



[Eighth Parliament - First Session]

No. 26.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Wednesday, December 02, 2015 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

88/'15

1.

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

- (a) Is he aware that academic activities and examinations of the Sri Lanka Law College are conducted in all three media, viz. Sinhalese, Tamil and English?
- (b) Is he further aware that—
 - (i) owing to the preparation of question papers for examinations of the Law College solely in English language in the year 2014, an injustice and an inconvenience were caused to the students followed studies in the Sinhalese medium and the Tamil medium as they had to switch to the English medium all of a sudden; and
 - (ii) the former Chief Justice had violated the Official Languages Policy by this move?
- (c) Will he inform this House whether he would issue instructions to take necessary steps to prepare question papers given to students of the Sri Lanka Law College at examinations in Sinhalese, Tamil and English languages according to the Official Languages Policy hereafter?
- (d) If not, why?

127/'15

2.

Hon. Vijitha Herath,— To ask the Minister of Lands,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) approximately 35 Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslim families had been residing in a group of houses constructed under world bank aids in Dumburugiriya area of Hatton town for a period of more than 33 years;
 - (ii) a part of these residents have been provided with legal land deeds by the Land Reforms Commission; and
 - (iii) a judicial action has been initiated by the Watawala Plantation Company in view of driving these residents away from their houses and acquiring the aforesaid land area for the company?

(2)

- (b) Is he further aware that —
 - (i) a motion has been unanimously passed by the Hatton–Dickoya Urban Council in view of acquiring the land in which these residents reside; and
 - (ii) the Janatha Estate Development Board, Land Reforms Commission and the relevant politicians have been enlightened by the aforesaid residents in order to gain justice by preventing the said company from acquiring this area?
- (c) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether intervention be made in order to assure the rights of these residents to their houses by rescuing these residents from the undue interventions made by the Watawala Company taking these facts into consideration; and
 - (ii) if so, of the measures that will be taken in that regard?
- (d) If not, why?

148/15

3.

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the lack of buildings at the Mahinda Rajapaksa College of Matara in which almost two thousand students receiving their education under four streams viz. science, technology, commerce and arts streams has lead to a serious crisis;
 - (ii) although construction work on the hostel, the auditorium and the three storied building had been started, all of the aforementioned constructions have come to a halt from the 15th of last January onwards; and
 - (iii) construction work of the playground has been delayed although lands have been acquired for the same?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether action will be taken to construct the hostel of this school;
 - (ii) if so, of the date on which it will be done;
 - (iii) of the date on which work will commence on other construction work that has been halted;
 - (iv) whether the playground will be built to provide sports facilities which are essential to thousands of students; and
 - (v) if not, why?
- (c) Will he disclose to this House of the truth about the opinion that is being spread to the effect that there is an attempt to close down the Mahinda Rajapaksa College of Matara?
- (d) If not, why?

199/'15

4.

Hon (Dr.) Nalinda Jayathissa,— To ask the Minister of Housing and Construction,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the names of the members of the delegation of the Sri Lankan government that participated in the World Urban Forum (WUF) held in Colombia from 05th to 11th of April, 2014;
 - (ii) of the positions held by them in the government by then;
 - (iii) of the basis on which the aforesaid delegation was selected;
 - (iv) the amount of money spent on the said tour; and
 - (v) separately of the expenditure borne per each person?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether a school student participated in the aforesaid tour;
 - (ii) if so, of the name of the particular student, name of the school, and the age of the student by then;
 - (iii) the significance of providing the said opportunity to this student alone;
 - (iv) whether the letter of approval will be tabled, if approval had been obtained by the aforesaid student from the Ministry of Education for the above tour; and
 - (v) whether the letter of approval will be tabled, if approval had been obtained from the Ministry of External Affairs for this tour?
- (c) If not, why?

200/'15

5.

Hon Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the Courses of study conducted by in the Sir John Kotalawala Defense University; and
 - (ii) of the number of students following each of the aforesaid courses separately for each academic year?
- (b) Will he table—
 - (i) the number of local and foreign students studying in the Faculty of Medicine of the above university separately for each academic year;
 - (ii) the criteria for admitting foreign students to the faculty of Medicine; and
 - (iii) separately as per each academic year, the names of the aforesaid foreign students, their citizenship, qualifications for university admission and the moneys charged from them?

(4)

- (c) Will he also table—
 - (i) the number of students following the Nursing Course in the above university; and
 - (ii) separately, their names, Subject stream of Advanced level, Advanced level examination results and the Z score?
- (d) If not, why?

202/'15

6.

