



[Seventh Parliament - First Session]

No. 436.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Friday, February 20, 2015 at 1.30 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

4323/13

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Tourism and Sports,—(2)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) mass scale gravel digging is done in the Boraluwala area belonging to zone 4 of the Wilpattu National Park in order to obtain gravel required to construct the Mollikulama-Silawatura road; and
- (ii) the residents of the area allege that this act receives the assistance of the Beat Security Officer of the Tantirimale Beat Forest Office?

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) whether he admits that these acts mentioned in (a) (i) above violates Sections 3, 5 and 6 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance No. 2 of 1937;
- (ii) if so, as to who granted recommendations to Maga Engineering (Pvt.) Ltd. to dig gravel in the above area; and
- (iii) whether steps will be taken forthwith to stop this act which causes grave damage to the environment of the Wilpattu National Park?

(c) If not, why?

4468/13

2.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the Sri Lankan Embassy in the United States had transactions with the company named Cranford Johnson Robinson Wood in the years 2010, 2011 and 2012;
- (ii) if so, the period during which such transactions have taken place;
- (iii) the task or tasks accomplished through such transactions;

(2)

- (iv) the benefits derived from them;
- (v) the value of the payments made for the said transactions;
- (vi) the expenditure head under which funds were allocated for this purpose; and
- (vii) if agreements have been entered into with that company whether such agreements will be tabled?

(b) If not, why?

4755/'14

3.

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the total number of coconut estates found in the Kurunegala District;
- (ii) of the coconut production of the Kurunegala District from the year 2005 to 2013 separately in each year; and
- (iii) whether measures will be implemented with a view to increasing the coconut production?

(b) If not, why?

5112/'14

4.

Hon Ajith Mannapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of units of electricity added to the national grid on 12th and 13th September 2013 in kilowatt per hour separately; and
- (ii) separately, the amount of money spent on that in millions?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) separately and on daily basis, the number of units of electricity generated by the Hydro-power plants and added to the national grid (in kilowatt hours) on 11th, 12th and 13th September 2013 ; and
- (ii) if the number of units of electricity generated by the Hydro-power plants on the above mentioned dates varied from each other, the reasons for that?

(c) If not, why?

5.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Lands,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
- (i) the objectives of the 'Bim Saviya' programme;
 - (ii) whether there is a possibility to survey lands under the 'Bim Saviya' programme violating a ruling given by the court; and
 - (iii) if so, the legal provisions under which the aforesaid survey of land has taken place?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether he is aware that a land divided into three blocks as per the final decision given by the Homagama District court for the partition case bearing case number 2061, has been divided into two blocks by 'Bim Saviya' officers violating the aforesaid decision; and
 - (ii) of the reason for the aforesaid land to be divided in that manner?
- (c) If not, why?

6.

Hon. Ajith Kumara,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation and Agriculture,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that —
- (i) arrangements have been made to construct a reservoir in extent of 800 acres by erecting an embankment across the river Kumbukkan Oya in Monaragala District;
 - (ii) as a result of constructing this reservoir, the pepper cultivation and the rubber cultivation of the Monaragala District will be severely affected;
 - (iii) as a result, the economic activities of the people in the area will be hampered; and
 - (iv) a massive damage will be caused to the forest and the environment due to the construction of the reservoir?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the intended objectives and targets of this water scheme;
 - (ii) what development is expected to be achieved by constructing the reservoir; and
 - (iii) what amount of money will have to be spent for the scheme?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

Hon. Vijitha Herath,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, Local Government and Democratic Governance and Minister of Buddha Sasana,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of Heads of Department posts out of the posts of Special Grade of the SLAS as indicated in Appendix 'A' to the First Schedule in the Service Minute of Sri Lanka Administrative Service;
 - (ii) the appointing authority of those posts of Special Grade of the SLAS as indicated in the said list;
 - (iii) the procedure adopted in appointing to the posts of Special Grade of the SLAS;
 - (iv) the number of non-SLAS Officers who have already been appointed to the posts of Special Grade of the SLAS; and
 - (v) the number of posts of Special Grade of the SLAS, which fell vacant during the period from 02.07.2012 to 01.01.2014 their designations and the relevant institutions, separately?
- (b) Will he table the names of the officers who have fulfilled all qualifications and called for the interview for the promotion to the Special Grade from Grade I of the SLAS which was held in August, 2014, their dates of appointment to the Grade I SLAS, the effective dates of their Degree, the awarding university and the post graduate discipline of the Degree, separately?
- (c) If not, why?

4405/'13

8.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(2)

- (a) Will he state the domestic coconut consumption during the period from January to October in the year 2013?
- (b) Will he table—
 - (i) the quantity of coconuts that was exported and imported during the aforesaid period of time, separately;
 - (ii) the export oriented coconut based products manufactured in Sri Lanka; and
 - (iii) the quantity of each of those products exports each year, separately?
- (c) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether coconut water was exported during the period of time mentioned in (a);
 - (ii) if so, whether the aforesaid coconut water was exported in the form of coconut water or as a coconut water based products;

(5)

- (iii) of the countries to which coconut water or coconut water based products were exported;
 - (iv) of the quantity of the aforesaid exports; and
 - (v) of the total income received from the export of coconut water or coconut water based products?
- (d) Will he also state —
- (i) the concessions that the government can grant to a person who commences coconut production in Sri Lanka; and
 - (ii) the methodology that should be adopted by a producer to obtain those concessions?
- (e) If not, why?

