



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 83.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Thursday, July 07, 2016 at 10.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

156/15

1.

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

- (a) Will he table—
 - (i) the extent of forest lands that comes under the Department of Wildlife Conservation;
 - (ii) the names of aforesaid forests; and
 - (iii) separately, the extent of each forest, in acres?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether boundaries of aforesaid forests have been demarcated;
 - (ii) if so, of the date on which aforesaid demarcation was done;
 - (iii) if not, whether measures will be taken to demarcate aforesaid forests; and
 - (iv) if so, of aforesaid date?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether there are houses, tourist hotels or other constructions, within the forests that were mentioned in aforesaid (a) (ii) above; and
 - (ii) if so, whether a study has been conducted, on the environmental impact caused by aforesaid constructions?
- (d) If not, why?

(2)

420/16

2. Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education and Highways,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of students that had been specified to be enrolled for each course of study at state Universities in Sri Lanka in the years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 separately according to the hand book issued by the University Grants Commission pertaining to the University admission;
 - (ii) the actual number of students that were enrolled for such courses of study in the years concerned;
 - (iii) if number of students lower than the number specified for each course have been enrolled, the reason for it; and
 - (iv) if number of students higher than the number specified for each course have been enrolled, the reason for it?
- (b) If not, why?

441/16

3. Hon. D. V. Chanaka,— To ask the Minister of Housing and Construction,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether a Housing Loan Scheme of Rs. 50,000/= and Rs. 100,000/= is implemented by the National Housing Development Authority;
 - (ii) the number of recipients in each Divisional Secretariat Division who have received that housing loan in 2015;
 - (iii) the names and addresses of those recipients;
 - (iv) the criteria considered in the disbursement of the loan; and
 - (v) whether he is aware of the fact that the recommendation of a branch union of a political party is required to consider for the loan?
- (b) If not, why?

460/16

4. Hon. Bandula Gunawardana,— To ask the Minister of Social Empowerment and Welfare,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House whether the monthly allowance of Rs. 2,000/- granted to the senior citizens over 70 years of age by the National Council for Elders and National Secretariat for Elders under the national re-awakening programme of the Mahinda Chinthana Vision for Future, was carried out continuously throughout the year 2015 even after the new government came into power?
- (b) Will he also inform this House in relation to the year 2015 in each district separately —
 - (i) the number of senior citizens who were granted that allowance; and
 - (ii) the amount spent for granting that allowance?

(3)

- (c) Will he further inform this House whether he accepts the fact that the above mentioned allowance of Rs. 2,000/- has been reduced to Rs. 1,900/- since the beginning of 2016?
- (d) If not, why?

474/16

5.

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) separately of the foreign debt of the Sri Lankan government as at 01.01.2015 and 31.12.2015 in US Dollars;
 - (ii) separately of the exchange rate between the US Dollar and Sri Lankan Rupee as at 01.01.2015 and 31.12.2015; and
 - (iii) of the rupee value of the increase in Sri Lanka's foreign debt as at 31.12.2015 as a result of the depreciation of the rupee against the US dollar during the year 2015?
- (b) If not, why?

504/16

6.

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara,— To ask the Minister of Justice,—(2)

- (a) Will he accept that—
 - (i) an order has been issued to the Criminal Investigations Department on 21.07.2007 to start an investigation on the matters raised by the ruling given in relation to the petition filed at the Supreme Court under No. SEFR 209/2007 regarding the irregular sale of the assets of Lanka Marine Services Ltd. (LMSL); and
 - (ii) the advice in that regard has not been received up to now, even though the investigations were carried out and the relevant extracts were referred to the Department of the Attorney General for legal advice on 08.12.2008?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) if so, whether action will be taken to obtain such advices; and
 - (ii) whether such information would be intimated to this House?
- (c) If not, why?

513/16

7.

Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he accept that—
 - (i) tea and rubber prices have come down to the lowest during the last 15 years;
 - (ii) tea smallholders are responsible for 80% of the total tea exports and the tea export earnings have come down by 21% during the last 06 months; and
 - (iii) some tea smallholders have abandoned the tea production due to losses incurred in the production process;

(4)

- (b) Will he inform this House whether the government —
- (i) pays Rs. 90/- per kg. of Green Leaf and Rs.350/- per kg. of Sheet Rubber as promised by them during their recent election campaign; and
 - (ii) takes necessary steps to offer a long term concessionary loan of One Million Rupees per hectare for tea smallholders on a nominal interest rate to be deducted in 10 years with the view of saving the industries by keeping their land as collateral;
- (c) If not, why?

560/16

8.

Hon. S. Shritharan,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether he is aware that there is a state owned agricultural farm and an agricultural school in Wattakachchi area;
 - (ii) if so, the extent of that farm in respect of the acreage of land and mud lands separately;
 - (iii) who administers this farm at present and who makes use of this farm;
 - (iv) whether this farm will be transferred to the relevant department; and
 - (v) whether steps will be taken to provide employment opportunities to its labourers and make it functional again?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) whether action will be taken to transform the agricultural school attached to the Wattakkachchi agricultural farm into a functional state;
 - (ii) whether he is aware that this school functioned in the same manner that the agricultural schools in Vavuniya and Kundasale were functioned;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to make it functional again in that manner; and
 - (iv) the time period that will be needed to transfer this to the relevant department and make it functional?
- (c) If not, why?

