



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 69.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

36/2020

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— To ask the Minister of Trade,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House, separately in each year from 2015 to 2019—
 - (i) the quantity of rice imported into Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the amount of money spent for that;
 - (iii) the tax charged per kilo of rice at the importation; and
 - (iv) the total amount of tax charged for the rice imported?
- (b) Will he submit a full report to this House as to how the prices of rice have fluctuated in each of the aforementioned years separately?
- (c) If not, why?

2.

203/2020

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Youth & Sports,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) separately, name, address, educational qualifications and professional qualifications of each of the members of new Board of Directors of the National Youth Services Council; and
 - (ii) the vision of the Ministry with regard to development of the youth?
- (b) If not, why?

3.

356/2020

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

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the ‘Nilwala river’ of Matara has become polluted due to dumping of waste into the river;
 - (ii) it has created a serious health issue to the people of Matara district; and
 - (iii) both sides of the ‘Nilwala river’ should be declared as a reserve in order to safeguard the quality of the water?

(2)

- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether measures will be taken to establish a reserve up to 33 feet on both sides of the ‘Nilwala river’; and
 - (ii) if so, the aforesaid date is?
- (c) Will he state—
 - (i) whether persons had been arrested in the year 2016 for dumping waste into ‘Nilwala river’; and
 - (ii) if so, the number of persons arrested?
- (d) If not, why?

4.

458/2020

Hon. Ishak Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Highways,—(3)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) Bulnewa-Polpithigama road is the shortest route to reach Kurunegala from Anuradhapura; and
 - (ii) the portion of the aforesaid road from Thalawa junction up to Polpithigama is in a dilapidated condition at present?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether it is expected to develop this portion of road;
 - (ii) if so, the action that has been taken in that regard; and
 - (iii) the date on which the aforesaid development activities will be commenced?
- (c) If not, why?

5.

462/2020

Hon. Mohomad Muzammil,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will she inform this House—
 - (i) of the date on which the Nevil Fernando Government Teaching Hospital was taken over by the Government;
 - (ii) whether the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers had been received for that take over; and
 - (iii) if so, when?
- (b) Will she also inform this House—
 - (i) of the total staff of that hospital; and
 - (ii) the total amount of money that was paid as salaries to the nurses of that hospital from October 2017 to December 2020?
- (c) Will she further inform this House—
 - (i) whether the government supplies medicines to that hospital; and
 - (ii) if so, the total amount of money spent to supply those medicines from September 2017 to date?
- (d) If not, why?

(3)

6.

539/2020

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of villages in Anuradhapura district, that have faced the threat of wild elephants; and
 - (ii) the number of persons that have died and the incidents of damages caused to property due to the human-elephant conflict during the period from the year 2015 up to now, separately?
- (b) Will he also inform this House the steps that will be taken by the Ministry to provide a permanent solution to the human-elephant conflict existing in Anuradhapura district?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

620/2020

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will she inform this House—
 - (i) whether it has been decided by the Sri Lanka Medical Council to blacklist certain international universities that award medical degrees;
 - (ii) if so, of the names of the aforesaid universities; and
 - (iii) of the reasons that contributed to such a decision?
- (b) Will she also inform this House—
 - (i) separately for each year the number of Sri Lankan students who got graduated from the universities mentioned in (a) (ii) above from the year 2010 to date; and
 - (ii) the future measures that will be taken by the Ministry about the aforesaid universities?
- (c) If not, why?

8.

717/ 2020

Hon. Shantha Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Youth & Sports,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that successful results can be achieved by pooling sports - men and -women and providing them with training?

(4)

- (b) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) the number of sports pools operated at present under the aegis of the Ministry;
 - (ii) the sports or games for which they are operated;
 - (iii) the place in which the national pool for athletics is operated;
 - (iv) the number of sports—men and sports—women who are receiving training at the pool concerned at present;
 - (v) whether they have been provided with adequate facilities; and
 - (vi) if not, why are they not provided with adequate facilities?
- (c) If not, why?

9.

753/2020

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Transport,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the reasons for not operating the train that runs from Colombo to Plonnaruwa up to Batticaloa; and
 - (ii) the date by which the railway tracks in Batticaloa will be repaired?
- (b) If not, why?

10.

763/2020

Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House in relation to Polonnaruwa district —
 - (i) the number of education divisions and their names;
 - (ii) the number of National schools and their names;
 - (iii) the number of Provincial schools and their names;
 - (iv) the teacher vacancies prevailing in these schools at present; and
 - (v) the number of schools that were closed down during the last five years?
 - (b) Will he also inform this House in relation to education divisions belonging to Polonnaruwa district, separately—
 - (i) the number of schools where four streams, three streams, two streams and one stream relating to the G.C.E (A/L) Examination;
 - (ii) up to the G.C.E (O/L) Examination; and
 - (iii) up to grade five are taught?
 - (c) Will he state the total number of teachers, number of Graduate teachers, Trained teachers, Colleges of Education trained teachers and other teachers employed in the schools belonging to Polonnaruwa district, separately?
 - (d) If not, why?
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(5)

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Business of the Parliament,— That the proceedings on Item Nos. 1 to 8 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Foreign Exchange Act (No. 1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 29 read with Section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2213/34 of 03rd February 2021, which were presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*2.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Foreign Exchange Act (No. 2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 29 read with Section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2213/35 of 03rd February 2021, which were presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Foreign Exchange Act (No. 3),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 29 read with Section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2213/36 of 03rd February 2021, which were presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(6)

