



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 74.]

## ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Tuesday, June 07, 2016 at 1.00 p.m.

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### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

58/15

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(3)

- (a) Will he state—
  - (i) whether the provincial councilors of the North Central Province participated in foreign tours in the years 2013 and 2014, of which the expenses were made by the government;
  - (ii) if so, the number of provincial councilors that participated in the aforesaid foreign tours and their names; and
  - (iii) the amount of money spent by the provincial council for the foreign tours of each of the aforesaid provincial councilors separately?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
  - (i) the reasons for which the aforesaid provincial councilors participated in foreign tours; and
  - (ii) the benefits received by the country from the aforesaid tours?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
  - (i) whether persons other than provincial councilors participated in foreign tours of which the expenses were made by the provincial council;
  - (ii) if so, their names and designations;
  - (iii) the reasons for which the aforesaid persons went abroad; and
  - (iv) the benefits received by the country from the aforesaid tours?
- (d) If not, why?

297/15

2.

Hon. M. H. M. Salman,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that —
  - (i) over 200 Muslim children from the village of Aluth Dennewa belonging to the Ipalogama Divisional Secretariat Division of the Anuradhapura District have to attend to schools located in distant places because a school is not available for them to obtain basic education;

(2)

- (ii) taking into consideration the difficulties faced by the aforesaid children who travel almost 10 k.m. on foot daily as there is neither a proper road network nor a public transportation system, people of the area have built two buildings on a plot of land with an extent of approximately 1 ½ acres;
  - (iii) it was proposed to declare this a government school after action is taken by the government to acquire the aforesaid land and the buildings; and
  - (iv) a recommendation was submitted to the North Central Provincial Director of Education by the Kekirawa Zonal Director of Education by Letter No. උමැප/කැකි/අස-01/23 II Vol and dated 14-01-2011?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to establish a government school in Dennewa village in the interest of the aforesaid children who are living in a difficult village?
- (c) If not, why?

319/15

3.

Hon. Jayantha Samaraweera,— To ask the Minister of Lands,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the extent of lands in possession of the Government in Sri Lanka as at 15.11.2015; and
  - (ii) out of the aforesaid lands, of the extent of lands which have been leased out?
- (b) Will he table —
- (i) separately as per each Divisional Secretariat Division and each District, the name and the extent of land in possession of the government; and
  - (ii) separately with regard to each of the lands which have been leased out, the name, land extent, period of lease, annual lease, the Divisional Secretariat Division and the District in which the land is located?
- (c) Will he state —
- (i) whether it has been planned to sell or to lease out the lands in possession of the government as at present;
  - (ii) the lands which have been planned to be sold or to be leased out; and
  - (iii) the persons to whom the aforesaid lands will be sold or leased out?
- (d) If not, why?

(3)

348/15

4.

Hon. S. M. Marikkar,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
  - (i) whether the acts of fraud and corruption which had been occurring at the Share Market in the past era are continuing;
  - (ii) if not, what progress has been achieved through absence of frauds and corruptions;
  - (iii) whether investigations are being conducted into such acts of fraud and corruption that have been committed;
  - (iv) if so, what the present status of the investigations is; and
  - (v) whether he will undertake the responsibility to take legal action against the persons who are found guilty at the investigations?
- (b) If not, why?

394/15

5.

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila,— To ask the Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House in regard to the financial year 2015—
  - (i) the tax and non tax income expected, separately;
  - (ii) the actual tax and non tax income, separately; and
  - (iii) the actual tax and non tax income as a percentage of the expected tax and non tax income?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
  - (i) how realistic the income expected in the year 2016 is, in comparison to the income of the year 2015; and
  - (ii) the expenses that are cut when adjusting the expenditure Heads of the year 2016 with the income?
- (c) If not, why ?

461/16

6.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Public Enterprise Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that the variable cost of living allowance that should be paid to the pensioners of the People's Bank is paid to a certain group of pensioners of People's Bank violating fundamental rights and in contravention of the regulations of the Pension Trust Fund?

(4)

- (b) Will he admit that —
- (i) some of the pensioners of the People's Bank have been deprived of the cost of living allowance amounting to about Rs.20,000/- due to the aforesaid situation; and
  - (ii) when paying the pensions, all other state banks have been duly paying the variable cost of living allowance to date and that People's Bank is the only state bank that acts outside this procedure treating a group of employees of the same level in two different ways?
- (c) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether he would present a detailed report on the monthly cost of living allowance that is paid to the pensioners of the other state banks;
  - (ii) whether a speedy solution would be provided to the issue of treating differently to a group of pensioners only by the People's Bank when paying the pension; and
  - (iii) whether it is an arbitrary decision taken by a former General Manager to pay the pension freezing the variable cost of living allowance since 1996 without a board decision with a view to showing increased profits?
- (d) If not, why?

485/16

7.

Hon. Kanaka Herath,— To ask the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the number of dengue patients reported in the island within the year 2015;
  - (ii) of the number of patients who succumbed to death out of the aforesaid number; and
  - (iii) whether the dengue eradication programme which is implemented at present has been successful?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
- (i) of the action that has been taken at district level in the year 2016 for dengue eradication;
  - (ii) whether a methodology has been planned to encourage greater public participation; and
  - (iii) if so, whether he believes that dengue could be eradicated through the method mentioned above?
- (c) If not, why?

8.

