

[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 45.]

1.

# **ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT**

## FOR

Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 1.00 p.m.

## QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

59/'15

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

- (a) Is he aware that
  - (i) cardamom is cultivated in the Knuckles Reserve;
  - (ii) it has gravely affected the Reserve;
  - (iii) pressure is posed by politicians to the officers of the Matale Office of the Forest Conservation Department; and
  - (iv) the devastation of this Reserve will affect the ecological equilibrium of the whole country?
- (b) Will he inform this House
  - (i) what extent of land belonging to the Reserve has been cultivated illegally;
  - (ii) why legal action is not taken against persons engaged in illegal cultivation;
  - (iii) what measures have been adopted by now to stop the harm caused to the Reserve;
  - (iv) whether steps will be taken to rid the Reserve of cardamom cultivation; and
  - (v) if so, the date on which such steps will be taken?
- (c) Will he also inform this House
  - (i) the date on which a study was last conducted on the animal and plant species endemic to the Reserve;
  - (ii) what animal and plant species are endemic to the Reserve as per the study;
  - (iii) whether steps will be taken to conduct an assessment on the extent to which the population of endemic animal and plant species have been endangered due to the cardamom cultivation;
  - (iv) if so, the date on which such assessment will be conducted;
  - (v) whether steps will be taken to call a report on the harm that has been caused to the Reserve by the cardamom cultivation; and
  - (vi) if so, the date on which such report will be called?
- (d) If not why?

Hon. M. H. M. Salman,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education and Highways,—(1)

(2)

- (a) Is he aware that there is a heavy traffic congestion daily from Wellampitiya Junction to Ambathale Junction, as a result of not implementing the development work of that section of Colombo-Awissawella road up to now?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to expedite work to widen and develop the said road as the traffic congestion is getting worse with the vehicles entering through Kaduwela and Kadawatha interchanges of the Southern Expressway are also beginning to enter the city of Colombo via the said road?

3.

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

- (a) Will he state separately for each district in respect of the Grade 5 scholarship examination of the year 2015-
  - (i) the total number of students applied;
  - (ii) the number of students who obtained more than 150 marks;
  - (iii) the number of students who obtained more than 70 marks; and
  - (iv) the number of students who obtained less than 35 marks?
- (b) Will he inform this House in sequential order the 100 schools with the highest and the lowest percentage of passing the scholarship examination?
- (c) Will he also inform this House-

. . . .

- the cut-off marks for the selection of students for popular schools in the years 2014 and 2015 and accordingly the number of scholarship recipients selected in the years 2014 and 2015 separately;
- (ii) whether the pledge given in the last election manifesto to increase the Grade 5 scholarship grant will be fulfilled;
- (iii) if so, the number of students to be benefited?
- (d) If not, why?

2.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Law and Order and Southern Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
  - whether SML Frontier Automotives (Pvt.) Ltd., has supplied Land Rover Defender Jeeps for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM); and
  - (ii) if so, the number of vehicles supplied and the total value of those vehicles?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
  - (i) of the agents for the sale of Land Rover Jeeps in this Country;
  - (ii) the procurement method followed in selecting the supplier in purchasing Land Rover Jeeps;
  - (iii) if the government of Sri Lanka has opened letters of credit in the purchase of these vehicles, on behalf of what institution they were opened;
  - (iv) whether that institution is the manufacture of Land Rover Jeeps;
  - (v) if not, the name of that institution;
  - (vi) the names of the owners and the members of the Board of Directors of SML Frontier Automotives (Pvt.) Ltd; and
  - (vii) the progress of the investigation relating to the complaint lodged with the Police Financial Crimes Investigation Division in regard to the financial irregularies that have taken place at the purchase of these vehicles?
- (c) If not, why?

5.

272/'15

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila,— To ask the Minister of Petroleum Resources Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
  - (i) the present government, by its election manifesto presented at the Presidential Election 2015 gave a pledge to the people that the taxes imposed on fuel will be removed; and
  - (ii) the then Minister of Power and Energy gave a pledge to the people on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015 that the taxes imposed on fuel will be removed;
- (b) Will he inform this House—
  - (i) of the types of taxes so removed and the amounts;
  - (ii) of the types of taxes imposed on fuel by now;
  - (iii) separately, of the revenue earned by each type of tax from 01.01.2015 to 30.09.2015?
- (c) If not, why?

4.

309/'15

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— To ask the Minister of Megapolis and Western Development ,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House
  - the name of the institute by which the floating market project close to Pettah in Colombo was implemented;
  - (ii) the amount of money that was spent on the aforesaid project; and
  - (iii) the name of the funding agency for the aforesaid project?
- (b) Will he also inform this House
  - (i) the total number of shops that were constructed at the aforesaid market;
  - (ii) the number of shops that were transferred to traders; and
  - (iii) the number of shops that have been closed down by now?
- (c) Will he further inform this House
  - (i) the gross monthly income that the government earns through the aforesaid project;
  - (ii) if the project makes losses, of the monthly loss that is incurred;
  - (iii) whether the aforesaid project is being implemented successfully;
  - (iv) if not, the factors that have contributed to the failure of the project;
  - (v) whether an arrangement has been proposed for the successful implementation of the project; and
  - (vi) if so, of the nature of that arrangement?
- (d) If not, why?

7.

