



[Seventh Parliament - First Session]

No. 341.]

**ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR**

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2451/'12

1.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he will admit that a large extent of lands situated in the present insecure area of the Nilwala River Scheme can be developed by implementing its Phase III;
- (ii) whether plans necessary for its implementation have been made;
- (iii) whether the funds necessary for it have been allocated by now;
- (iv) of the amount of money thus allocated;
- (v) of the country or the institution that provides funds for it; and
- (vi) if so, the date on which this project will be commenced?

(b) If not, why?

2681/'12

2.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(3)

(a) Will he state in relation to the Colombo Commercial Company (CCC) Limited —

- (i) the reason for privatisation or transferring of the management to private sector despite the policies of the Mahinda Chinthana;
- (ii) the new owners or managing partners and the agreement;
- (iii) as to when the management accounts were submitted; and
- (iv) if not, as to when it will be submitted?

(2)

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) the reasons for selling lands of CCC Ltd. to the foreigners;
- (ii) the selling price of the lands;
- (iii) whether the 100% tax on the aforesaid transaction has been paid;
- (iv) if so, date of payment; and
- (v) if not, the reasons for not paying?

(c) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether tenders were called on the aforesaid land transaction;
- (ii) if so, the members of the Tender Advisory or Selection Committee; and
- (iii) if not, the basis on which it was done?

(d) If not, why?

3264/'12

3.

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare,—(2)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of centers from which admission cards were issued from 20th August 2012, for sitting for the Korean Language Proficiency Examination; and
- (ii) the number of applications that have been issued from those centers?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) separately of the number of applications issued for the Korean Language Proficiency Examination in the year 2011, the number of candidates who sat for the examination, the number of candidates who passed the examination and the number of individuals who received foreign employment opportunities in Korea based on the results of the aforesaid examination; and
- (ii) whether possession of the passport has been made mandatory for obtaining applications for the Korean Language Proficiency Examination in 2011 ?

(c) If not, why ?

4. Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Youth Affairs and Skills Development,—(3)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of institutions that come under the purview of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills 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; and
- (iv) the number of vehicles falling under the supervision of those officers?

(b) Will he inform this House of —

- (i) 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; and
- (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?

(4)

3469/'13

5.

Hon. Tissa Attanayake,— To ask the Minister of External Affairs,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of foreign tours the President has participated in, from the year 2005 up to now;
 - (ii) the names of the countries to which those tours were made;
 - (iii) the amount spent on each of those tours, separately;
 - (iv) the number of persons who joined the President in each of those tours, separately;
 - (v) the deliberations held and agreements signed in each of those tours; and
 - (vi) the benefits enjoyed, are being enjoyed or expected to be enjoyed by the country, through each of those tours, discussions and agreements, separately ?
- (b) If not, why ?

3928/'13

6.

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

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the location called 'Ibbagewatta', Modara of Colombo 15 is still in a great unhygienic condition, though it has been declared that the beautification and the development of the Colombo metropolitan is an objective of the Urban Development Authority;
 - (ii) the public toilet system of that place which is totally unhygienic, has become a venue that spreads stench to the surrounding atmosphere; and
 - (iii) the dwellers are confronted with grave health issues due to the contaminated water with germs that flows out of the dilapidated toilets?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken—
 - (i) to create an environment which is favorable for human existence in that area; and
 - (ii) to construct a modern toilet system instead of the decayed toilets?
- (c) If not, why?

3943/'13

7.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of Presidential Commissions appointed during the period of the year 2005 to 2013;
 - (ii) the names of those Commissions; and
 - (iii) the amount of money that has been spent for each of those Commissions separately?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of members of each of the aforesaid commissions, their names and qualifications;
 - (ii) of the objectives of such appointments;
 - (iii) whether they have submitted their reports;
 - (iv) whether those reports will be tabled; and
 - (v) whether the recommendations of those reports have been implemented?
- (c) If not, why?

4075/'13

8.

