



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 19.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Monday, November 23, 2015 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

14/15

1.

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that GI pipes (flag posts) worth Rs.20,132,277/- (20.1 million) have been purchased utilizing the monies of the Divineguma Fund in connection with the Presidential Election 2015, on the instructions of the then subject minister?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether there is any possibility of purchasing GI pipes and distributing them among Pradeshiya Sabhas in terms of the objectives of the Divineguma Fund;
 - (ii) if so, of the section of the Divineguma Act under which such purchases can be made; and
 - (iii) of the name of the person in authority who had given the approval for the aforesaid purchase?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the measures that have been taken by the present Minister to recover the amount of Rs.20 million that lost due to the misuse of moneys of the fund;
 - (ii) whether an investigation of financial crimes is being carried out at present with regard to the aforesaid incident;
 - (iii) if so, of the progress of the aforesaid investigation; and
 - (iv) of the administrative measures that have been taken with regard to the aforesaid incident?
- (d) If not, why?

(2)

20/'15

2.

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

- (a) Is she aware that misappropriation of financial resources of the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau which was under the purview of the Ministry of Foreign Employment has been uncovered by the Auditor General through audit query No. IS/INV/PC/GDE/2015/04 dated 10th June 2015?
- (b) Will she state—
 - (i) the instances of financial misconduct indicated in (a) above;
 - (ii) separately, the value of the said instances of misconduct;
 - (iii) whether the Ministry has initiated a probe regarding the said instances of financial misconduct uncovered by the audit query;
 - (iv) if so, its current progress; and
 - (v) the current status of the inquiry conducted by the Police Financial Crimes Investigation Division in respect of the uncovered financial crimes?
- (c) If not, why?

24/'15

3.

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the carpeting of 18 roads belonging to the Southern Provincial Council of which, work had been commenced previously has been suspended midway from January 2015; and
 - (ii) the road leading from Kekunadura to Dickwella via Wehella is in such a bad state that even walking let alone transporting has become laborious?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the 18 roads indicated in a (i) above of which renovation activities have been abandoned midway;
 - (ii) the date on which laying of carpet in the road indicated in (a) (ii) above will be started;
 - (iii) the amount allocated or pledged to be allocated by the General Treasury for these roads; and
 - (iv) accordingly, the future programme of work for carpeting of these roads separately?
- (c) If not, why?

33/'15

4.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Prisons Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this house—
 - (i) the Sinhalese population in Batticaloa district; and
 - (ii) the villages in which the aforesaid people reside?
- (b) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the people living in the Sinhalese villages in Batticaloa district do not get the basic facilities including houses and water sufficiently;
 - (ii) a majority of the aforesaid people do not duly receive the services of the government; and
 - (iii) some are taking action to evict these people from their villages?
- (c) Will he also inform this house—
 - (i) of the steps taken to provide basic facilities including houses, water to the Sinhalese people living in Batticaloa district;
 - (ii) the steps taken to confirm the right of the aforesaid people to their villages;
 - (iii) whether steps will be taken to bring the Sinhalese people who had migrated to other areas leaving their villages in Batticaloa due to the war, to their original villages again; and
 - (iv) if so, how it will be done?
- (d) If not, why?

80/'15

5.

Hon. Chandima Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that various media have reported that antiquities and treasures were heavily destroyed and taken away by thieves during the past period of time of almost a decade?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of complaints received by the Department of Archaeology in this regard;
 - (ii) whether the Department of Archaeology has taken legal actions regarding the incidents reported in media and the complaints received by them;
 - (iii) if so, the number of incidents and complaints regarding which legal action has been taken, separately;
 - (iv) the number of persons that have been convicted through the aforesaid legal action; and
 - (v) the actions taken to prevent the occurrence of such incidents again?
- (c) If not, why?

160/'15

6.

Hon. Tharaka Balasuriya,— To ask the Minister of Rural Economic Affairs,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this house —
 - (i) of the number of districts in which the paddy is purchased, at the government guaranteed price;
 - (ii) of what aforesaid districts are;
 - (iii) whether a mechanism has been set up, intending the farmers of the other districts, enabling them to sell their produce at government guaranteed prices;
 - (iv) if so, the aforesaid mechanism; and
 - (v) if not, why?
- (b) Will he also inform this House whether the Agrarian Services Centres, situated in the districts that have not been approved as the districts that purchase paddy at government guaranteed price, could be given at least an agency to purchase paddy?
- (c) If not, why?

164/'15

7.

