



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 44.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

41/15

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) lands of the proposed Hambantota wild elephant management reserve are being acquired forcibly;
 - (ii) the reserve has been cleared;
 - (iii) many development projects have been implemented within the aforesaid reserve area;
 - (iv) the human elephant conflict has escalated as a result; and
 - (v) work on the aforesaid wild elephant management reserve has come to a halt?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the area of the proposed Hambantota wild elephant management reserve;
 - (ii) of the boundaries of the aforesaid reserve?
- (c) Will he state —
 - (i) whether steps will be taken to stop human activities that are carried out in the aforesaid reserve;
 - (ii) if so, the manner in which it will be done?
- (d) If not, why?

92/15

2.

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(3)

- (a) Will he endorse the policy of maintaining schools exclusively for the children of the members of the Armed Forces?
- (b) Eventhough it is necessary to grant special privileges to both officers and soldiers of the Armed Forces who have made various sacrifices, does he admit the fact that, the creation of separate schools for their children will amount to giving facilities to group of people on a new social strata?

(2)

- (c) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) separately, the number of children of the officers and the number of children of the soldiers studying in these schools; and
 - (ii) as to why he doesn't intend taking over these schools under the Department of Education and run them as ordinary schools also admitting other children?
- (d) If not, why?

196/'15

3.

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) 270 officers who were permanent residents in the Eastern Province were attached to the Northern Provincial Council when the North Eastern Provincial Council which had been once merged was demerged as Northern and Eastern Provincial Councils;
 - (ii) those officers have undergone much difficulty having had to work in an area away from their permanent residence for about 7 years in this manner;
 - (iii) the attempts made by these officers on a number of occasions to get transfers to the Eastern Province were unsuccessful; and
 - (iv) only a few officers have obtained transfers with the assistance of authorities?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the reasonable request of the residents of the Eastern Province for working in that Provincial Council will be granted; and
 - (ii) if so, the actions taken in that regard?
- (c) If not, why?

198/'15

4.

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the educational qualifications required for the cadet officers recruited to the executive branch of the Sri Lanka Navy for the year 2006;
 - (ii) the educational qualifications of Lieutenant Y. K. Rajapaksha NRX 2431;
 - (iii) the specific reason to recruit him without the required qualifications;
 - (iv) whether the approval of the Ministry of Defence was sought for that; and
 - (v) the date on which he joined the Navy and the date on which he completed his training?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—

(3)

- (i) the foreign scholarships and training given to him, the period of time he stayed abroad, the name of the country, and the amount of money spent by the government; and
 - (ii) the reason to select him for a training in Britannia Royal Navy College in Dartmouth in 2007; and whether it is a scholarship given by the British Government?
- (c) Will he state—
- (i) the disciplinary action taken against lieutenant Rajapaksha and other persons according to the report of the Navy tripartite committee that investigated the allegations leveled against him;
 - (ii) if not, the reasons for that?
- (d) If not, why?

206/15

5.

Hon. Heshu Withanage,— To ask the Minister of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community Development,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether a survey has been conducted on the Tamil people who live in estate regions of Sri Lanka and on the line houses of estate regions;
 - (ii) if so, of the number of houses, the number of line houses and the number of people living in the estate regions;
 - (iii) of the number of children in schooling age and the number of children who do not attend school; and
 - (iv) of the number of households that do not have electricity and sanitation facilities?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) whether a programme will be launched in order to uplift the standard of life of the Tamil people who are living in estate regions;
 - (ii) if so, of that aforesaid programme;
 - (iii) whether there is a programme putting an end to the line house centered lifestyle of the people living in estate regions and to settle them in proper houses; and
 - (iv) if so, of the time period within which aforesaid programme will be completed;
- (c) If not, why?

208/15

6. Hon. M. H. M. Salman,— To ask the Minister of Post, Postal Services and Muslim Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he state —
- (i) the date on which legal trustees were appointed to “Oddamawadi Mohideen Jumma Mosque” in Batticaloa, which is registered in the Department of Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs (Waqf Section) under the registration No. R/768/BT/65, along with the date on which the aforesaid appointment period ended ;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to appoint a new Board of Trustees to the aforesaid mosque to which legal trustees have not been appointed for a long period of time, due to the fact that a situation arisen, in which the administrative activities of the aforesaid mosque cannot be carried out in a systematic manner ?
- (b) If not , why ?