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately of—
 - (i) the number of road accidents reported to the Traffic Police in the year 2012 and from January 2013 up to now;
 - (ii) the number of deaths and the disabilities caused to the people by those accidents;
 - (iii) the types of vehicles which meet with the most number of accidents; and
 - (iv) the measures taken by the Traffic Police and the Ministry of Transport to minimize these accidents?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether there is a possibility of obtaining a new licence by a person who has been subjected to the penalty of the suspension of the driving licence after being convicted of causing a road accident by fraudulently submitting other details ; and
 - (ii) whether there is a method of identifying such persons?
- (c) If not, why?

4139/'13

9.

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Highways, Ports and Shipping—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

(i) whether steps have been taken to acquire lands to widen the Eheliyagoda-Dehiowita road (Panawala Road) and Eheliyagoda-Kiriella Road (Nedurana Road); and

(ii) if so, what those steps are?

(b) If not, why?

4250/'13

10.

Hon. (Alhaj) A.H.M.Azwer, — To ask the Minister of Resettlement,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

(i) the people who were residing close to coastal belt in Kinniya were resettled in the village of Naduvuttu following the Tsunami disaster in 2004;

(ii) the basic facilities required to these people have not been provided though nearly eight years have elapsed since the resettlement; and

(iii) these people are undergoing immense hardships in obtaining potable water from the date of their resettlement up to now?

(b) Will he inform this House whether action will be taken to address problems concerning the provision of basic facilities to these people who have been resettled as no action whatsoever has been taken so far despite pledges made by the authorities on various occasions to provide basic facilities such as the road network, drinking water facilities and transport?

(c) If not, why?

4331/'13

11.

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (2)

(a) Is he aware that the pension benefits granted to the Bank employees in 1956 were abolished in 1972 by the United Front government, re-established in 1977 and abolished yet again in 1996 by the People's Alliance government itself?

(b) Will he state—

(i) whether the state bank employees recruited after 01st January 1996 have been granted pension entitlement as per the statement made by the Minister of Finance and Planning to the effect that the said employees would be granted those rights with effect from 01st January 2009;

(ii) if so, the relevant date; and

(iii) if pension benefits have not been granted as mentioned above, the reasons for that?

(7)

(c) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether each of the state banks has been advised in writing by the Secretary to the Treasury on 19.05.2011 to establish a pension scheme the bank can afford;
- (ii) of the reasons for the non implementation of that recommendation by the bank officers; and
- (iii) of the reasons for not approving up to now, the pension proposal dated 23.05.2012 approved by the Board of Directors of the Bank of Ceylon on the recommendation of its management and referred to the Secretary to the Treasury?

(d) If not, why?

2457/'12

12.

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

- (a) Is he aware that the construction work of the Athuraliya Pradeshiya Sabha Office Building in the Matara District, which was commenced about four years ago has been stopped half way?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the total amount of money allocated for the construction of the aforesaid building;
 - (ii) of the institution which provided funds for it;
 - (iii) of the reasons for stopping the construction work, if funds have been provided; and
 - (iv) if the construction work of the aforesaid building is recommenced, the date on which it will be done?

(c) If not, why?

2684/'12

13.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Telecommunication and Information Technology,— (3)

- (a) Will he explain the concept of 'Dayata Kirula' exhibition?
- (b) Will he state separately —
 - (i) the number of jobs created at each 'Dayata Kirula' exhibition up to date;
 - (ii) the names of the aforesaid jobs; and
 - (iii) whether those jobs are permanent and pensionable?

(8)

(c) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the Head from which the money was actually spent on Deyata Kirula at Anuradhapura;
- (ii) whether some labour and assets used for the last Deyata Kirula exhibition without any payment i.e. personnel or labour of Armed Forces and buses of Sri Lanka Central Transport Board, have been included as cost components in the calculation of the total cost;
- (iii) if not, as to how the total cost for the said exhibition was calculated; and
- (iv) of the anticipated cost for the next three Dayata Kirula exhibitions to be held, separately?

(d) If not, why?

