



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 241.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 10.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

112/15

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine,—(3)

- (a) Will he state —
 - (i) the date on which the clinic building of the Thambuttegama Hospital was handed over to the Hospital after completing the construction work; and
 - (ii) of the amount of money spent on the aforesaid building?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the name of the contractor who built the aforesaid building;
 - (ii) whether the payment has been made in full to the aforementioned contractor;
 - (iii) if so, of the amount of money that was paid;
 - (iv) whether money of the aforesaid contractor has been retained; and
 - (v) if so, of the amount of money that has been retained?
- (c) Is he aware that —
 - (i) walls of the aforementioned building have cracked;
 - (ii) it poses a threat to the lives of patients and hospital staff; and
 - (iii) the said building has not been repaired up to now?
- (d) Will he also inform this House —
 - (i) whether steps will be taken to repair the building;
 - (ii) if so, of the date on which it will be done; and
 - (iii) of the name of the contractor who will carry out the said repairs?
- (e) If not, why?

(2)

2.

931/16

Hon. Chandima Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,—(7)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that the Ceylon Electricity Board should follow the procurement procedure according to the Electricity Act when purchasing electricity from the private sector;
 - (ii) whether the procurement procedure has been followed for the purchases of electricity up to date; and
 - (iii) if so, on which occasions?
- (b) If not, why?

3.

1043/16

Hon. Udaya Prabhath Gammanpila,—To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(5)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of persons included in the delegation that joined the President to participate in the annual session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2016;
 - (ii) the names of the persons who joined the above tour and the basis on which they were included in the delegation separately; and
 - (iii) the total cost which the tour incurred on the Government, Public Corporations, Statutory Boards and Public Companies?
- (b) If not, why?

4.

1117/16

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,—To ask the Minister of Social Empowerment, Welfare and Kandyan Heritage,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of Divineguma Community Based Banks (Samurdhi Banks) that operate within Badulla district;
 - (ii) of the locations of those banks; and
 - (iii) of the number of beneficiaries who benefit from each bank branch?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of employees serving at each of the banks mentioned in a (i) above and their names and designations separately;
 - (ii) whether any vacancies exist at those banks at present; and
 - (iii) if so, of the methodology adopted to recruit employees for those vacancies?
- (c) If not, why?

(3)

5.

1191/16

Hon. Padma Udayashantha Gunasekera,— To ask the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the number of houses in the Puttlam District that have been provided with electricity supply by the Ceylon Electricity Board by year 1983;
 - (ii) of the total number of houses which have been provided with electricity supply by now;
 - (iii) of the amounts allocated annually from year 1984 to 2009 for the supply of electricity on per year basis;
 - (iv) of the number of houses that have been provided with electricity supply up to year 2015 after the end of war situation in year 2009 on per year basis; and
 - (v) of the amount of money allocated for the supply of electricity during the period mentioned in (iv) above on per year basis?
- (b) If not, why?

6.

1278/16

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,—To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(6)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the total amount of money held by the Education Employees Co-operative Credit and Thrift Society as at 01.10.2015;
 - (ii) of the amount in fixed deposits with that Society by 11.06.2016;
 - (iii) of the number of persons who have applied for loans from the said Society by now;
 - (iv) of the number of members out of those loan applicants for whom loans have been approved but money has not been released up to now;
 - (v) of the total amount of loans to be paid to those loan applicants;
 - (vi) of the reason for the delay in releasing money to those loan applicants;
 - (vii) whether he is aware of the fact that the said Society has been rendered to a state of not being able to release loans to its members properly; and
 - (viii) if so, of the measures that will be taken in due course to regulate the financial management of that Society?
- (b) If not, why?

(4)

7.

1298/16

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of non academic employees, employed in national and provincial schools of Matara district;
 - (ii) separately, of the number of employees in terms of each post;
 - (iii) of the number of vacancies available in the approved non academic cadre, in the national and provincial schools of Matara district;
 - (iv) separately, of aforesaid number of vacancies in terms of national and provincial schools;
 - (v) whether measures will be taken to recruit persons for the vacancies, mentioned in aforesaid (iv); and
 - (vi) if so, of the respective recruitment procedure?
- (b) If not, why?

8.

1376/16

Hon. Bandula Gunawardana,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) in terms of budget proposal No. 130 of budget 2016, whether a semi tax holiday has been provided to the companies that introduce seeds that produce high yields; and
 - (ii) whether a list of companies which were granted with aforesaid tax holiday, will be submitted?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether a list of machineries which were exempted from import taxes by 1st January 2015, will be submitted; and
 - (ii) whether a list of machineries which were exempted from import taxes by 1st January 2016 will be submitted; and

as proposals have been made to raise the import taxes on agricultural machineries, in terms of aforesaid proposal?
- (c) If not, why?

