



[Seventh Parliament -First Session]

No. 307.]

**ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR**

Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2595/'12

1.

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether a minimum percentage of women in the lists of candidates submitted for local government elections has been stipulated in the Local Government Law;
- (ii) if not, whether he admits that a specific percentage in the lists of candidates be reserved for women candidates;
- (iii) if so, the percentage that should be so reserved; and
- (iv) whether the aforesaid percentage of women candidates is sufficient in proportion to the percentage of women population at present ?

(b) If not, why?

3014/'12

2.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) a large number of workers who served in the community water supply and sanitary projects islandwide have been dismissed;
- (ii) although a pledge has been made to provide jobs to the aforesaid workers in a new institution, jobs have not been provided yet; and
- (iii) compensation, EPF and ETF dues have not yet been paid to the workers who were dismissed ?

(2)

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether there is a plan to establish a new institution to implement the projects mentioned above;
- (ii) of the objective behind initiating a new institution structure after the closure of the institutions which existed in relation to the above projects; and
- (iii) whether action will be taken to expedite the due payments mentioned in (a) (iii) above for the workers who have been dismissed?

(c) If not, why?

3110/'12

3.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

(a) Will she state—

- (i) the shareholders of the Norochcholai Power Plant;
- (ii) whether the project was offered on tender basis;
- (iii) if so, the names of the tenderers along with the amounts tendered for;
- (iv) the total cost incurred on this project to date;
- (v) the warranty period of the power plant;
- (vi) the number of days that the Norochcholai plant had not being functioning from September 2012 to date ;
- (vii) the loss to the Ceylon Electricity Board for being non - functional during the aforesaid period; and
- (viii) as to where the spare parts are being kept for any breakdowns?

(b) If not, why ?

3360/'12

4.

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of institutions that come under the purview of the Ministry of Public Administration and Home Affairs;
- (ii) the number of government vehicles that come under each such institution;
- (iii) the grades of the officers of those institutions to whom government vehicles have been assigned;
- (iv) the number of vehicles falling under the supervision of those officers?

(3)

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the number of vehicles in the institutions coming under the aforesaid Ministry that have been obtained on rent basis;
- (ii) the method of payment of rent adopted in relation to those vehicles;
- (iii) the total amount of money paid annually as rent on those vehicles; and
- (iv) the officers who use those vehicles obtained on rent basis ?

(c) Will he also state —

- (i) whether a methodology to distinguish government vehicles under this Ministry, vehicles obtained on rent basis, and personal vehicles of the officers is in place?
- (ii) if so, whether a clarification in that regard is made;
- (iii) whether the state insignia and the name of the relevant institution are engraved in the government vehicles that come under the Ministry and the institutions coming under it; and
- (iv) if not, the reasons for that?

(d) If not, why?

3693/'13

5.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House of—

- (i) the number of persons that died when arrested by the Police during the period from the year 2009 to 28.02.2013;
- (ii) the names and addresses of the persons who died thus;
- (iii) the ways in which they died;
- (iv) the places in which each of the aforesaid persons died; and
- (v) the allegations charged against the persons who were arrested?

(b) If not, why?

2596/'12

6. Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) separately, the number of women who have gone overseas for employment in each of the years during the period from the year 2005-2011 after being registered at the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau;
- (ii) separately, the number of women who went abroad for employment as mentioned above as a percentage of the total number of persons who went abroad for employment in each of the said years; and
- (iii) the types of the jobs for which the aforesaid women have gone abroad ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the programme that is in force to protect the rights of the women who are leaving for foreign employments ;
- (ii) whether action will be taken to implement this programme in a methodical and robust manner in the future; and
- (iii) if so, the manner in which it will be done ?

(c) If not, why ?

3015/'12

7. Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether workers are recruited for the posts of office assistants (KKS), typists, drivers and technicians of the National Savings Bank from an external labour service provider;
- (ii) the reasons for not recruiting the aforesaid workers for the permanent service; and
- (iii) whether he admits that a very low salary is paid to the aforesaid workers in comparison to the present living standards?

(5)

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether action will be taken to secure their jobs by absorbing the aforesaid staff to the permanent service in the National Savings Bank; and
- (ii) if so, what that date is?

(c) If not, why?

3114/'12

8.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Lands and Land Development,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that since January 2010, certain lands in the Puttalam District have been grabbed by politicians and politically affiliated officials?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the names, acreages and values of the government lands in the Puttalam District of which ownerships have been transferred, leased out, alienated on permit or “Swarnabumi” deeds, on per land basis since 2010;
- (ii) the reasons for transferring or handing over the aforesaid lands and not following the tender procedures therein ; and
- (iii) whether the opportunities and facilities have been given to the people living for decades in the areas referred to in (a) and others to obtain lands as per above?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) whether the allegation of taking over the beach lands in the Puttalam District from the lawful owners forcibly or with duress under the pretext of cleansing the terrorists owned areas is factual; and
- (ii) if not, as to how such allegation comes about?

(d) If not, why ?

3361/'12

9.

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Economic Development,—(1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of institutions that come under the purview of the Ministry of Economic Development;
- (ii) the number of government vehicles that come under each such institution;
- (iii) the grades of the officers of those institutions to whom government vehicles have been assigned;
- (iv) the number of vehicles falling under the supervision of those officers?