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
- (i) the amount of money that the government has lost due to the negligence and the inefficiency of the Department of Inland Revenue is 388 billion rupees as per the reports of the Auditor General;
  - (ii) even the amount of 3.9 billion rupees of the VAT fraud is included in the aforesaid amount;
  - (iii) accordingly the amount of money that the government lost due to the VAT fraud is approximately 0.5% of the total amount of money that the government lost; and
  - (iv) investigations have not been conducted so far in regard to the remaining 99.5% ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether investigations have been conducted in regard to the persons responsible for the deprivation of the government of the remaining 384.1 billion rupees in addition to the VAT fraud ;
  - (ii) if so, their names, addresses, telephone numbers along with their status; and
  - (iii) the legal action taken against the aforesaid persons?
- (c) If not, why?

380/15

9.

Hon. S. M. Marikkar,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management has designed a project to prevent the Gin river and Nilwala river from overflowing;
  - (ii) whether any agreement has been signed with the CAMC Engineering Company Limited of China for such a project;
  - (iii) if so, the current state of that agreement;
  - (iv) whether he is aware of the fact that a sum of Rs. 998,576,311/= by the voucher number 2568 on 31.12.2014, a sum of Rs. 1,003,136,336/= by the voucher number 99/1 on 31.01.2015 and a sum of Rs. 2,009,342,336/= by the voucher number 99/2 had been paid to the above company without signing an agreement;
  - (v) if so, the details of those payments; and
  - (vi) the basis on which payments had been made in the above manner?

(6)

- (b) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) as to how such a huge sum of money can be paid when 40 million rupees had been allocated for this project by the 2015 budget;
  - (ii) how the amount paid in the above manner can be justified;
  - (iii) if so, why;
  - (iv) if not, the persons who are responsible for that;
  - (v) whether they will be punished; and
  - (vi) the steps taken in this regard?
- (c) If not, why?

434/16

10.

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the methodology adopted in deciding the cut off marks as per each district with pertinence to admitting students to universities based on the results of the GCE (Advanced Level) Examination;
  - (ii) of the year in which the aforesaid methodology was first adopted; and
  - (iii) whether it has been studied as to which extent the aforesaid methodology is suitable to be adopted at present?
- (b) If not, why?

486/16

11.

Hon. Kanaka Herath,— To ask the Minister of Parliamentary Reforms and Mass Media,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that—
- (i) children's programmes telecast on certain television channels lack quality;
  - (ii) this hampers personality development and affects creativity of children; and
  - (iii) as a result, there exists the danger of degradation of the society?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether the Ministry has any course of action to present inspiring children's programmes; and
  - (ii) if so, what that course of action is?
- (c) If not, why?
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(7)

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

**Notice of Presentation of Bills**

1.

The Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine,— Homoeopathy,— Bill to provide for the establishment of a Homoeopathic Medical Council; for the registration of Homoeopathic Practitioners and Homoeopathic Pharmacists; for the registration and regulation of Homoeopathic Institutions; to promote, foster, and Regulate the Homoeopathic system of medicine and for the regulation and control of the manufacture, importation, storage, sale and distribution of homoeopathic medicine, drugs and other homoeopathic preparations; to repeal the Homoeopathy Act, No.7 of 1970 and to make provision for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

2.

The Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana,— Mediation Board (Amendment),— Bill to amend the Mediation Board Act, No.72 of 1988.

**Notice of Motions**

3.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the motion agreed to by Parliament on 08.03.2016, the hours of sitting this day 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. At 6.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

4.

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

“ Bill to incorporate the Janakaraliya Cultural Foundation.”

5.

Hon. Lakshman Ananda Wijemanne,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.2),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Sri Lanka Women’s Conference.”

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NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

\*1.

The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No. 1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 20 read with sub-section (3) of Section 4 and Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No.1 of 1969 as amended by the Act No.48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1953/27 of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016, which were presented on 10.03.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*2.

The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No. 2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 20 read with sub-section (3) of Section 4 and Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No.1 of 1969 as amended by the Act, No.48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1953/28 of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016, which were presented on 10.03.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*3.

Registration of Persons (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

\*4.

National Research Council of Sri Lanka Bill — Second Reading.

\*5.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution,— That the Media guidelines to be followed/ Policies to be observed by the Electronic and Print Media during Referenda and Elections published by the Election Commission in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1955/19 of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in terms of the provisions of Article 104B (5)(a) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, which were presented on 06.05.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*6.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce,— Regulations under the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Food Security under Section 60 of the Measurement Units, Standards and Services Act, No. 35 of 1995 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1921/54 of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015, which were presented on 05.04.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*7.

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.)

\*8.

The Minister of Justice and Minister of Buddhasasana,— Regulations under the Judicature Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Justice under Section 61 of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 read with Section 45 of the Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1954/34 of 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016, which were presented on 08.03.2016, be approved.



\*9.

Minister of Sports,— Regulations under the Sports Law,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Sports under Section 41 of the Sports Law No. 25 of 1973 read with Section 31 of that Law, amending the Sections 13 and 17 contained in the National Sports Association Regulations No. 01 of 2013 published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1793/3 of 15th January 2013, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1940/7 of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015, which were presented on 26.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*10.

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation,— Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) read with Section 213D of the Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1946/10 of 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015, which were presented on 09.03.2016, be approved.

\*11.

Buddhist Temporalities (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

\*12.

Right to Information Bill — Second Reading.

\*13.

The Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,— Rules under the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Act,— That the Atomic Energy (Licence) Rules No. 1 of 2015 and the Atomic Energy (Notification of Intention to Conduct a Practice) Rules No. 1 made by the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Regulatory Council (SLAERC) under the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Act, No. 40 of 2014 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1924/27 of 21<sup>st</sup> July 2015, which were presented on 23.03.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

\*14.

Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration) Bill — Second Reading.

\*15.

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.)

\* *Indicates Government Business*

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