217/15

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

- (a) Will he table in this House a list of names according to their seniority of —
- (i) the Supreme Court judges;
 - (ii) the Appeal Court judges;
 - (iii) the High Court judges; and
 - (iv) the District Court and Magistrate Court judges along with their date of appointment and due date of retirement?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether there are judges in the judiciary of Sri Lanka who work as judges in foreign countries on duty leave or on no pay leave (as at 01.11.2015); and
 - (ii) if so, the date from which the approval was granted by the Judicial Service Commission for them to enter into the foreign service, separately?
- (c) If not, why?

231/15

8. Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) the companies that supplied spare parts for the buses of the Sri Lanka Transport Board in the year 2011;
 - (ii) whether the approval of the Tender Board had been given to select the relevant companies;

(5)

- (iii) the names of the then members of the Boards of Directors of the Companies so selected;
- (iv) the relationship between the owner of the company from which spare parts for the buses of the S.L.T.B. were purchased and the Chairman of the S.L.T.B. in the year 2011;
- (v) the reasons for granting the tender to an outside Company when there were registered companies for purchasing spare parts for buses;
- (vi) whether he admits the fact that duty concessions had been granted to that company selected in an informal manner; and
- (vii) the progress of the investigation being conducted by the Financial Crimes Investigation Division on making undue income by supplying large quantities of those spare parts imported by using the above duty concessions to the traders in Panchikawatta, and supplying them in small quantities to the S.L.T.B.?

(b) If not, why?

239/15

9.

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Public Enterprise Development,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this house —

- (i) whether he will table a copy of the circular sent to the banks, if the government has taken a policy decision, as a relief to the people, to write off the high interest rate and fines charged in redeeming gold jewellery which has been pawned to banks for Two Hundred Thousand Rupees or less;
- (ii) separately, the number of beneficiaries whose interest and fines have thus been written off by each bank;
- (iii) whether the government has provided financial provisions to the relevant banks for this purpose; and
- (iv) if so, the amount so provided, separately in respect of each bank?

(b) If not, why?

252/15

10.

Hon Bimal Rathnayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House, separately the number of employees who are registered in the Employees Trust Fund in district-wise in the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014?

(b) If not, why?

11.

Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that a pledge was given under number 35 in the programme titled “Compassionate governance - A new country in 100 days” of the presidential candidate of the 2015 Presidential Election and incumbent president Hon. Maithripala Sirisena, that those engaged in small and medium industries who have fallen into a debt trap and been blacklisted by the Credit Information Bureau (CRIB) and those who suffer the same because of credit card debts will be relieved from this through an easy payment scheme?
- (b) Will he submit to this House, separately, in respect of each bank the small and medium scale entrepreneurs and credit card holders who have been granted relief under the said programme as at 01.11.2015?
- (c) Will he table the names, addresses and the amounts obtained as loans of the small and medium scale entrepreneurs and credit card holders who have been given the opportunity to settle the loans through an easy repayment scheme under the said programme?
- (d) If not, why?

270/15

12.

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the period of time in which weapons of maritime security guards who provides security for commercial vessels, were kept in an armory of the Southern Naval Command Head Quarters; and
 - (ii) of the income earned by the Sri Lanka Navy from the aforesaid activity during the period mentioned above?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) of the period of time in which a floating armory was run by Avant-Garde Company in international waters beyond the coast of the Galle Port; and
 - (ii) separately, of the income earned by the Sri Lanka Navy and Rakna Arakshana Lanka Ltd. during the aforesaid period of time?
- (c) Will he state —
 - (i) whether the running a floating armory has been handed over to the Sri Lanka Navy by the Avant-Garde company; and
 - (ii) if so, whether it has been proven in a court of law that the aforesaid company has violated any specific law?
- (d) If not, why?

13.

Hon. S. M. Marikkar,— To ask the Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of local government bodies in Sri Lanka that have developed as China-Sri Lanka Friendship cities;
 - (ii) of the relevant cities;
 - (iii) the benefits received by each of these cities through this scheme, separately; and
 - (iv) the benefits received by the local government bodies in China from the local government bodies of Sri Lanka under Friendship cities project?
- (b) If not, why?

54/15

14.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the government has granted permission to establish a sugar refining factory in the premises of the Hambantota port;
 - (ii) if so, the name of the said company and if it is a foreign company the name of the country; and
 - (iii) the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Board of Directors of the said company?
 - (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the amount to be invested by the said company;
 - (ii) the concessions to be provided by the government to the said company;
 - (iii) the benefits to be derived by the country as a result of establishing the sugar refining factory; and
 - (iv) the quantity of sugar expected to be refined at this factory annually?
 - (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether the government has taken measures to prevent the collapse of the sugar industry of Sri Lanka as a result of this company; and
 - (ii) if so, what such measures are?
 - (d) If not, why?
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AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,— Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment),— Bill to amend the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No.2 of 1996.