311/'15

Hon. J. M. Ananda Kumarasiri,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that
  - (i) the fishing boat named "Thushari" was subjected to terrorist attack on 29.11.2000 at the sea along Trincomalee area and in that attack the boat was destroyed and the fishermen on board went missing;
  - (ii) the Director General of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Mr. G. Piyasena in his letter No. こせのを/して/02/06 むゆうざ dated 10.01.2003 has admitted that the aforesaid incident is true and that the dependants of the missing fishermen deserve receiving compensation; and
  - (iii) of the dependents of those who went missing, those of the fisherman named Mr. Kumarage Don Piyaratne have neither been paid compensation nor been issued with a death certificate?

6.

- (b) Will he inform this House
  - whether he admits that it is a grave injustice that a fair measure has not been taken in that regard despite that the widowed wife of Mr.
    Piyaratne, Mrs. K.M. Bridget Kanthi had submitted written requests to the former President and to the former Minister; and
  - (ii) if so, whether action will be taken to pay compensation to Mrs. Kanthi and to issue her with the death certificate of her deceased husband?
- (c) If not, why?

315/'15

#### 8.

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Housing and Construction,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
  - (i) 25 plots of lands have been allocated by the National Housing Development Authority, to construct 25 houses in Nawagampura village of Ampara Urban Council area;
  - (ii) the Circular No.2008/4, the other ordinances that should be followed when providing lands for residential purposes or the due process have not been followed;
  - (iii) a proper approval has not been taken from Divisional Secretary, Ampara even though aforesaid lands were distributed by National Housing Development Authority; and
  - (iv) the people of Nawagampura and Ampara towns who do not have a residential plot of land have undergone injustice, due to the unfair preparation of the list of beneficiaries or due to unfair recommendations?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
  - (i) whether a formal inquiry will be conducted on all the matters pertaining to aforesaid (a);
  - (ii) as to how to put right the prejudice caused on the landless people of Ampara Urban Council area, due to unfair distribution of lands, as mentioned in aforesaid (iv)?
- (c) If not, why?

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House
  - (i) the names of the institutions from which the Department of Information purchased snacks for media briefings and other special occasions in the year 2013 and 2014;
  - (ii) whether tenders were called for it;
  - (iii) the institutions which submitted quotations for the aforesaid tender along with the quotations and the service charges submitted, separately;
  - (iv) the percentage of the service charges paid to the institution which provided snacks in the aforesaid years along with the amount of money paid as service charges;
  - (v) the percentage of the service charges paid to the aforesaid institution along with the amount paid, from 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015;
  - (vi) accordingly the amount of money overpaid only as service charges;
  - (vii) whether a financial fraud has occurred in the aforesaid transaction; and

(viii) if so, the action taken against the relevant officers?

367/'15

#### 10.

9.

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

- (a) Is he aware that
  - (i) Mullikulam community's social, economic, cultural, environmental and political rights are vandalized;
  - (ii) with the final Stage of War, military ordered to vacate their homes immediately without carrying anything;
  - (iii) thereby they have been brutally displaced from their original places and experiencing great sufferings;
  - (iv) Mullikulam people strived in many ways to regain their lands and went after the President, Politicians, government officials, but authorities kept blind eye; and
  - (v) 150 families have now been deprived of the hope of regaining their native places due to a newly established Navy camp in Mullikulam?
- (b) Will he inform this House
  - (i) whether speedy actions are taken to resettle them in their native villages;
  - (ii) whether the infrastructure and educational facilities are provided to eliminate their prolonged grievances; and
  - (iii) whether alternative lands are given in consultation with them, in case they are not resettled?
- (c) If not, why?

<sup>(</sup>b) If not, why?

61/'15

11.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana, To ask the Minister of Foreign Employment, -(1)

- (a) Will she inform this House—
  - the number of centers that provide training to the Sri Lankans who go overseas for employment;
  - (ii) if the government makes any payment to the aforesaid trainees, the amount of money paid to them; and
  - (iii) if the aforesaid trainees should pay any amount to the government, the amount of money that should be paid by them?
- (b) Will she also inform this House-
  - whether the trainees of the aforesaid training centers are provided with knowledge on immigration and emigration laws, customs laws and exchange laws of Sri Lanka and of the country to which they expect to leave for employment;
  - (ii) if not, whether action will be taken for it in the future; and
  - (iii) if so, the date on which such action will be taken?
- (c) If not, why?

## AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

### Notice of Motions

1.

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

"Bill to incorporate the Mount Carmel Institute of Performing Arts."

2.

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

"Bill to incorporate the S.B. Nawinna Foundation."

3.

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

"Bill to incorporate the Anura Vidanagamage Praja Sanwardana Padanama."

# NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

\*1.

\*2.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

# (Cabinet approval signified.)

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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> 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 09<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 06<sup>th</sup> October, 2015, which was presented on 12.01.2016 be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*9.

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

\*10.

Penal Code (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

\*11.

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.)

#### \*12.

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 6<sup>th</sup>August 2015, which was presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*13.

Resolution for the appointment of the Constitutional Assembly—Adjourned question (09<sup>th</sup> 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 08<sup>th</sup> 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;

\*7.

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.

- 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.
- 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.

- 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."

\*14.

Microfinance Bill - Second Reading.

\*15.

Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading. \*16.

Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration) 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015, which was presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 973)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\* Indicates Government Business