(5)

9.

1466/16

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(3)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he accepts that with the decentralized funds of the Members of Parliament, roofing sheets were distributed free, among the low income earning families who are residing in the Divisional Secretariat divisions;
- (ii) whether distribution of roofing sheets by the Members of Parliament with the decentralized funds, has been banned;
- (iii) if so, of the reasons led for aforesaid situation; and
- (iv) whether aforesaid ban will be lifted and measures will be taken to distribute roofing sheets through Members of Parliament, as it used to be?

(b) If not, why?

10.

1584/17

Hon. (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Public Enterprise Development,—(3)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the date of appointment of Mrs. P. Seethadevi residing at No. 39, Perth New Housing Complex, Wagawatta, Poruwadanda, Horana as incharge of the Garden keeper of the children's Park of Perthwatta, Horana;
- (ii) of the date on which she resigned;
- (iii) of the amount of compensation and gratuity that she deserves at the end of the completion of a service period of 26 years;
- (iv) whether it has been ordered by the Department of Labour on 26.11.2016 that the said amount be paid to her; and
- (v) if so, as to why the aforesaid compensation and gratuity are not paid?

(b) If not, why?

(6)

11.

1595/17

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of local government institutions functioning in the Puttalam district at present;
 - (ii) of their names;
 - (iii) the number of people being served by each of those local government institutions along with the population, the extent of Lands and the number of Grama Niladhari divisions, separately;
 - (iv) the number of new local government institutions which are proposed to be set up anew in order to provide more facilities to the people in the Puttalam district; and
 - (v) the steps to be taken by the Ministry to expedite the setting up of the proposed local government institutions?
- (b) If not, why?

12.

1601/17

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena,— To ask the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that National Energy Policy of Sri Lanka is outdated;
 - (ii) whether he admits that a National Energy Policy which caters Sri Lanka's current and future expectations; and
 - (iii) if so, the date when the new National Energy Policy will be presented to the Parliament?
- (b) If not, why?

13.

1603/17

Hon. (Prof.) Ashu Marasinghe,— To ask the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that a main underground power supply line which provides electricity to the city of Colombo has been inactive for about 3 years;
 - (ii) the electricity capacity of the aforesaid supply line;
 - (iii) the reason for the delay in taking steps to restore the aforesaid supply line;

(7)

- (iv) the officers who are responsible for the delay in repairing the aforesaid supply line;
 - (v) the disciplinary action that have been taken by the Ministry or Ceylon Electricity Board against each of the aforesaid officers by now, separately; and
 - (vi) whether action will be taken to modernize the national grid in order to ensure a continuous supply of electricity in the city of Colombo?
- (b) If not, why?
- 14.

1622/17

Hon. Heshan Withanage,—To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(3)

- (a) Will he admit that —
 - (i) the Sevanagala Sugar Factory is very important in fulfilling the sugar requirement of Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) it has generated a large number of direct and indirect employment opportunities; and
 - (iii) farmers have taken to other cultivations without cultivating sugarcane in lands allocated to them in the area around the factory?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of hectares allocated to farmers for the cultivation of sugarcane in the area around the Sevanagala Sugar Factory;
 - (ii) the number of hectares currently being used for sugarcane cultivation;
 - (iii) whether he admits that the expected output cannot be procured as farmers resort to other cultivations day by day; and
 - (iv) if so, the measures taken to procure greater output from this factory?
- (c) If not, why?

Votes of Condolence

- 1. The late Hon. (Prof.) W.A. Wiswa Warnapala, ex-Member of Parliament.
- 2. The late Hon. Aelian M. Nanayakkara, ex-Member of Parliament.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

- 1. The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament,— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 06, 2018.
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NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Revised Draft Standing Orders of Parliament,— Adjourned debate on question. (19th February 2018) Motion made and question proposed,— “Report of the Committee on Standing Orders in relation to the revised Draft of the Standing Orders of Parliament presented on Tuesday, November 07, 2017,— Consideration.”

*2.

Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament,— Adjourned debate on question. (19th February 2018) Motion made and question proposed,— “That the final draft of the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament relating to their conduct which was presented on Tuesday, November 07, 2017, be approved.”

*3.

