



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 11.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

6/2022

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka,— To ask the Minister of Highways,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether tenders have been called for the fourth phase of the Central Expressway from Kurunegala to Dambulla;
 - (ii) if so, whether action has been taken to award that contract; and
 - (iii) the companies that submitted tenders to construct that road?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the current status of the construction of the above road; and
 - (ii) the source from which funds were allocated to construct the above road?
- (c) If not, why?

2.

35/2022

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

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of varieties of green leaves that are suitable for human consumption in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether a systematic investigation has been conducted into the nutritional condition of the aforesaid varieties of green leaves;
 - (iii) if so, the name of that institution;
 - (iv) the number of varieties of endemic green leaves among the aforesaid varieties of green leaves; and
 - (v) the names of the aforesaid varieties of green leaves?

(2)

(b) Will he admit that—

- (i) the nutritional and medicinal quality of the aforesaid varieties of green leaves is high;
- (ii) the aforesaid varieties of green leaves have become rare due to the use of chemical fertilizer and the destruction of forests; and
- (iii) some varieties of green leaves among the varieties mentioned above have become extinct by now?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) whether any courses of action have been taken to popularize the varieties of domestic green leaves; and
- (ii) if so, the aforesaid courses of action?

(d) If not, why?

3.

248/2022

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

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the address of the premises where the Labour Office is located in Ratnapura town;
- (ii) the date on which the said office was established at that location;
- (iii) whether a decision has been taken to shift that office to Avissawella; and
- (iv) whether steps will be taken to maintain the said office that provides a great service to the people of Ratnapura district, at the same location?

(b) If not, why?

4.

569/2022

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Trade,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the objectives of establishing the Rural Capital Bank; and
- (ii) whether the said Bank is regulated by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka?

(b) If not, why?

(3)

5.

1022/2022

Hon. Shantha Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that the Batik Industry is done as a local industry in Sri Lanka?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the entrepreneurs who engage in the Batik Industry have been identified by now; and
 - (ii) the arrangement of the Ministry to encourage the aforesaid entrepreneurs?
- (c) Will he also admit that the old methodologies and styles are utilized by the aforesaid entrepreneurs in Batik production?
- (d) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to prepare a guiding mechanism to enable Batik Production of modern styles using the new technology?
- (e) If not, why?

6.

1178/2022

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,— To ask the Minister of Finance,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) whether any irregularity, irregular appointment, any act of corruption or any illegal activity has taken place in Institutions coming under the Revival of Underperforming Enterprises or Underutilized Assets Act vested to the Secretary to the Treasury during the period from year 2015 to 2019;
 - (ii) if so, separately the nature of such acts that have taken place at the aforesaid Department; and
 - (iii) separately, the value of the financial, property and human resources that the government has lost due to each of the aforesaid acts?
- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether investigations have been carried out to identify the officers who are responsible for the acts mentioned in (a) (i) above;
 - (ii) if the responsible officers have been identified, the action that has been taken against them;
 - (iii) if no action has been taken against them, the reasons for that;
 - (iv) whether action will be taken against them in future; and
 - (v) the measures that will be taken to prevent the occurrence of such acts in future?
- (c) If not, why?

(4)

7.

1192/2022

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Justice,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether a Cabinet Memorandum has been submitted seeking permission to rent a building for the Ministry of Justice for the period from January 2021 to January 2022;
 - (ii) if so, the address of the place where the aforesaid building is located;
 - (iii) the amount of money that will be spent on renting the aforesaid building; and
 - (iv) whether renting of buildings in this manner at a time when Sri Lanka is in a financial crisis due to Covid-19 pandemic is appropriate?
- (b) If not, why?

8.

1311/2022

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the interest rate charged for the loans granted by the Sri Lankan banks in the year 2021;
 - (ii) the interest rate applied for micro finance loans;
 - (iii) whether legitimate approval is given by the government for granting micro finance loan facilities; and
 - (iv) if so, the institutions to which such approval has been hitherto granted?
- (b) If not, why?

9.

1469/2022

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House, separately—
 - (i) the number of minor irrigation schemes and the number of major irrigation schemes maintained under the Ministry of Irrigation in Anuradhapura district;
 - (ii) the name of each of the aforesaid irrigation schemes; and
 - (iii) the number of families that are benefited from each of the aforesaid irrigation schemes?

(5)

- (b) Will he also inform this House of the measures that will be taken to further develop the irrigation system in Anuradhapura district?
- (c) If not, why?

10.

1729/2022

Hon. Kins Nelson,—To ask the Minister of Environment,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of persons who have obtained permits from the Geological Survey and Mines Bureau for mining sand within Polonnaruwa district;
 - (ii) of their names and addresses; and
 - (iii) the criteria considered in granting them permits; and
- (b) Will he also inform this House what courses of action are taken to mitigate the damage caused to the ecosystem including rivers, canals and streams when mining sand?
- (c) If not, why?

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 No. 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of Standing Order 27 of the Parliament.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Resolution under the Essential Public Services Act,— That this Parliament resolves that the Proclamation made and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2268/3 of 21st February 2022 and Schedule thereto, by virtue of the powers vested with the President in terms of Section 2 of the Essential Public Services Act, No. 61 of 1979, which was presented on 23.02.2022, be approved.

(6)

*2.

The Minister of Finance,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.1),— 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) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2256/23 of 30th November 2021, which were presented on 20.01.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

The Minister of Finance,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.2),— 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) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/16 of 11th January 2022, which were presented on 08.02.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

The Minister of Finance,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.3),— 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) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/17 of 11th January 2022, which were presented on 08.02.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Minister of Finance,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.4),— 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) and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/18 of 11th January 2022, which were presented on 08.02.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Minister of Finance,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.5),— 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 Section 4 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2262/34 of 13th January 2022, which were presented on 08.02.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(7)

*7.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Policies & Plan Implementation, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Economic Policies and Plan Implementation under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2254/2 of 15th November 2021, which was presented on 20.01.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

Fauna and Flora Protection (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

The Minister of Agriculture,— Order under the Felling of Trees (Control) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Agriculture under Section 2 of the Felling of Trees (Control) Act (Chapter 452) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2232/33 of 18th June 2021, which was presented on 20.01.2022, be approved.

*10.

The Minister of Energy,— Regulations under the Petroleum Resources Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Energy under Section 48 read with Sections 5 (3)(b) and 30(3) of the Petroleum Resources Act, No. 21 of 2021 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2249/32 of 15th October 2021, which were presented on 20.01.2022, be approved.

*11.

Personal Data Protection Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

Land Development (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*14.

Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*15.

Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*16.

Special Goods and Services Tax Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

17.

Contempt of Courts Bill — Second Reading.

18.

Sisira Jayakody Siyapatha Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business.*

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS

388/2022

Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya,—To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the number of complaints received on corporal punishment from 2010 to 2021 with regard to children;
- (ii) the number of inquiries conducted as a result of the abovementioned complaints; and
- (iii) the steps taken by the National Child Protection Authority and the Department of Probation and Child Care Services to implement the recommendations given by the Supreme Court on 17.12.2020 stating that corporal punishment is a violation of Article 11 of the Constitution?

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) the ongoing legal and policy reforms on corporal punishment;
- (ii) the mechanisms set up to prevent corporal punishment and ensure compliance; and
- (iii) whether the government can initiate a grievance handling mechanism with regard to corporal punishment issues on children since many are reluctant to taking them to the police and court?

(c) If not, why?