9.

Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana,— To ask the Minister of Prisons Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware—
- (i) that the commercial establishment “ Maulana Textiles” located in Bazaar Street, Kalpitiya, owned by M.H.M. Sali of Anawasar Street, Sinnakudiyiruppu, Kalpitiya, Puttlam was destroyed on 21.02.2002 by a mob of thugs by setting fire; and
 - (ii) that even though an application, bearing No. REP/PV/App/2002 was forwarded by Mr. Sali who has been rendered helpless having lost the business, to the Rehabilitation of Persons, Property and Industries Authority, expecting compensation, no compensation has been granted to him until now?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether measures will be taken to provide his compensation without delay looking into this matter, since there is a tendency to pass time on aforesaid application for years, giving various excuses?
- (c) If not, why?

10.

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) whether members of the Uva Provincial Council took part in a foreign tour in the year 2016 using public funds;
 - (ii) if so, whether the approval of the President has been granted for the aforesaid tour;
 - (iii) of the total amount of money that was spent on that tour;
 - (iv) of the objective of that tour;
 - (v) whether any person other than the Members of the Provincial Council took part in that tour spending the funds of the Provincial Council;
 - (vi) if so, of the names and designations of such persons;
 - (vii) whether such persons are permitted to take part in a foreign tour using public funds in terms of the laws and rules currently in effect; and
 - (viii) whether a public servant who has obtained leave from public service and is acting as a Coordinating Secretary is permitted to take part in a foreign tour spending public funds?
- (b) If not, why?

11.

Hon. Lucky Jayawardana,— To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the quantity of rice imported to Sri Lanka through the CWE in the year 2014 and the total cost of that;
 - (ii) the quantity of rice sold by now out of that total quantity and the profit earned by the CWE through that; and
 - (iii) the quantity of rice that could not be sold and the loss incurred to the CWE through that?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he admits that such losses are incurred as a result of the failure to consider the local market condition prior to importing rice;
 - (ii) if so, whether a proper methodology would be developed to carry out the loss incurring activities in a productive manner; and
 - (iii) if so, what that methodology is and the date on which it will be implemented?
- (c) If not, why?

12.

Hon. T. Ranjith De Zoysa,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of foreign tours in which the Members of Parliament from the side of the government and Ministers have participated;
 - (ii) of the names of the Members of Parliament and Ministers including the Prime Minister who have participated in the aforesaid tours;
 - (iii) of the countries which they visited; and
 - (iv) out of the aforesaid foreign tours, separately of the official and personal tours taken;

during the period from January to December in the year 2015?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether public officers have participated in the tours mentioned in (a) (i);
 - (ii) if so, of the number of aforesaid officers; and
 - (iii) of the total expenditure borne for the foreign tours in which Members of Parliament representing the government and Ministers have participated during the above period?
- (c) If not, why?

13.

Hon. Ishak Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education and Highways,— (1)

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the Galewela-Thonigala Road, which turns left from the Colombo-Anuradhapura main road at Galewela, runs via the embankment of the Kalaweva Tank, passes the Ihalagama Junction and links with A-9 Road at the Thonigala Junction, has not been reconstructed in fifty years;
 - (ii) it is possible to reach cities of Jaffna and Vavuniya easily by travelling from Galewela through this road and entering A-9 Road; and
 - (iii) this will bring economic benefits while minimizing vehicular traffic congestion on the main route?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the reasons for not reconstructing this 46-km road, which facilitates people of Mahaweli area; and
 - (ii) whether steps will be taken to reconstruct that road expeditiously?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether reconstruction work pertaining to the 7-km stretch of road from the Kekirawa town to Ganewalpola, which was commenced by the previous regime and has been stopped now, will be resumed; and
 - (ii) if so, on which date?
- (c) If not, why?

14.

Hon. I. Charles Nirmalanathan,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the Thirukkedishwara Kovil situated in Mannar District is a religious site of the Hindu people; and
 - (ii) a Buddhist temple is being constructed in an unauthorized manner on a land belonging to Mr. Kanpathipillei Wijayakumar which is situated in the close proximity of the Thirukkedishwara Kovil?
 - (b) Will he inform this House whether action will be taken to suspend the unauthorized construction of this temple?
 - (c) If not, why?
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NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

National Research Council of Sri Lanka Bill — Second Reading.

*2.

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.)

*3.

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 18th February 2016, which were presented on 08.03.2016, be approved.

*4.

Mediation Board (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*5.

Fiscal Management (Responsibility) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*6.

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

*7.

Office on Missing Persons (Establishment, Administration and Discharge of Functions) Bill — Second Reading.

*8.

Resolution under the Constitution,— Adjourned Debate on Question (22nd June, 2016) Motion made and question proposed,— “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 25th 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.”

*9.

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 11th February 2016, which were presented on 10.03.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(9)

*10.

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 11th February 2016, which were presented on 10.03.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

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 2nd July 2015, which were presented on 05.04.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

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 9th November 2015, which were presented on 26.01.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

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 22nd December 2015, which were presented on 09.03.2016, be approved.

*14.

Buddhist Temporalities (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*15.

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 21st July 2015, which were presented on 23.03.2016, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*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 26th February 2015, which were presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business*