4573/'13

9. Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Social Services, Welfare and Livestock Development,—(2)

- (a) Will he state the quantity of liquid milk that is required to meet the annual requirement of milk and milk products in Sri Lanka?
- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) the amount of money that is charged per kilogram of imported milk powder; and
 - (ii) the aforesaid amount as percentage of the price at which the imported milk powder is sold in the local market?
- (c) If not, why?

4771/'14

10. Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Internal Transport,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of buses that are operating under the Sri Lanka Transport Board at present;
 - (ii) of the course of action adopted regarding the excess drivers and conductors employed in it;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to import buses to suffice the number of excess drivers and conductors; and
 - (iv) whether money has been allocated from the budget for the aforesaid purpose?
- (b) If not, why?

11.

Hon Ajith Mannapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Finance,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the percentage of the increases of tax on agricultural tractors with effect from 01.01.2014; and
 - (ii) the advantage expected to be accrued to the farmer community or the country by effecting this increase of tax on agricultural tractors?
- (b) Will he also state the number of new four wheel agricultural tractors registered in 2012, 2013 and up to the end of April 2014 separately?
- (c) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the increase of tax on agricultural tractors has had a harmful effect on the farmer community or agriculture; and
 - (ii) if so, the measures to be taken to negate that harmful effect?
- (d) If not, why?

5202/14

12.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Muslim Religious Affairs and Posts,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the documents that should be submitted together with the application forwarded to seek approval to travel overseas for the Umra and Haj pilgrimages by Muslim devotees employed in the public service;
 - (ii) when the relevant individual is a teacher, whether he is entitled to leave with pay for such pilgrimage;
 - (iii) whether he acknowledges that a simplified application and visa granting mechanism should be formulated for those who travel overseas for the Umara pilgrimage and Haj pilgrimage;
 - (iv) if so, whether an intervention will be made in this connection;
 - (v) the number of days of approved leave for public servants undertaking the above pilgrimage; and
 - (vi) whether this number of dates is sufficient?
- (b) If not, why?

13.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, Local Government and Democratic Governance and Minister of Buddha Sasana,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) Matara Uyanwatta Stadium is a public stadium that is used to hold district and all-island level sporting events;
 - (ii) a large number of residents of the Matara town use the aforesaid stadium daily for physical fitness activities; and
 - (iii) action is being taken by the Matara Municipal Council to sell the aforesaid stadium to the Sri Lanka Cricket?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he admits that the people of the aforesaid area would face a number of difficulties if the abovementioned stadium is sold to the Board of Cricket Control; and
 - (ii) if so, whether action will be taken to stop the process of selling the aforesaid stadium?
- (c) If not, why?

14.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Mass Media and Parliamentary Affairs,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the total amount of money that was spent on the recently held CHOGM held in the year 2013 by the then Ministry of Mass Media and Information and the other institutes coming under the purview of that Ministry;
 - (ii) of the manner by which the aforesaid money was raised;
 - (iii) of the manner in which the aforesaid money was spent;
 - (iv) of the total amount of money spent on media publicity for the aforesaid Heads of States Meeting;
 - (v) of the names of electronic and print media through which publicity was given; and
 - (vi) separately of the amount of money that was paid to each of the aforesaid media institute?
- (b) If not, why?

15. Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Internal Transport,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether a combined Time Table is to be implemented for the buses of the Sri Lanka Transport Board and private buses;
 - (ii) whether Sri Lanka Transport Board will be faced with a huge loss due to the aforesaid combined Time Table as the number of buses owned by the Sri Lanka Transport Board is lesser than the number of private buses; and
 - (iii) if so, whether any action will be taken to prevent the aforesaid loss that will be caused to the SLTB?
- (b) 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 07.04.2011, the hours of sitting this day shall be 1.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.. At 7.30 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) shall operate.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

- *1. National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
- *2. Prescription (Special Provisions) Bill — Adjourned debate on question (07th August, 2014) [1].
- *3. Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
- *4. The Minister of Foreign Affairs,— Regulations under the United Nations Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of External Affairs under Section 2 of the United Nations Act, No. 45 of 1968 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1892/37 of 11th December 2014, which were presented on 05.02.2015, be approved.

(9)

*5.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance and Planning under Section 3 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 read with Article 44(2) of the Constitution, relating to Stamp Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1882/17 of 30th September 2014, which was presented on 12.12.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Minister of Power and Energy,— Regulations under the Sri Lanka Electricity Act,— That the Regulations (Electrical Inspectors' Functions, Duties and Procedures) made by the Minister of Power and Energy under Section 54 of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No. 20 of 2009 on the recommendation of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1883/12 of 10th October 2014, which were presented on 24.11.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

The Minister of Foreign 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.)

*8.

The Minister of Foreign 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.)

*9.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.3),— 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 Czech Republic for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 28th March 2011, 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 05.08.2014 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

The Minister of Internal 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.

*11.

The Minister of Justice 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.)

*12.

The Minister of Lands,— 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.)

*13.

The Minister of Tourism and Sports,— 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.

14.

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

15.

Institute of Martial Arts (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

16.

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

17.

The Institute of Medicina Alternativa (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

18.

Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Bill — Consideration.

19.

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

20.

Chamber of Construction Industry of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business*

[1]. Motion made and question proposed "That the Bill be now read a second time."
