



[*Seventh Parliament - First Session*]

No. 437.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Tuesday, March 03, 2015 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

4399/'13

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Mahaweli Development and Environment,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the extent of land belongs to the Land Reform Commission that is administered by the District Forest Officer's Office in Kandy;
 - (ii) whether he is aware that Pines and other trees have been cultivated by the Department of Forest Conservation in those lands; and
 - (iii) the extent of land in which such trees have been cultivated?
- (b) Is he aware that—
 - (i) certain individuals have illegally encroached those lands in which trees have been cultivated by the Department of Forest Conservation; and
 - (ii) a portion of those lands have been given to the people by the government?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) separately of the extent of land in which people have illegally settled and given to the people by the government, out of the forest lands mentioned in (a) (iii) above;
 - (ii) whether he admits the fact that catchment areas get destroyed owing to the use of forest reserves by the people; and
 - (iii) if so, whether steps will be taken to avoid this from happening?
- (d) If not, why?

(2)

4581/'13

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the value of the National Income for the years of 2011 and 2012 separately;
 - (ii) separately, of the amount of the interest and the loan installment paid annually for the loans obtained by the government for the aforesaid years; and
 - (iii) of the total of the loan installment and the interest paid in each of the aforesaid years as a percentage of the National Income of the relevant year?
- (b) If not, why?

4773/'14

3. Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Health and Indigenous Medicine,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether local purchase of pharmaceuticals has been permitted as a remedy for the shortage of drugs in hospitals;
 - (ii) of the procedure of calling for bids for the aforesaid purchases;
 - (iii) whether there is a procedure for comparing the aforesaid prices with those of the Medical Supplies Division; and
 - (iv) whether the Ministry is aware of the malpractices that have taken place with regard to purchase of pharmaceuticals by the Peradeniya General Hospital;
- (b) If not, why?

5114/'14

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

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the interest free loan scheme for women that formed as a part of the budget proposals of 2014 has been implemented;
 - (ii) if so, the date on which that loan scheme commenced;
 - (iii) the manner in which loans could be obtained under that loan scheme;
 - (iv) the qualifications that women should possess to obtain the loans; and
 - (v) whether guarantors or sureties are required for that?

(3)

- (b) Will he table the number of women who have obtained those interest free loans as at present in relation to each district separately?
- (c) If the above mentioned loan scheme is not operational at present, will he inform this House of the reasons for that?
- (d) If not, why?

5192/'14

5.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Home Affairs and Fisheries,—(4)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the extent of the progress of discussions that took place recently regarding the issues concerning Sri Lankan and Indian fishermen;
 - (ii) the nature of the intervention of the government with regard to the aforesaid issues;
 - (iii) the number of Sri Lankan fishermen that are held captive in Andhra Pradesh, India at present; and
 - (iv) the nature of the intervention of the government in order to get them released from captivity?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) if the fuel subsidy given to the fishermen has been stopped, whether an alternate package has been introduced to them;
 - (ii) if so, what that package is; and
 - (iii) of the difference between the package and the fuel subsidy system?
- (c) If not, why?

4529/'13

6.

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

- (a) Is he aware that there was a budget proposal in the budget 2013—
 - (i) to develop isolated schools into a child friendly environment;
 - (ii) to give free food containing cereal, eggs and milk to every child admitted to those schools; and
 - (iii) to provide a pair of shoes and an additional uniform in the middle of the year for the students of those schools?

(4)

- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of child friendly schools that have been developed by now;
 - (ii) whether the proposals mentioned in above (a) (ii) and (iii) are being implemented by now;
 - (iii) if so, the number of schools in which the aforesaid proposals are being implemented;
 - (iv) if the aforesaid proposals are not being implemented, the reasons for that; and
 - (v) if so, the date on which the aforesaid proposals will be implemented?
- (c) If not, why?

4775/'14

7.

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Health and Indigenous Medicine,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the number of registered pharmacies available in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of the number of registered pharmacists and the number of distributors of pharmaceutical drugs available in the country;
 - (iii) of the number of pharmacists required for the country; and
 - (iv) whether a proper methodology is in effect for training pharmacists?
- (b) If not, why?

5091/'14

8.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Policy Planning, Economic Affairs, Child, Youth and Cultural Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether the government of Sri Lanka has made any financial aid or aid for projects to the government of Palastine over the last five years;
 - (ii) if so, the financial value of such aid;
 - (iii) if any construction project has been assigned to that country, the manner of selection of contractors for that project;
 - (iv) the objective of making that financial aid or aid for projects; and
 - (v) whether making an aid to a foreign country as mentioned above, when Sri Lanka has to payback a huge amount of foreign loans, is not a fruitless effort?
- (b) If not, why?

9.

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of offices established throughout the Island for the businessmen of the country to pay Value Added Tax and deal with matters connected to that;
- (ii) the location of such offices in relation to each district separately; and
- (iii) the number of offices established for the purpose of payment of income tax and deal with matters connected to them?

(b) If not, why?

10.

