Anuradhapura District in the year 2012;
- (ii) the total amount of money spent for this programme;
- (iii) whether tenders were called for awarding contracts for the desilting project; and
- (iv) if so, separately the names and the addresses of the bidders and the bids offered?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he is aware that payments have not been made for the relevant bidders for desilting the tanks in the Anuradapura District;
- (ii) of the reasons for not making their payments yet; and
- (iii) of the date on which the payments will be made, if payments would be paid for the contractors?

(c) If not, why?

(2)

3940/13

2.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of liquor outlets maintained in 500m proximity to the Temple of the Tooth Relic in Kandy;
 - (ii) the individuals who have granted permission for those liquor outlets;
 - (iii) the minimum distance required from schools and sacred places including temples to the liquor outlet, in granting a licence for a liquor outlet;
 - (iv) other restrictions considered in granting such a licence;
 - (v) whether the said liquor outlets located in close proximity to the Temple of the Tooth Relic are illegal in the light of the restrictions mentioned in (iii) and (iv) above; and
 - (vi) accordingly, the measures that will be taken with respect to those liquor outlets?
- (b) If not, why?

4104/13

3.

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether a large extent of land, on the western slope of the Piduruthalagala range, which is a forest reserve with a high level of biodiversity, has been cleared to cultivate potatoes and vegetables;
 - (ii) if so, the parties that were involved in the clearing; and
 - (iii) of the persons who permitted them to do so?
- (b) If not, why?

4333/13

4.

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Transport,—(2)

- (a) Will he state the authority who decides the charges levied by the companies that conduct vehicle emission testing for conducting such emission tests?
- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether vehicles used by the public institutions are tested for emission;
 - (ii) whether the buses owned by the Sri Lanka Transport Board are subjected to that test; and
 - (iii) if so, the amount paid by the SLTB annually to the relevant institutions for getting its buses tested for vehicle emission?

(3)

- (c) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether an assurance can be given that vehicle emission testing is done in a satisfactory manner, by observing the emissions of vehicles that run on the roads at present; and
 - (ii) if so, the factors on which such assurance will be based?
- (d) If not, why?

4443/'13

5.

Hon Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Telecommunication and Information Technology,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of homeless families identified within the Kurunegala District for the construction of new houses for them under 2014 Deyata Kirula Development Programme;
 - (ii) of the provisions expected to be made by the government for the construction of houses for those families; and
 - (iii) whether construction of houses with the said provisions were completed and the said houses were commissioned to public prior to the commencement of Deyata Kirula exhibition of 2014?
- (b) If not, why?

4569/'13

6.

Hon. Dunesh Gankanda,— To ask the Minister of Education Services,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the criteria on which the classification of the schools which are known as isolated schools was based;
 - (ii) separately, the number of isolated schools available at present and the number of students studying in them;
 - (iii) separately, the number of students of the aforesaid schools who received each of the facilities of additional set of uniform materials given mid year, free pair of shoes, a meal consisting of grains, eggs and milk as proposed in the budget proposal 2013; and
 - (iv) the funds spent by the government for that purpose annually?
- (b) If not, why?

7.

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
- (i) the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment has introduced a compulsory insurance scheme that has been functioning with contributions from migrant workers; and
 - (ii) the activities under this insurance scheme were first operated by the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation and later divested to a foreign recruitment agency, who in turn transferred the activities through a brokerage company to MBSL Insurance?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) the date on which the foreign recruitment agency concerned started to obtain the service of the brokerage company referred to above;
 - (ii) what percentage is paid to the brokerage company from the premium collected from a migrant worker;
 - (iii) of the total amount of money that has been paid to the brokerage company so far;
 - (iv) whether the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation obtained the service of a broker when it operated the insurance scheme; and
 - (v) what benefits have been accrued through obtaining the services of the broker?
- (c) Will he state—
- (i) the name of the representative of the brokerage company who received the fees paid for the brokerage services; and
 - (ii) whether the representative concerned had been in the employ of the brokerage company for the entirety of the period of recovery of fees by him?
- (d) If not, why?

8.

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will she inform this House—
- (i) of the number of families that do not enjoy the facility of electricity in the Kurunegala District;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to supply electricity to the venues where supply should be given by extensions;
 - (iii) whether actions will be taken to boost the voltage of the towns where there is a drop; and
 - (iv) if so, of the date, it would be done?
- (b) If not, why?

4810/'14

9.

Hon. (Al-Haj) A. H. M. Azwer,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) the fishing village named Udappuwa in the Puttalam District does not have a ferry; and
- (ii) school children and patients face numerous hardships in passing through the ferry there?

(b) Will he state whether action be taken to construct a suitable ferry in Udappuwa?

(c) If not, why?

4853/'14

10.

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva,— To ask the Minister of Civil Aviation,— (1)

(a) Will he state pertaining to the Maththala Mahinda Rajapaksa International Airport—

- (i) the number of international flights originated and concluded (not the transit) separately in each month for the last 12 months on per airlines basis; and
- (ii) the total revenue earned for each month for the last 12 months on per airline basis ?

(b) If not, why?

4872/'14

11.