*4.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Foreign Exchange Act (No. 4),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 29 read with Section 7 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2213/37 of 03rd February 2021, which were presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Foreign Exchange Act (No. 5),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 29 read with Sections 5, 7 and 8 of the Foreign Exchange Act, No. 12 of 2017 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2213/38 of 03rd February 2021, which were presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No. 1),— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 32 read with Sections 8 and 30 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) as amended, regarding Foolproof Sticker and Sticker Management System, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/34 of 01st January 2021, which was presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 01/2021)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No. 2),— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance under Section 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) as amended from time to time, regarding Annual Liquor License Fees, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2208/35 of 01st January 2021, which was presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 02/2021)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1), 6 and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2214/56 of 11th February 2021, which were presented on 07.04.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

Registration of Electors (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

The Minister of Trade,— Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Trade under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979, relating to CESS Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2210/9 of 12th January 2021, which was presented on 24.03.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

The Minister of Justice,— Order under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Justice under Section 7(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act, No. 2 of 2013, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2207/6 of 23rd December 2020, which was presented on 23.03.2021, be approved.

*12.

Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

National Minimum Wage of Workers (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*14.

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

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*15.

Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill —Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*16.

Colombo Port City Economic Commission Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*17.

Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*18.

General Sir John Kotelawala National Defence University Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business.*

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

1354/2020

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(3)

(a) Will he inform this House, separately—

- (i) the number of persons employed at the Prime Minister's Secretariat and on the personal staff of the Prime Minister;
- (ii) their numbers divided as executive and other grades; and
- (iii) the salaries, allowances and other perks given to each such employee, separately?

(b) If not, why?

2.

1355/2020

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,—To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(3)

(a) Will he inform this House, separately—

- (i) the number of persons employed at the Presidential Secretariat and on the personal staff of the President;
- (ii) their numbers divided as executive and other grades; and
- (iii) the salaries, allowances and other perks given to each such employee?

(b) If not, why?

3.

1388/2021

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) what is termed coconut toddy in terms of the Excise Ordinance;
 - (ii) whether there exists a standard for coconut toddy;
 - (iii) if so, what that standard is;
 - (iv) what is termed maha raa (fermented toddy);
 - (v) what the standard for fermented toddy is; and
 - (vi) the methodology for identifying the standard of toddy and fermented toddy?
- (b) Will he also state the House—
 - (i) which government agency is entrusted with the responsibility of ascertaining the standard of toddy and fermented toddy; and
 - (ii) of the methodology for ascertaining the standard of toddy and fermented toddy?
- (c) If not, why?

4.

1390/2021

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) whether it has been reported that mobile telephone batteries ,urea, barbed wire and ammonia are used or added when producing liquor and vinegar;
 - (ii) the details of such incidents reported in the years 2018, 2019 and 2020;
 - (iii) whether the government is deprived of the taxes payable to it due to the toddy produced by using or adding the materials mentioned in (i) above;
 - (iv) if so ,the manner in which the aforesaid tax is deprived of;
 - (v) whether a methodology is available to identify the toddy produced by using or adding the materials mentioned in (i) above;
 - (vi) if so, the aforesaid methodology;
 - (vii) the name given to the toddy produced by using or adding the materials mentioned in (i) above;
 - (viii) the objective of adding external raw materials to toddy;
 - (ix) the purpose for which the toddy produced by adding external raw materials is used?

(10)

- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) the manner in which the quality of the toddy used to produce vinegar and liquor is measured; and
 - (ii) the occasions on which the quality is measured?
- (c) If not, why?

5.

1391/2021

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,—To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Will he state separately in regard to the years 2019 and 2020—
 - (i) the total amount of toddy collected by the licence holders for collecting toddy;
 - (ii) the amount of toddy collected by each licence holder;
 - (iii) the party to which the toddy collected by each licence holder has been provided;
 - (iv) the amount that has been provided?
- (b) Will he also state the period of time for which the collected toddy can be kept in the possession of the toddy collectors, separately as the legal period of time and the technical period of time?
- (c) Will he further state—
 - (i) whether some influence is made to the toddy regulation process due to the removal of the system of issuing licences for tapping trees;
 - (ii) if so, the manner in which it can occur;
 - (iii) the courses of action taken by the Department of Excise for minimizing the production of toddy by using or adding external materials such as sugar, urea, ammonia, mobile telephone batteries and barbed wire; and
 - (iv) the manner in which the toddy without proper standard is identified in judicial activities and official matters due to the fact that a standardization is not available for toddy?
- (d) If not, why?

6.

1419/2021

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the total amount of foreign debts to be settled by the government as at present in American dollars; and
 - (ii) separately for each year the loan and interest installment to be paid for the aforesaid foreign loans?

(11)

- (b) Will he inform this House separately as per each loan scheme related to the aforesaid foreign loans, of the year on which the loan has been obtained, total loan amount, the amount already settled, the outstanding payment and the number of years remaining to settle the loan?
- (c) Will he further inform this House of the total amount of foreign debts that has been obtained and yet to be settled by the non- government sector in American dollars?
- (d) If not, why?

7.

1433/2021

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Will he state this House—
 - (i) of the types of licences issued in regard to Toddy industry and the names of aforesaid licensees;
 - (ii) of the names of the licensees for whom licences have been issued for collecting Toddy; and
 - (iii) separately, of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the licensees, valid and invalid by 31.12.2021?
 - (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) the names of the licensees for whom licences have been issued for Vinegar production; and
 - (ii) separately of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the licensees, valid and invalid by 31.12.2021?
 - (c) Will he further state, in terms of the licences issued for toddy collecting or Vinegar production—
 - (i) the criterion, deciding the quantity of toddy that can be kept in possession; and
 - (ii) separately, the quantity of toddy that can be kept in possession?
 - (d) Will he inform the quantity of Toddy that can be kept in possession depends on the Toddy tapping licences, issued for the number of trees?
 - (e) If not, why?
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