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether he is aware that all skilled technicians have been absorbed into the Skilled Technician Service with effect from 01.01.1997 as per the basic service minute of the Department of Railway;
- (ii) whether a 6:1 ratio is adopted when promoting Technicians in the group 'A' to Class 1 based on the category and the promotion, which is a condition that is not imposed by any other service minute;
- (iii) whether he is aware that those in authority have agreed on a number of occasions to alter the aforesaid ratio when implementing the 6/2006 circular ;
- (iv) whether a promotion procedure has not yet been formulated as per the 6/2006 circular;
- (v) if so, the reasons for not doing so; and
- (vi) whether he is aware that a large group of employees who remain stagnant at the upper ceiling of their salary increment scheme are faced with injustice as a result of this issue?

(c) If not, why?

(6)

4776/14

11.

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Health and Indigenous Medicine,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
- (i) the number of “Suwa Divi Centres” set up in order to enhance community health;
 - (ii) of them, the number of centres functional at present;
 - (iii) the number of Suwa Divi Centres established in the Kurunegala District;
 - (iv) the number of such centres functional at present in the Kurunegala District;
 - (v) the number of Suwa Divi Centres scheduled to be set up in the Kandy District; and
 - (vi) the number of Suwa Divi Centres functional at present in that district?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether a sufficient number of clinics are conducted in those Suwa Divi Centres?
- (c) If not, why?

4813/14

12.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Internal Transport,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
- (i) Vehicles Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., that has been registered under the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, is currently engaged in a business of assembling and selling vehicles in Free Trade Zone and their customers are shown a letter that has been issued by the Commissioner General of Motor Traffic to the effect that the vehicles that are purchased from the aforesaid company will be registered within a period of one month;
 - (ii) but, however, the Department of Motor Traffic turns down the registration of vehicles sold by the aforesaid company; and
 - (iii) for that reason, a large number of buyers who have purchased motor vehicles from the aforesaid company have been inconvenienced a great deal, being unable to run their vehicles ?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether the facilities will be provided to register the vehicles that have been purchased from Vehicles Lanka (Pvt)., Ltd, in the Department of Motor Traffic?
- (c) If not, why?

5092/14

13.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Policy Planning, Economic Affairs, Child, Youth and Cultural Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the government of Sri Lanka has made any financial aid or aid for projects to the government of Uganda over the last five years;
- (ii) if so, the financial value of such aid;
- (iii) if any construction project has been assigned to that country, the manner of selection of contractors for that project;
- (iv) the objective of making that financial aid or aid for projects; and
- (v) whether making an aid to a foreign country as mentioned above, when Sri Lanka has to payback a huge amount of foreign loans, is not a fruitless effort?

(b) If not, why?

5117/14

14.

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of days electricity was not generated at the Upper Kotmale Hydro-power plant in 2013; and
- (ii) the reasons for not generating electricity as above?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the Upper Kotmale reservoir had to be suddenly emptied in 2013;
- (ii) if so, the reason for that;
- (iii) whether the water was released through the electricity generators or some other means, when emptying the reservoir;
- (iv) of the reasons for doing so;
- (v) of the level of water of the reservoir, prior to releasing water as mentioned above; and
- (vi) of the volume of water released as a percentage of the capacity of water of the reservoir?

(c) Will he also state the loss the Ceylon Electricity Board had to incur as a result of suddenly emptying the Upper Kotmale reservoir, as mentioned above?

(d) If not, why?

15.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Finance,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
- (i) a statement was made in Parliament on 23.03.1990 by the then Minister in charge of that Board to the effect that the River Valley Development Board will be closed down with effect from 31.03.1990 having paid a compensation ranging from Rs. 96,000/- to Rs. 265,000/- to each of its employees;
 - (ii) in spite of the statement made, only an amount of Rs. 50,000/- had been paid to those workers; and
 - (iii) they have been rendered destitute under the aforesaid circumstance?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the date on which action will be taken to pay the compensation dues in arrears to those workers who had worked in the River Valley Development Board?
- (c) Will he state—
- (i) whether provision of houses and lands to all the workers has been completed by now, as per the statement made to the effect that ownership of official quarters which belonged to the River Valley Development Board by then would be transferred to the workers residing in them at the moment and that land would be provided to the other workers who are without houses; and
 - (ii) if so, whether the provision of title deeds for the aforesaid houses and lands has been completed by now?
- (d) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Minister of Health and Indigenous Medicine,— National Medicines Regulatory Authority,— Bill to Provide for the Establishment of a Regulatory Authority to be known as the National Medicines Regulatory Authority which shall be responsible for the regulation and control of, Registration, Licensing, Manufacture, Importation and all other aspects pertaining to medicines, medical devices, borderline products and for the conducting of clinical trials in a manner compatible with the National Medicines Policy; to provide for the establishment of divisions of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority including the Medicines Regulatory Division, Medical Devices Regulatory Division, Borderline Products Regulatory Division and Clinical Trials Regulatory Division; to establish a National Advisory Body; to repeal the Cosmetics, Devices and Drugs Act, No.27 of 1980; and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Notice of Motions

2.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,—Sittings of the Parliament (No.1),— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.07.2010, the hours of sitting on Wednesday, March 04th, 2015 shall be 9.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 6.30 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) shall operate.

3.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament (No.2),— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 04th, 2015

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

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.)

*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 Justice and Labour Relations,— Order under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act,—That the Order made by the Minister of Justice and Labour Relations under Section 7(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 2013 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1900/3 of 02nd February 2015, which was presented on 20.02.2015, be approved.

*5.

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.

*6.

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.)

*7.

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.)

*8.

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.)

*9.

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.)

*10.

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.)

*11.

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.

*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.”