Hon Ajith Mannapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Co-operatives and Internal Trade,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) the consumer Affairs Authority has paid its attention only on the price of a domestic gas cylinder with a capacity of 12.5 kg in controlling gas prices;
- (ii) as a result, gas companies fill gas to small cylinders with less than 12.5 kg capacity and sell them at higher prices; and
- (iii) it is poor people who cannot afford to buy a gas cylinder with a 12.5 kg capacity who generally purchase those small gas cylinders at higher prices?

(b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to control the prices of all gas cylinders of domestic use in proportion to the price of a 12.5 kg capacity cylinder of gas?

(c) If not, why?

(6)

4913/'14

12.

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of passenger shelters constructed by the Transport Ministry of the North Central Province and the Provincial Road Passenger Transport Authority;
 - (ii) the money spent on a such passenger shelter; and
 - (iii) the number of passenger shelters utilized at the moment out of them?
- (b) Will he state —
 - (i) whether the proper tender procedure has been followed when awarding contracts for the construction of the passenger shelters mentioned above;
 - (ii) if not, the basis on which the aforesaid contracts have been awarded; and
 - (iii) whether money has been obtained from the contractor or the relevant companies when offering the aforesaid contracts?
- (c) If not, why?

4948/'14

13.

Hon. Sujeewa Senasinghe,— To ask the Minister of Petroleum Industries,—(1)

- (a) Is he is aware that the loss incurred by Ceylon Petroleum Corporation has exceeded Rs. 95 billion?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the aforesaid Corporation is due to pay over Rs 43 crore, simply for the bank overdrafts of Bank of Ceylon and People's Bank;
 - (ii) the state banks have rejected issuing loans to the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation by now; and
 - (iii) if so the arrangements are made, under the aforesaid circumstances, to obtain fuel from foreign oil companies, on conditions of higher loan interests?
- (c) If not, why?

14.

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, — To ask the Minister of Culture and the Arts,—(1)

- (a) Will he state —
 - (i) the number of Kalayathana (arts institutes) that have been registered under the Department of Cultural Affairs at present;
 - (ii) the number of Kalayathana that are active at present out of them;
 - (iii) the number of Kalayathana that were closed down within the last five years; and
 - (iv) the reasons that caused the closing down of such Kalayathana?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether financial aid is provided to Kalayathana that are registered with the Department of Cultural Affairs;
 - (ii) if so, the amount of money given to a single Kalayathana annually; and
 - (iii) the year on which the aforesaid amount was increased last?
- (c) Will he also state —
 - (i) whether there is a methodology for monitoring the activities of Kalayathana that are registered with the government; and
 - (ii) if so, the methodology adopted and the names of the officers involved in it?
- (d) If not, why?

3961/'13

15.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) it was published in the newspapers that the group that participated in the 6th South Asian University Cultural Festival held in the University of Patiala Punjab of India from 24.02.2013 to 28.02.2013 representing the University of Visual Arts, had been selected to be the first and most talented group;
 - (ii) however, competitions were not held in the aforesaid festival except for presentation of cultural items;
 - (iii) a fake felicitation ceremony too was held with the participation by you and a group of experts with a huge expenditure implying the aforesaid group won the first place, the group that received just a certificate of participation at the aforesaid festival; and
 - (iv) Secretary of the Students Union of the faculty of Visual Arts make allegations that aforesaid fraudulent act was committed by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Performing Arts Mr. Jayasena Kottegodage on behalf of his son Janaka Kottegodage?

(8)

- (b) Will he state whether the steps will be taken to hold a formal inquiry and punish the offenders in relation to the aforesaid fraudulent act?
- (c) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

1. The Leader of the House of Parliament,—Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.07.2010, the hours of sitting this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) shall operate.
2. Hon. Karu Jayasuriya,— Leave to introduce Bill,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to amend the Strategic Development Projects Act, No.14 of 2008.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

- *1. Prescription (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
- *2. Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
- *3. 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 05th 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.)
- *4. 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 22nd 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.)

*5.

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 31st July 2013, which were presented on 22.11.2013, be approved.

*6.

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 13th May 2013, which were presented on 21.06.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

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 24th August 2009, which were presented on 06.05.2010, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

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 06th December 2011, which was presented on 13.12.2011, be approved.

*9.

The Minister of Health,— Annual Report and Accounts of the Wijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital (2011),— That the Annual Report and Accounts of Wijaya Kumaratunga Memorial Hospital together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year ended 31.12.2011 and presented on 04.09.2013 under the Parliamentary Act, No.38 of 1999 be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Health on 13.09.2013.)

*10.

The Minister of Health,— Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital (2011),—That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year ended 31.12.2011 and presented on 22.11.2013 under the Parliamentary Act, No. 54 of 1983 be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Health on 07.02.2014.)

*11.

The Minister of Technology and Research,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka National Engineering Research and Development Center (2011),— That the Annual Report of Sri Lanka National Engineering Research and Development Center together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year commencing from 1st of January 2011 and ending 31st of December 2011 and presented on 10.10.2013 under Section 30(2) of the State Industrial Corporations Act, No.49 of 1957 be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Technology and Research on 21.02.2014)

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.

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

16.

Asoka Sellahewa Scholarship Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

17.

Seyyed Sheikh Koya Thangal Mowlana Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

18.

Sri Gunarathana International Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

19.

White Rose Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

20.

United Muslim Ummah (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

21.

Sri Balabhivurdhi Wardana Samithiya (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

22.

The Seretse Khama Foundation Trust (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business*