Excise (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

The Minister of Finance and Mass Media,— Regulations under the Finance Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance and Mass Media under Section 6 (2) read with Section 8 of the Finance Act, No. 11 of 2006, relating to Teledrama, Film and Commercial Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2044/21 of 07th November 2017, which were presented on 23.01.2018, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Revision of remuneration of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman and the allowances of the Members of the National Education Commission,— Whereas the remuneration of Members of the Commission established by the National Education Commission Act, No. 19 of 1991 be determined by Parliament in terms of Section 4(8) of the Act;

And whereas, based on the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers dated 14.11.2017, approval has been granted to revise the remuneration of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman and the allowances of members of the National Education Commission, as follows:—

- (i) Payment of monthly remuneration of Rs.75,000/- and Rs.60,000/- to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman respectively;
- (ii) Payment of an allowance of Rs.6,000/- per meeting for the members of the Commission; and
- (iii) Granting a monthly fuel allowance equal to the value of 225 liters to the Chairman and a monthly fuel allowance equal to the value of 170 liters to the Vice-Chairman in terms of the Public Administration Circular No. 13/2008 (iv).

(9)

Accordingly, that this Parliament resolves that the payment of the aforesaid remuneration to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman and the aforesaid allowances to the members of the National Education Commission be made and be charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Government in terms of Section 4(8) of the National Education Commission Act, No.19 of 1991.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Determination under the Constitution,— Whereas Mr. H. M. Gamini Wijesinghe has been appointed as the Auditor-General by the President with effect from 27.11.2015, subject to the approval of the Constitutional Council in terms of Article 153 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka;

And whereas the salary of the Auditor-General shall be determined by Parliament and shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Government in terms of Article 153 (2) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka;

And whereas the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted on 05.12.2017 according to the Cabinet Memorandum of 14.11.2017 submitted by the President to pay salaries and other allowances to Mr. H. M. Gamini Wijesinghe, Auditor-General as follows:—

- (a) To pay salaries and other allowances entitled to the post placing on the 08th Salary Step of SL- 4 Salary Scale of the Public Administration Circular No. 06/2006 with effect from 27.11.2015;
- (b) To pay salaries under SL- 4 Salary Scale converted as instructed in the Public Administration Circular No. 03/2016 when the conversion of salaries is effected as per the said Circular with effect from 01.01.2016; and
- (c) To pay the annual salary increments as specified under the said salary scale.

Accordingly, that this Parliament determines that Mr. H. M. Gamini Wijesinghe, Auditor-General be paid the aforesaid monthly salary and allowances to be charged on the Consolidated Fund of the Government in terms of Article 153 (2) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

*7.

The Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade,— Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Development Strategies and International Trade under Section 14 of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 relating to Cess and Published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2047/2 of 27th November 2017, which was presented on 23.01.2018, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties Bill — Adjourned debate on question. (11th December 2017) [1].

*9.

Safeguard Measures Bill — Adjourned debate on question. (11th December 2017) [1].

*10.

Commercial Mediation Centre of Sri Lanka (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

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

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

Securities Exchange Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

Intellectual Property (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*14.

Trusts (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*15.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution,— That the Media guidelines to be observed by the Electronic and Print Media during Referenda and Elections made by the Election Commission in terms of Article 104B (5) (a) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2048/1 of 04th December 2017, which was presented on 23.01.2018, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*16.

The Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine,— Regulations under the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine under Section 142 read with the Section 118 of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority Act, No. 5 of 2015 relating to National Medicines Regulatory Authority (Ceiling on Prices) Regulations No. 2 of 2016 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2049/31 of 14th December 2017, which were presented on 23.01.2018, be approved.

*17.

The Minister of Ports and Shipping,— Regulations under the Merchant Shipping Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Ports and Shipping under Section 321 read with Section 44 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 52 of 1971, relating to Merchant Shipping (Small Commercial Vessels) Regulations 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2017/31 of 04th May 2017, which were presented on 23.01.2018, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*18.

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*19.

Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*20.

Buddhist Temporalities (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*21.

Theravadi Bhikku Kathikawath (Registration) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*22.

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 was presented on 06.05.2016, be approved.”

23.

Institute of Personnel Management, Sri Lanka (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

24.

Child Rehabilitation Centre (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

25.

United Christian Fellowship of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

26.

Sri Lanka Women’s Conference (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

27.

Moneragala District Kantha Maha Sangamaya (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

28.

Lasallian Community Education Services (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

29.

International Women’s and Children’s Rights (IWCRC) (Incorporation) Bill— Second Reading.

30.

Aloka Social Service Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

31.

Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business.*

[1].

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