



[Seventh Parliament - First Session]

No. 359.]

**ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR**

Thursday, May 08, 2014 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2598/'12

1.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (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) of 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 ?

3149/'12

2.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(3)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the payback period for all the loans borrowed by the government for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 on per year basis along with the borrowings;
 - (ii) the cash flow statements including as to how the revenues will be generated and loans will be paid;
 - (iii) whether the government is resorting to borrow more to pay the old loans;
 - (iv) the increase in revenue over cost for the loans that have been borrowed from the period as per (i) above; and
 - (v) whether the country is heading towards a debt trap?

(2)

- (b) Will he also state the occasions in which the government has borrowed more than US\$ 500 Million through loans, government bonds etc. from the year 2009 to date?
- (c) If not, why?

3211/'12

3.

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the Sangha Sabha of Rangiri Dambulu Rajamaha Viharaya is a Sangha Sabha recognized by the government ;
 - (ii) both Bhikkus and Bhikkunis hold membership of the aforesaid Sangha Sabha; and
 - (iii) there are 800 Bhikkus of higher ordination (upasampada) and 2200 novice Bhikkunis (samanera) belonging to the aforesaid Sangha Sabha?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether action will be taken to register the temples of the Bhikkunis who hold the membership of the Rangiri Dambulu Rajamaha Vihara Sangha Sabha; and
 - (ii) if so, the date on which the registration will be done?
- (c) If not, why?

3384/'12

4.

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife Resources Conservation,—(3)

- (a) Will he state the number of counting of elephants that have been done in Sri Lanka after the year 1950, the years in which each of those counting were done and other information about each of those counting?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the total amount of money spent on the counting of elephants that was done in the year 2011;
 - (ii) whether the report of the aforesaid counting will be presented;
 - (iii) if not, of the reasons for not presenting that report; and
 - (iv) of the steps that have been taken to look after the elephants with respect to the increase of the number of elephants as per the aforesaid report?

(3)

(c) Will he also inform this House —

- (i) whether places of observation have been arranged for foreign tourists to watch wild elephants and wild animals;
- (ii) of the names of such places;
- (iii) of the amount of money that is charged from a tourist at those places; and
- (iv) separately, on per year basis of the amount of money that has been earned by the government through such places during the last five years?

(d) Will he also state—

- (i) whether a report will be presented pertaining to the contribution of the Department of Wildlife Conservation towards the promotion of conservation of wildlife; and
- (ii) the measures that have been taken to ensure the safety of the wild animals of which the existence has been threatened due to the limitation of forests?

(e) If not, why?

4154/'13

5.

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Education Services,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the amount of school uniform material for which approval was granted under Cabinet approval dated 02nd November 2011 to be purchased from the State Trading (General) Corporation for distribution in the year 2012;
- (ii) the amount of school uniform material purchased by the Corporation for distribution in the year 2012;
- (iii) the reasons for purchasing extra uniform material exceeding the amount that had been approved by the Cabinet;
- (iv) the loss that had to be incurred by the government consequent to that purchase; and
- (v) the names of the persons who are responsible for the aforesaid purchase?

(b) If not, why?

6.

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of members who got elected throughout the period from the year 2004 up to now for the Pradeshiya Sabhas, Urban Councils and Provincial Councils and by now have allegations leveled against them with regard to corruption, crimes and other illegal activities;
 - (ii) separately, the names of them, the political parties to which they belong, and the positions held or being held by them in the Provincial Council, Urban Council and Pradeshiya Sabha;
 - (iii) of the number of elected members out of the aforesaid number that the legal actions have been taken; and
 - (iv) of the number of members who were brought before the law and were convicted and punished by the court of law?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he accepts that there is a possibility for the organized corruption, crimes and various types of illegal activities to take place as a result of the representation of those corrupt groups in Provincial Councils and Local Authorities; and
 - (ii) of the steps that will be taken in future to prevent the corrupt persons who are engaged in illegal activities and criminals entering into provincial and local level politics?
- (c) If not why?

7.

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Livestock and Rural Community Development,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of litres of liquid milk produced in Sri Lanka presently;
 - (ii) of the local milk production expected to be made by the year 2016 under the Mahinda Chinthana Programme, in litres;
 - (iii) whether the amount of milk that will be required for consumption by the year 2016 has been calculated;
 - (iv) if so, the aforesaid amount of milk; and
 - (v) of the programme that the government has already implemented and the programme it expects to implement in the future in order to achieve these targets?

(5)

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the amounts of liquid milk, milk powder, milk products such as butter and cheese that have been imported from January 2013 up to now along with their value and the countries from which they were imported, separately;
- (ii) the steps taken by the government to minimize this import expenditure; and
- (iii) the proportion of the contribution made by the private sector/multi national companies in regard to milk production, local milk powder production and other milk products, separately?

(c) If not, why?

4311/'13

8.

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

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the border of the proposed sacred area as outlined in the amended plan bearing number Q/P/ආ/08/93 dated 07.07.1993 of the Dambulla Sacred City Development Project;
- (ii) of the number of families that lose lands, houses and places of business owing to the said project;
- (iii) of the names and addresses of those families;
- (iv) whether lands and compensation will be given to the families that lose lands and houses; and
- (v) if so, the minimum and maximum levels of such compensation?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether he is aware that residents of the area are severely displeased about the methodology adopted to pay compensation to the families mentioned in (a) (ii) above; and
- (ii) if so, the action to be taken in that regard?

(c) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) whether mosque and a kovil will be removed under the above project;
- (ii) if so, their names;
- (iii) whether he admits the fact that the removal of the places of religions worship will threaten the unity that prevail among the Sinhalese, Muslims and Tamils in the area; and
- (iv) if so, the steps that will be taken in that regard?