(6)

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the number of vehicles in the institutions coming under the aforesaid Ministry that have been obtained on rent basis;
- (ii) the method of payment of rent adopted in relation to those vehicles;
- (iii) the total amount of money paid annually as rent on those vehicles; and
- (iv) the officers who use those vehicles obtained on rent basis ?

(c) Will he also state —

- (i) whether a methodology to distinguish government vehicles under this Ministry, vehicles obtained on rent basis, and personal vehicles of the officers is in place?
- (ii) if so, whether a clarification in that regard is made;
- (iii) whether the state insignia and the name of the relevant institution are engraved in the government vehicles that come under the Ministry and the institutions coming under it; and
- (iv) if not, the reasons for that?

(d) If not, why?

3694/'13

10.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether a newspaper advertisement was published by the State Timber Corporation in 'Rivira' newspaper on 06.03.2013;
- (ii) of the purpose of publishing that advertisement;
- (iii) of the amount spent by the State Timber Corporation on that advertisement;
- (iv) of the Head of expenditure under which that amount was spent; and
- (v) whether it is possible to publish advertisements by the State Timber Corporation in the event of the appointment of a certain person to a certain post of some political party?

(b) If not, why?

2598/'12

11.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether there is a shortage of English teachers in government schools at present;
 - (ii) if so, the number of existing vacancies for the English teachers; and
 - (iii) the steps that have been taken by now to remedy the shortage of English teachers?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the provisions that have been implemented by now to provide a high quality English language training for teachers; and
 - (ii) whether the aforesaid provisions have been sufficient to provide English language training as mentioned above ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3016/'12

12.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Health ,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) a separate maintenance section had been established, for the Accident Service of Sri Lanka National Hospital which is a grant of the government of Finland, from the inception itself, considering its value and the significance; and
 - (ii) the aforesaid maintenance unit has been defunct by this time, due to the irregularities of the administration of the Accident Service of the National Hospital ?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether action will be taken expeditiously, to bring the non-operational maintenance section of the Accident Service of the National Hospital, to the proper condition?
- (c) If not, why?

13.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Lands and Land Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that since January 2010, certain lands in the Mannar District have been grabbed by politicians and politically affiliated officials?
- (b) Will he state-
 - (i) the names, acreages and values of the government lands in the Mannar District of which ownerships have been transferred, leased out, alienated on permit or “Swarnabumi” deeds, on per land basis since 2010;
 - (ii) the reasons for transferring or handing over the aforesaid lands and not following the tender procedure therein ; and
 - (iii) whether the opportunities and facilities have been given to the people living for decades in the areas referred to in (a) and others to obtain lands as per above?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether the allegation of taking over the beach lands in the Mannar District from the lawful owners forcibly or with duress under the pretext of cleansing the terrorists owned areas is factual; and
 - (ii) if not, as to how such allegation comes about?
- (d) If not, why ?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

1.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,—Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.07.2010, the hours of sitting this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 6.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) shall operate.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Convention against Doping in Sport Bill— Second Reading.

*2.

Buddhist Temporalities (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*3.

Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*4.

Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*5.

The Minister of External Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.1),— That this Parliament resolves under Article 157 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the State of Kuwait for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 05th November 2009, being an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in Sri Lanka of such foreign State, its nationals or corporations, companies and other associations incorporated or constituted under its Laws, which was presented on 07.09.2011 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Minister of External Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.2),— That this Parliament resolves under Article 157 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 22nd October 2009, being an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in Sri Lanka of such foreign State, its nationals or of corporations, companies and other associations incorporated or constituted under its Laws, which was presented on 07.09.2011 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

The Minister of Investment Promotion,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.1) ,— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion in consultation with the Minister of Finance and Planning under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 as amended, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1829/23 of 23rd September 2013, which was presented on 08.10.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

The Minister of Investment Promotion,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion in consultation with the Minister of Finance and Planning under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 as amended, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1829/24 of 23rd September 2013, which was presented on 08.10.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,— That the Regulations made by the President 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 and Article 44 (2) of the Constitution and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1799/15 of 01st March 2013, which were presented on 22.03.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

The Minister of Labour and Labour Relations,— Regulations under the Employees' Provident Fund Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Labour and Labour Relations under Section 46 of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, No. 15 of 1958 as amended from time to time and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1810/20 of 13th May 2013, which were presented on 21.06.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

The Minister of Lands and Land Development,— Regulations under the Registration of Title Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Lands and Land Development under Section 67 of the Registration of Title Act, No. 21 of 1998 read with Section 60 and 62 of that Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1616/23 of 24th August 2009, which were presented on 06.05.2010, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

Order under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act,—Adjourned Debate on Question (08th September 2011),— Motion made and question proposed, “Order made by the Minister of Justice under Sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act, No. 42 of 2007, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1708/5 of 30th May 2011, which was presented on 23.08.2011, be approved.”

*13.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Order under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance,— That the Order made by the Minister of Agrarian Services and Wildlife under subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (Chapter 469) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1735/21 of 06th December 2011, which was presented on 13.12.2011, be approved.

14.

Sri Lanka Women's Conference (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

15.

Institute of Martial Arts (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

16.

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

17.

Al-Jamiathul Ghawsiyyah (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

18.

Maithripala Senanayake Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

19.

Hands for Education Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business*