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 of the Parliament and the motions agreed to by Parliament on 06.10.2015 and 09.01.2016, Parliament meets this day in terms of the motion agreed to by Parliament on 19.12.2015 and the hours of sittings of Parliament shall be 1.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) of the Parliament shall operate.

3.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament (No.2),— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 06.10.2015, the Parliament shall sit on January 29th Friday, 2016, and the hours of sitting on that day shall be 1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 6.30 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) of the Parliament shall operate.

4.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.1),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Ruhunu Awakening Organization.”

5.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.2),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the “Matara Season” Organization. ”

6.

Hon. Vijitha Berugoda,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.3),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Headang Education Foundation. ”

7.

Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.4),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate Handagala Walagamba Purana Gallen Rajamaha Viharastha Development Council.”

8.

Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.5),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Maithripala Senanayake Foundation.”

(9)

9.

Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.6),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Kudabuthgamuwa Sri Piyadassinarama Viharasthana Performance Society.”

10.

Hon. (Mrs.) Sriyani Wijewickrama,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.7),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Sri Gunarathana International Foundation.”

11.

Hon. Shehan Semasinghe,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.8),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Anura Vidanagamage Praja Sanwardana Padanama.”

12.

Hon. Kanaka Herath,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.9),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Moneragala District Kantha Maha Sangamaya”

13.

Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.10),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Computer Society of Sri Lanka.”

14.

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Thusitha Wijemanna,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.11),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Daya Sarana Development Foundation.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Customs Ordinance,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 10A of the Customs Ordinance (Chapter 235) as amended by Act, No. 83 of 1988 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1933/15 of 22nd September 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*2.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No.1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1932/54 of 17th September 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1933/18 of 22nd September 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No.3),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1934/32 of 01st October 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No.4),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1935/45 of 09th October 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No.5),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1938/4 of 28th October 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Special Commodity Levy Act (No.6),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under subsection 3 of Section 2 of the Special Commodity Levy Act, No. 48 of 2007, relating to Special Commodity Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1941/43 of 20th November 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

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 Poland for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income entered into on 06th October, 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016 be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

Microfinance Bill — Second Reading.

*10.

Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations,— Regulation under the Wages Boards Ordinance,— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Labour and Trade Unions Relations under Section 63 of the Wages Boards Ordinance (Chapter 136), which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

The Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana,— Order under the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Justice under subsection (3) of Section 2 of the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, No. 25 of 2002 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1926/46 of 6th August 2015, which was presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

Resolution for the appointment of the Constitutional Assembly—Adjourned question (09th January 2016) — Motion made and question proposed that “ WHEREAS there is broad agreement among the People of Sri Lanka that it is necessary to enact a new Constitution for Sri Lanka;

AND WHEREAS the People have at the Presidential Election held on 08th January, 2015 given a clear mandate for establishing a political culture that respects the rule of law and strengthens democracy;

AND WHEREAS His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has clearly expressed his desire to give effect to the will of the People expressed at the aforesaid Presidential Election by enacting a new Constitution that, *inter alia*, abolishing the Executive Presidency;

AND WHEREAS it has become necessary to enact a new Constitution that, *inter alia*, abolishes the Executive Presidency, ensures a fair and representative Electoral System which eliminates preferential voting, strengthens the democratic rights of all citizens, provides a Constitutional Resolution of the national issue, promotes national reconciliation, establishes a political culture that respects the rule of law, guarantees to the People’s fundamental rights and freedom that assure human dignity and promotes responsible and accountable government.

That this Parliament Resolves that —

1. There shall be a Committee of Parliament hereinafter referred to as the 'Constitutional Assembly' which shall consist of all Members of Parliament, for the purpose of deliberating, and seeking the views and advice of the People, on a new Constitution for Sri Lanka, and preparing a draft of a Constitution Bill for the consideration of Parliament in the exercise of its powers under Article 75 of the Constitution.

2. The Hon. Speaker of Parliament shall be the Chairman of the Constitutional Assembly. There shall be seven (7) Deputy Chairmen of the Constitutional Assembly, who shall be elected by the Constitutional Assembly.

In the absence of the Hon. Speaker, the Constitutional Assembly shall elect one of the Deputy Chairmen to chair the sittings of the Assembly.