(d) If not, why?

4326/'13

9.

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of disciplinary inquiries conducted against the Principal of Sri Medhankara Maha Vidyalaya, Horana, by October 2013;
- (ii) the matters related to those disciplinary inquiries; and
- (iii) the reasons for the delay in conducting disciplinary inquiries against the said Principal and taking action in that regard?

(b) If not, why?

4413/'13

10.

Hon Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether action will be taken to commence expeditiously the construction work of the reservoir project proposed to be constructed damming the Ma-Oya close to the Mawanella town by the National Water Supply and Drainage Board with the aim of using the water of the Ma-Oya to supply water for drinking water projects continuously throughout the year;
- (ii) how much the project costs;
- (iii) the funding source;
- (iv) if that amount of money will be sought as loan aid, of the interest rate;
- (v) from which institution the loan will be obtained; and
- (vi) how long it will take to implement the project?

(b) If not, why?

4429/'13

11.

Hon. (Al-Haj) A. H. M. Azwer,— To ask the Minister of Postal Services,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) Mullaitivu - Mulliavalai Post Office does not have a permanent building;
- (ii) although this Post Office, which is about 60 years old has been upgraded in the year 1980, it is still functioning in a rented house;
- (iii) people from at least 10 villages fulfill their needs from this Post Office; and
- (iv) although all the other facilities are there, the postal workers face various difficulties due to the lack of space in the Post Office?

(7)

(b) Will he inform this House whether he will take action to solve the problem of lack of space in the aforesaid Post Office?

(c) If not, why?

4432/'13

12.

Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Atukorale,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he admits that the government has lost Rs. 100 million worth tax income due to the release of imported 300 luxury vehicles of Benz, BMW and Jaguar makes without any checking by the Sri Lanka Customs;
- (ii) the company or the person responsible for that incident;
- (iii) separately, the declared value of those vehicles based on the make of each vehicle;
- (iv) the total gross value of the consignment of the aforesaid vehicles;
- (v) whether a proper investigation was conducted with regard to the loss of tax income as per (i) above; and
- (vi) whether any steps has been taken with regard to the loss incurred by the government in importing the aforesaid vehicles?

(b) If not, why?

2604/'12

13.

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

(a) Will he state whether he admits the statement made on page 69 of the summary of main observations and recommendations of the report of the Commission of Inquiry on Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation that the interference made by the politicians of the ruling party with regard to appointing and transferring of public servants is a very serious issue ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the strong recommendation made by the above Commission that an independent Public Service Commission be appointed without delay, will be implemented; and
- (ii) if so, the date on which such a Commission will be appointed ?

(c) If not, why?

3153/'12

14.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) as to why the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) that was leading Sri Lanka to Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the U.S.A. is not being actually pursued;
- (ii) the number of TIFA meetings held from 1st May 2004 to date;
- (iii) the items being exported from Sri Lanka to the U.S.A. as of now;
- (iv) the commodities being imported to Sri Lanka from the U.S.A.; and
- (v) the balance of trade between Sri Lanka and the U.S.A. for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 separately?

(b) If not, why ?

3212/'12

15.

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

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) the national identity cards that had been issued up to the year 2004 to the Bhikkunis who hold the membership of Rangiri Dambullu Raja Maha Vihara Sangha Sabha indicated that the bearer is a Bhikkuni; and
- (ii) the Commissioner of Buddhist Affairs has instructed not to issue such identity cards after the year 2004?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he accepts that the aforesaid Bhikkunis, too, are citizens of this country;
- (ii) if so, of the reasons for not issuing an identity card to those Bhikkunis indicating that they are 'Bhikkunis';
- (iii) whether action will be taken to issue a national identity card to those Bhikkunis indicating that the bearer is a 'Bhikkuni' so that the dignity of the Bhikkunis is protected; and
- (iv) if so, of the date on which those national identity cards will be issued?

(c) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce,— National Enterprise Development Authority (Amendment),— Bill to amend the National Enterprise Development Authority Act, No. 17 of 2006.

Notice of Motions

2.

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 6.30 p.m.. At 2.00 p.m. Standing Order No. 7(5) shall operate.

3.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,— Privilege (No.1),— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. R. Yogarajan M.P. on 24th April, 2014 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127.

4.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,— Privilege (No.2),— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Ajith P. Perera M.P. on 24th April, 2014 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127.

5.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,— Privilege (No.3),— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Eran Wickramaratne M.P. on 24th April, 2014 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127.

6.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,— Privilege (No.4),— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma M.P. on 25th April, 2014 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127.

7.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,— Privilege (No.5),— That the question of privilege arising out of the matter raised by the Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha M.P. on 25th April, 2014 in Parliament to the effect that his privileges have been infringed, be referred to the Committee on Privileges under Standing Order No. 127.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Mines and Minerals (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*2.

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.)

*3.

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.)

*4.

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.

*5.

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.)

*6.

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.)

*7.

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.

8.

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

9.

Institute of Martial Arts (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

10.

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

11.

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

12.

Sri Lanka Association of Testing Laboratories (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

13.

Susantha Punchinilame Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

14.

Kandy Sri Pushpadana Society Ltd. (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

15.

Jayawickreme Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

16.

Welanhinna Wachissara International Cultural Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

17.

Piyasena Gamage Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

18.

Welfare Society of the School for the Mentally Subnormal Child (Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

19.

Alavi Mowlana Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

20.

Seyd Abdurahiman Jiffri Mowlana Memorial Trust (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

21.

Kandy Dharmaraja College Past Pupils' Association (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

22.

Lakshman Wasantha Perera Community Development Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business*