3292/'12

14.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Mass Media and Information,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House of —

- (i) the number of complaints received with regard to harassment caused to journalists during the period from the year 2005 up to the time when a Ministers' sub-committee was appointed in the year 2008 to look into the harassment caused to journalists;
- (ii) the number of journalists who have been abducted or assaulted up to now since the appointment of the aforesaid Ministers' sub-committee; and
- (iii) the steps taken by the government regarding the aforesaid acts?

(b) If not, why?

2895/'12

15.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether the value of the tax exemption given in 2002-2003 by the then regime of UNP was as big as 1,000 billion of SLR as indicated by the successive UPFA government;
- (ii) if not, the exact value of it; and
- (iii) whether the aforesaid tax amnesty was withdrawn in 2004 - 2005?

(9)

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) whether the government in 2004 had proven that the tax amnesty granted by UNP was wrong and illegal;
- (ii) the value of tax collected after the withdrawal of the said tax exemption on per year basis to date; and
- (iii) the reason for collecting taxes of such a low value?

(c) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the UPFA Government has come up with tax amnesties after 2004, although it had negatively criticised the same introduced by the UNP; and
- (ii) if so, the value of the tax amnesties granted by the UPFA government?

(d) If not why?

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Minister of Health,— Regulations under the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act (No.1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Health under Section 30 read with Section 34 of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act, No. 27 of 2006 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1770/15 of 08th August 2012, which were presented on 24.01.2014, be approved.

*2.

The Minister of Health,— Regulation under the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act (No.2),— That the Regulation made by the Minister of Health under Section 30 read with Section 34 of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act, No. 27 of 2006 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1783/16 of 08th November 2012, which was presented on 24.01.2014, be approved.

*3.

The Minister of Health,— Regulations under the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act (No.3),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Health under Section 30 read with Section 34 of the National Authority on Tobacco and Alcohol Act, No. 27 of 2006 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1797/22 of 15th February 2013, which were presented on 24.01.2014, be approved.

*4.

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,— Regulations under the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act (No.1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development under paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of Section 37 of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act, No. 53 of 1998 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1736/21 of 13th December 2011, which were presented on 07.02.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,— Regulations under the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act (No.2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development under paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of Section 37 of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act, No. 53 of 1998 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1747/15 of 01st March 2012, which were presented on 07.02.2014, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*7.

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.)

*8.

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.)

*9.

The Minister of Transport,— Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203), read with subsection (2) of Section 5 and Section 19 of the aforesaid Act, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1821/31 of 31st July 2013, which were presented on 22.11.2013, be approved.

*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.

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.

13.

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

14.

Institute of Martial Arts (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

15.

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

16.

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

* *Indicates Government Business*

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2905/'12

1.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of governments that have been ruling Sri Lanka from the independence to date;
 - (ii) the number of members in the Cabinet of Ministers of each government referred to in (a) (i) separately from the beginning to the end ; and
 - (iii) the average cost per Minister in the years 1985, 1995, 2005 and 2012 separately?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) as to why the number of Ministers in the Cabinet is not limited by law as it has been done in Provincial Council Act; and
 - (ii) whether the increase in the number of Cabinet Ministers has helped the country or placed more burden on the country?
- (c) If not, why?

3736/'13

2.

Hon. Mohamed Aslam,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) Mr. H.L. Premachandra at No. 124 D, Christopher Road, Peradeniya (P.F. No. 1060814), who was holding the post of Executive Officer at the Kandapola Branch of the Bank of Ceylon was interdicted on 18.04.2000 on a certain charges and he was reinstated on service with effect from 14.05.2001 due to the fact that the charges against him were not able to be proved; and
 - (ii) he had been released on duty leave from 09.03.2010 up to 16.05.2010?
 - (b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to grant salary arrears and other employee rights to Mr. Premachandra, who is presently holding the post of Junior Executive Officer at the Peradeniya Branch of the Bank of Ceylon, based on the Executive Officer Post he held before the year 2000?
 - (c) If not, why?
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