3. The quorum for meetings of the Constitutional Assembly shall be twenty (20).
4. There shall be—
 - (a) Constitutional Advisors to the Constitutional Assembly;
 - (b) A Legal Secretary to the Constitutional Assembly and assistants to such Legal Secretary;
 - (c) Staff for the purpose of recording the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in Clause 5; and
 - (d) Media (including Social Media) Staff of the Constitutional Assembly.

The Media Staff shall set up and maintain a website and use other appropriate media, towards giving due publicity to the process for the adoption of a new Constitution for Sri Lanka.

The Media Staff shall ensure that the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and its Committees, as well as public representations / submissions are documented and published on such website along with such other relevant expert or technical opinions.

5. There shall be the following Sub-Committees of the Constitutional Assembly:—
 - (a) A Steering Committee consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairman), Leader of the House of Parliament, Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Justice, and not more than seventeen (17) other Members of the Constitutional Assembly to be appointed by the Constitutional Assembly.

The Steering Committee shall be responsible for the business of the Constitutional Assembly and for preparing a Draft of a new Constitution for Sri Lanka.
 - (b) Such other Sub-Committees, consisting of Members of the Constitutional Assembly, which may be appointed by the Constitutional Assembly.

Provided that each such Sub-Committee shall comprise of not more than eleven (11) Members.
The Chairman of each Sub-Committee shall be appointed by the Steering Committee.
6. The Constitutional Assembly shall at its first sitting—
 - (a) elect the Deputy Chairmen;
 - (b) determine the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5(b); and
 - (c) elect Members to the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5.

7. The Prime Minister shall, at the first meeting of the Constitutional Assembly, present a Resolution for adoption by the Constitutional Assembly, calling upon the Steering Committee to present a Resolution proposing a Draft Constitution for the consideration of the Constitutional Assembly, prior to its submission to the Cabinet of Ministers and Parliament.

8. The Constitutional Assembly is hereby authorised to conduct its sittings in the Chamber of Parliament,

Provided that the Constitutional Assembly may resolve to sit at any other specified location outside the Western Province.

Provided further that the presentation of papers, moving of resolutions and voting on any matter shall only take place in the Chamber of Parliament.

9. The Steering Committee may seek the services of any institution which services are necessary for the carrying out of the objects of the Constitutional Assembly or any Committee thereof.
10. The Steering Committee may appoint other experts to aid and advise the Constitutional Assembly and / or its various Sub-Committees.
11. The proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly shall be open to the public. The proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and its Sub-Committees shall be documented and published forthwith. Where appropriate, the Constitutional Assembly shall take steps to ensure the broadcast of the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and / or its Sub-Committees.

For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby specifically resolved that the special leave of Parliament is specifically granted in terms of Section 17 of Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act for the publication of the aforesaid matters.

For the avoidance of doubt it is further resolved that the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly and the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5 shall be deemed to have been reported to Parliament simultaneously, and that the publication of any such proceedings, which publication is hereby specifically authorized, shall not constitute an offence in terms of Parliament (Powers and Privileges) Act.

12. The Constitutional Assembly shall have the power to invite any person for consultation and / or to make submissions before the Constitutional Assembly.
13. The Constitutional Assembly shall also have the power to invite any member of the Public Representations Committee for consultation and / or to make submissions and / or to report on the findings of the Public Representations Committee.
14. Subject to the provisions hereof, the Constitutional Assembly is hereby authorized to determine the procedure and mechanisms to be adopted in the conduct of its business:

Provided that such determination shall be made pursuant to a Resolution moved by the Prime Minister with the concurrence of the Steering Committee.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Standing Orders of Parliament, the rules of procedure of the Constitutional Assembly and its Sub-Committees shall be as set out in this Resolution.

15. Notice of the business of the Constitutional Assembly shall be given by the Prime Minister, such other Minister of the Cabinet nominated from time to time for such purpose by the Prime Minister, upon approval thereof by the Steering Committee.
16. The Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5(b) shall submit their reports to the Steering Committee within ten (10) weeks of the appointment of each such Sub-Committee.

17. Upon the consideration of the Reports of the Sub-Committees appointed under Clause 5(b), and the report of the Public Representations Committee, the Steering Committee shall submit a Report to the Constitutional Assembly. Such Report may be accompanied by a Draft Constitution.
18. The Constitutional Assembly shall thereafter debate the general merits and principles of the Report and the Draft Constitution (if applicable), and may also debate proposed amendments. At the end of such debate the question that “the Steering Committee be required to submit a final report and a Resolution on a Draft Constitution” shall be put to the Constitutional Assembly by the Chair.
19. The Steering Committee shall thereafter, considering the amendments, if any, proposed during the debate, submit a Final Report and a Resolution containing a Draft Constitution for the consideration of the Constitutional Assembly. The Prime Minister shall move that such Final Report and the Resolution containing the Draft Constitution be approved by the Constitutional Assembly.
20. The following procedure shall be adopted during the debate referred to in Clause 18:—

The Chairman or in his absence one of the Deputy Chairmen shall read the number of each Clause in succession.