Hon. Heshu Withanage,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the people living in the Walawa special zone of the Sri Lanka Mahaweli Authority have not been given the proper ownership of the lands occupied by them;
 - (ii) instruments of title have been granted to parties based on cronyism during the past era;
 - (iii) an estimation of land is being made at present claiming that it is done for the purpose of granting title deeds to the land owners; and
 - (iv) the methodology adopted for this purpose is not transparent?
 - (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the number of land owners in the aforesaid Zone;
 - (ii) of the number of land owners who have been given title deeds out of the aforesaid land owners;
 - (iii) of the action that will be taken regarding the granting of instruments of title mentioned in (a)(ii) above; and
 - (iv) of the basis on which the estimate mentioned in (a) (iii) above is made?
 - (c) Will he also inform this House the method that will be followed, if a transparent course of action has been proposed to grant title deeds to land owners who have not been awarded title deeds to their lands yet?
 - (d) If not, why?
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AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

1.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Business of the Parliament,— That the proceedings on Item No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order No. 7 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 28.11.2015.

2.

Hon. Janaka Wakkumbura,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.1),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Roshan Ranasinghe Janasahana Foundation.”

3.

Hon. K. Kader Masthan,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.2),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Sri Lanka Hira Foundation.”

4.

Hon. K. Kader Masthan,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.3),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Al Manar College.”

5.

Hon. K. Kader Masthan,— Leave to introduce Bill (No.4),— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to incorporate the Hizbullah Foundation.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Appropriation Bill (2016)— (Ninth Allotted Day)—Adjourned debate on question (20th November 2015) [1].

*2.

The Prime Minister and Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka,— In terms of Paragraph (1) of Article 36 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Parliament shall by resolution determine the salary, allowances and pension entitlement of the holders of the office of President.

Parliament determined by resolution on 04th of March 1986, that the pension entitlement of the holder of the office of President shall be a sum equivalent to the salary the President was entitled to receive immediately before he ceased to hold such office.

Accordingly, from 1988 onwards the pensions paid to the former Presidents namely Mr. J. R. Jayawardena, Mr. D. B. Wijethunga, Mrs. Hema Premadasa, the widow of the former President Mr. R. Premadasa and to the former President Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga were of Rs. 25,000/- per month which was equivalent to the salary of the President.

Further, with the implementation of the Public Administration Circular No. 06/2006 issued on 23rd of November 2006, Parliament by resolution revised the salary of the then President Mr. Mahinda Rajapakse from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs.97,500/- per month effective from 01.07.2006. Remunerations or allowances paid to the Ministers and the Members of Parliament too were revised at the same time.

Coinciding with the revision of remunerations or allowances paid to the Ministers and the Members of Parliament, pensions of former Ministers and Members of Parliament too were revised. However, only the pension paid to the former President Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga has not been revised in keeping with the salary revision of the President.

In considering the pension entitlement of Rs. 97,500/- paid to the former President Mr. Mahinda Rajapakse as a result of the aforementioned salary revision, an anomaly has arisen in respect of the pension entitlement of the former President Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga who is receiving a monthly pension of Rs. 25,000/- at present.

That this Parliament resolves under Paragraph (1) of Article 36 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, in view of the above, it is just and reasonable to rectify this anomaly—

- (a) revising the monthly pension entitlement of the former President Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 97,500/-;
- (b) paying a monthly pension equivalent to the two-third (2/3) out of Rs. 97,500/- to Mrs. Hema Premadasa, widow of the former President Mr. R. Premadasa; and
- (c) implementing the aforementioned revisions of pension entitlements with effect from 01.01.2016.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

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.)

(7)

*4.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Finance Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 26 read with Section 22 of the Finance Act, No. 11 of 2004 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1915/2 of 18th May 2015, which was presented on 03.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Minister of Finance,— Resolution under the Inland Revenue Act,— That this Parliament resolves, under Section 97(1) (a) of the Inland Revenue Act, No.10 of 2006, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Republic of Singapore for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income entered on 03rd April, 2014, which was presented on 23.09.2015 be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance and Planning under Section 3 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 read with Article 44(2) of the Constitution, relating to Stamp Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1882/17 of 30th September 2014, which was presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

The Minister of Finance,— Regulations under the Insurance Industry Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 112 read with Sections 13 (1) (d) and Section 16 of the Regulation of Insurance Industry Act, No. 43 of 2000 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1907/17 of 25th March 2015, which were presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Stamp Duty (Special Provisions) Act, No. 12 of 2006 regarding Stamp Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1933/14 of 21st September 2015, which was presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

The Minister of Finance,— Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise Duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1934/40 of 2nd October 2015, which was presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

The Minister of Finance,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under subsection (1) of Section 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) as amended from time to time, regarding Excise Duties on Liquor and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1934/41 of 2nd October 2015, which was presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Excise Notification Numbers 975, 976 and 977)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

Minister of Power and Renewable Energy,— Regulations under the Sri Lanka Electricity Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Power and Renewable Energy on the recommendation of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka under the Section 6 to be read in conjunction with Section 54 of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act, No.20 of 2009, published in the Gazette notification Extraordinary No. 1918/2 of 4th June 2015, which were presented on 21.11.2015, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

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.)

*13.

The Minister of Finance,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance,— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, under Section 28(a) read with Section 16(c) of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), as amended from time to time regarding Excise License Fee and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1901/19 of 13th February 2015, which was presented on 23.09.2015, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 973)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*** Indicates Government Business**

[1].

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