Hon. Lucky Jayawardana,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) a large number of soldiers of the Sri Lanka Army who had been engaged in operational duties in the North and the East have left the army after serving in the Army for 12 years; and
 - (ii) they are suffering severe hardships at present?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of soldiers who have left the Army after serving for 12 years;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to provide relief to those persons;
 - (iii) whether he admits that it would be reasonable to pay a half pension to those persons who served the country risking their lives; and
 - (iv) if so, of the date from which arrangements will be made to pay a half pension to those persons?
- (c) If not, why?

176/'15

8.

Hon. M. H. M. Salman,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) about 38 families of the Akurana Divisional Secretariat Division settled in Senapura village in the Mahaweli “B” Zone in the year 1986, vacated the area fearing the safety of their lives consequent to attacks of Tiger Terrorists on Alinchipothana area on 14.04.1992; and
 - (ii) they were dispossessed of the ownership of the said lands when the lands that were not developed under the Land Development Ordinance were cancelled, and that an inquiry was held on 02.08.2013 for allocating dry lands to them only for residence?

(5)

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the progress of the above inquiry; and
- (ii) the names and addresses of persons selected as of now for granting plots of lands for residence?

(c) If not, why?

179/'15

9.

Hon. (Dr.) A. R. A. Hafeez,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that lack of adequate space and building facilities in Pu/Kal/ Pulanchchena Muslim Maha Vidyalaya in Puttalam district, in which approximately 600 students learn, has become an obstacle in carrying out educational activities there?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether action will be taken to construct a two storied building of the size of 60'x 25' for the facility of the children that study in the aforesaid school ?
- (c) If not , why ?

34/'15

10.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Petroleum Resources Development,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the amount of money that was spent on the reconstruction of Sapugaskanda Oil Refinery in the year 2014;
- (ii) of the name of the company which carried out the aforesaid reconstruction work;
- (iii) whether tenders had been called for before the aforesaid reconstruction work was awarded to that company;
- (iv) if so, of the value of the tender that had been submitted by that company;
- (v) of the names of the other companies that had submitted tenders for the aforesaid construction work; and
- (vi) separately of the names, addresses and the telephone numbers of those companies, and the names of the countries to which those companies belong and the value of each of those tenders?

(b) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) of the reasons for awarding that tender for the aforesaid company; and
- (ii) whether he is aware of the fact that the government had to incur a loss by dealing with that company?

(c) If not, why?

11.

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he admits that Rakna Arakshana Lanka Ltd. is an institution affiliated to the Ministry of Defence; and
- (ii) if so, the year in which it was established and the report of the Auditor General on the accounts of the company from the day it was established up to 2015, separately?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the government and private institutions to which the security service was provided by the aforesaid organization; and
- (ii) separately, the year, date and the name of the institutions that entered into agreements with the aforesaid company to get their security service?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) whether there are government institutions that expelled this organization from providing their services from January 2015 up to date;
- (ii) if so, what those institutions are;
- (iii) the reasons for the expel;
- (iv) the names of the security companies deployed instead; and
- (v) the names of the Directors of those substitute companies separately?

(d) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) the annual income and the profit earned by this company from its inception; and
- (ii) separately, the amount of money that has been given to the General Treasury on annual basis?

(e) If not, why?

12.

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

- (a) Will he state the number of male and female school students affected by abuses and violence including assaults made by teachers in the year 2014?
- (b) Will he table this House separately —
 - (i) the names and addresses of each of the aforesaid male or female students along with the name of the school in which he/she studies;
 - (ii) the harm inflicted on each of the male or female students mentioned above;
 - (iii) the action taken on behalf of each of the male or female student that was affected;
 - (iv) the name, address and the school of the teacher involved in each incident mentioned above; and
 - (v) the action taken against each of the teachers mentioned above?
- (c) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether action has been taken to prevent inhuman harassment committed to male and female students by teachers;
 - (ii) if so, the aforesaid action?
- (d) 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 motion agreed to by Parliament on 06.11.2015, the hours of sitting this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.. At 7.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Appropriation Bill (2016)— (Second Allotted Day)—Adjourned debate on question (20th November 2015) [1].

*2.

Appropriation (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*3.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Finance Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 26 read with Section 22 of the Finance Act, No. 11 of 2004 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1915/2 of 18th May 2015, which was presented on 03.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

The Minister of Finance,— Resolution under the Inland Revenue Act,— That this Parliament resolves, under Section 97(1) (a) of the Inland Revenue Act, No.10 of 2006, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Singapore for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income entered on 03rd April, 2014, which was presented on 23.09.2015 be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Minister of Finance,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, under Section 28(a) read with Section 16(c) of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), as amended from time to time regarding Excise License Fee and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1901/19 of 13th February 2015, which was presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 973)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 read with Sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by Act No. 48 of 1985 and Act, No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1903/41 of 26th February 2015, which were presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

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 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business*

[1].

Motion made and question proposed “That the Bill be now read a second time.”