 - (i) Any amendment may be made to a Clause, or Clauses may be deleted or new Clauses may be added.
 - (ii) The principle of the Draft Constitution shall not be discussed during this stage of the debate but only its details.
 - (iii) No amendment can be proposed inconsistent with any decision come to upon any previous part of the Draft Constitution.
 - (iv) After a Draft Constitution has been read through, and prior to the conclusion of the debate on the Draft, any Member may, with leave of the Chairman, move an amendment of any Clause already passed.
 - (v) A Clause may be postponed, unless upon an amendment thereto a question shall have been fully put from the Chair.
 - (vi) Postponed Clauses shall be considered after the remaining Clauses of the Draft Constitution have been considered and before new Clauses are brought in.
 - (vii) New Clauses may be offered before the Schedules to the Draft Constitution are considered and shall be deemed to have been read the first time. The questions which follow thereupon shall be “That the Clause be read a second time” and “That the Clause (or the Clause as amended) be added to the Draft”.
 - (viii) New Schedules may be offered after the Schedules to the Draft Constitution have been disposed of and shall be treated in the same manner as new Clauses.
 - (ix) When every Clause and Schedule and proposed new Clause or Schedule have been dealt with, the Preamble, if there be one, shall be considered and a question put “That this be the Preamble of the Draft ”.
 - (x) If any amendment be necessary to the title of the Draft Constitution, it shall be made at the conclusion of the proceedings detailed above.
21. The provisions of Standing Order Nos. 42, 43 and 44 of the Parliament shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the proceedings of the Constitutional Assembly.

22. If two-thirds of the Constitutional Assembly does not approve the resolution on the Draft Constitution, the Constitutional Assembly and the Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved.
23. If the Constitutional Assembly approves the Resolution on the Draft Constitution by a two-thirds majority, the Report and the Draft Constitution shall be submitted by the Steering Committee to the Cabinet of Ministers, and thereupon the Constitutional Assembly and the Sub-Committees referred to in this Resolution shall stand dissolved.
24. The Cabinet of Ministers shall certify the Bill contained in such Report as a Bill to repeal and replace the Constitution as a whole in terms of Article 75(b) and Article 120(b) of the Constitution and that such Bill is intended to be passed with the special majority required by Article 83 of the Constitution and submitted to the People by Referendum.
25. The Bill shall thereafter be published in the Gazette as required by Article 78(1) of the Constitution.
26. The President shall thereafter refer the Bill to every Provincial Council, for the expression of the views of every such Council, as required by Article 154G(2) of the Constitution.
27. The Prime Minister shall thereafter present such Bill to Parliament and such Bill shall be placed on the Order Paper of Parliament.
28. After the presentation of such Bill to Parliament as aforesaid the Prime Minister shall move that the Bill be passed by Parliament by a special majority required under Article 83 of the Constitution.

If not less than two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of Parliament vote in favour of the said Bill, the Speaker shall make an appropriate certification in terms of Article 79 of the Constitution, that the Bill has been duly passed by Parliament by a special majority, and that the Bill shall not become law until approved at a Referendum by the People in whom the sovereignty of Sri Lanka vests.
29. Thereafter the Bill shall be submitted by the President in terms of Article 85(1) of the Constitution, to the People by Referendum for their approval.
30. If the Bill is approved by the People at a Referendum, the Bill shall become law upon the President certifying the Bill in terms of Article 80(2) of the Constitution.
31. The expenses of the Constitutional Assembly, the Sub-Committees referred to in Clause 5, and the staff and advisors appointed in terms of this Resolution, shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund, and Parliament shall take appropriate steps in respect of same in terms of Article 150 of the Constitution.
32. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that the adoption or rejection or adoption subject to amendment of such a Draft Constitution as proposed by the Constitutional Assembly, shall be the responsibility of Parliament.
33. For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby further declared that a Constitution Bill shall only be enacted into law if it is passed in Parliament by a special majority of two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of Parliament, including those not present and subsequently approved by the people at a Referendum as required by Article 83 of the Constitution.”

*13.

Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*14.

Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration) Bill — Second Reading.

*15.

Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*16.

Penal Code (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*17.

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.)

*18.

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.)

*19.

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.)

* *Indicates Government Business*
