



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 55.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Thursday, September 07, 2023 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

7/2023

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the date on which a Presidential Commission was established in relation to the Central Bank scam that took place during the term of the Good governance government;
 - (ii) of the number of persons alleged to have been involved in that directly and indirectly according to the evidence recorded by that Commission;
 - (iii) if so, of the names and designations of those persons; and
 - (iv) of the legal action taken against those persons?
- (b) If not, why?

2.

387/2023

Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the risk of landslides in the Colombo-Kandy main bus route, in the upper part of the lower Kadugannawa area, close to the railway line, which was hit by a landslide during the rainy season of 2021, has not subsided until now; and
 - (ii) although the National Building Research Organization took steps to remove the water flowing through the inner soil layer of the above area, that area has been designated as a high risk zone?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the permanent measures that have been taken so far to free the above area from danger; and
 - (ii) whether attention has been paid to developing alternative routes for traveling from Colombo to Kandy?

(2)

- (c) Will he also inform this House whether any steps can be taken in connection with the constant risk of landslides at the portion of the railway line from Kadugannawe to the Balana railway Station?
- (d) If not, why?

3.

423/2023

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the ‘special credit scheme on Solar electricity facility’ for public servants proposed in the budget 2021 to reduce expenses on electricity bills is being implemented;
 - (ii) if so, the date on which the above loan scheme was initiated;
 - (iii) of the amount of credit expected to be granted to one public servant under the above scheme and the corresponding interest rate; and
 - (iv) of the number of public servants to whom the loans have been granted under the above credit scheme as of now and the amount of money granted?
- (b) If not, why?

4.

436/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House, separately according to each company—
 - (i) of the selling price of a full cream milk powder packet and a skim milk powder packet each weighing 1 kilo gram and a full cream milk powder packet and a skim milk powder packet each weighing 400 grams;
 - (ii) of the output quantity of milk that could be prepared by those packets in litres; and
 - (iii) of the quantity of liquid milk in litres used in the production of the aforesaid packets?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the volumes of liquid milk packets that are sold in Sri Lanka and the prices of liquid milk packets according to each category of volume separately?
- (c) If not, why?

(3)

5.

690/2023

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

(a) Will he admit that—

- (i) the rural hospital situated in the Thuraineelavanai area within the Kalavanchikudy Divisional Secretariat Division of the Batticaloa District has been upgraded as a divisional hospital;
- (ii) only one doctor has been appointed at present although two doctors should have been appointed for this hospital;
- (iii) the people of this area have been affected because the doctor has been assigned to cover duties at one other hospital as well; and
- (iv) although an ambulance was available at this hospital in the early period, no ambulance is available now?

(b) Will he inform this House of—

- (i) the reasons for not appointing a permanent doctor for this hospital;
- (ii) the reasons for not providing the hospital with an ambulance;
- (iii) the steps will be taken to appoint a permanent doctor for this hospital and to provide it with an ambulance?

(c) If not, why?

6.

818/2023

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

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether he is aware that certain crowds of persons caused damage or destruction to houses and properties of people including Members of Parliament during the upheaval that took place on and around 09.05.2022;
- (ii) what political parties the perpetrators of such damage or destruction are affiliated to; and
- (iii) of the number of ordinary persons including Members of Parliament, Mayors, Chairpersons of Pradeshiya Sabbas, Members of Urban Councils and Members of Pradeshiya Sabhas whose houses or properties were lost, separately?

(4)

- (b) Will he also inform the House—
 - (i) of the number of persons involved in causing damage to public properties during the dates mentioned above;
 - (ii) of the value of the public properties so damaged; and
 - (iii) what steps have been taken regarding the persons referred to in (i) above?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

837/2023

Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the schools with teacher shortage and without drinking water facilities, toilet facilities, laboratory, library and sports facilities, out of the schools in Colombo district that are under the Central Government and the Provincial Council, separately as per Divisional Secretariat Division;
 - (ii) of the name and address of each of the said schools separately;
 - (iii) whether steps will be taken to address the shortcomings that prevail in those schools; and
 - (iv) if not, of the time required for that?
- (b) If not, why?

8.

3521/2023

Hon. Uddika Premarathne,— To ask the Minister of Mass Media,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of cinema theaters in Sri Lanka with screening facilities for all film categories;
 - (ii) of the annual revenue generated by aforesaid cinema theatres;
 - (iii) whether plans have been made to increase the income, generated by the film industry in Sri Lanka;
 - (iv) if so, of aforesaid plans;
 - (v) whether plans have been formulated for the future progress of the film industry; and
 - (vi) if so, of aforesaid plans?
- (b) If not, why?

9.

3539/2023

Hon. Wimalaweera Dissanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the value of exports by Sri Lanka from 2010 to 2022; and
 - (ii) the foreign exchange earnings received from exports of Sri Lanka during the said period, in US dollars?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of—
 - (i) the amount of foreign exchange approved for imports to Sri Lanka from 2010 to 2022; and
 - (ii) the value of imports to Sri Lanka during the said period, in US dollars?
- (c) If not, why?

10.

3549/2023

Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he state, separately—
 - (i) the number of Tamil medium schools in each of the Education zones of Kalutara, Matugama and Horana;
 - (ii) the number of vacancies existing for Tamil language teachers in each such Education zone at present; and
 - (iii) the number of Tamil language teachers posted to each of the above mentioned zones when appointments were given to Colleges of Education Diploma holders recently?
 - (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether he is aware that there are nearly 15 vacancies for teachers including the vacancy for a Mathematics teacher in the Ka/ Al-Hasania Maha Vidyalaya in the Kalutara Education zone in which around 620 students study;
 - (ii) if so, whether steps would be taken to fill those vacancies for teachers;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that the above school does not have sufficient building facilities;
 - (iv) whether he is aware that the construction work of the three-storied building consisting of 12 classrooms being constructed with the support of the philanthropists is at its final stage at present; and
 - (v) whether steps would be taken to provide desks and chairs to those 12 classrooms?
 - (c) If not, why?
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AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 8 of the Parliament, the hours of sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

1.

Vote of No Confidence against Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health— Adjourned debate on question (06th September, 2023)— Motion made and question proposed [P. 29/2023] that “Whereas solutions have not been put forward so far for the crisis that has arisen in the health sector at present;

And whereas the opinion of the experts is that most of the sorrowful incidents that are reported from hospitals day by day are deaths and impairments caused due to the use of drugs which either substandard or are low in quality;

And whereas he is accountable as the Minister of Health for not duly appointing the Board of Directors of the National Medicines Regulatory Authority, for the importing of low quality drugs, for the importing of drugs deviating from the tender procedure, for the importing of drugs at exorbitant prices, for the scarcity of essential drugs and shortage of laboratory equipment in the hospital system and for the purchasing of unregistered drugs on the pretext of emergency purchases thereby resulting in deaths and impairments due to their use;

And whereas the Minister of Health has neglected to duly regulate the process of importing drugs to this country in a manner not inconsistent with the guiding principles of State Policy stipulated in Article 27 of the Constitution regardless of the fact that the government is bound to uphold the Principles therein;

And whereas the Minister has acted ruining the safe health service available for people, thereby breaching the pledge he has given in terms of Article 53 of the Constitution;

And whereas the Minister has neglected his fundamental duties required by Article 28 of the Constitution and people have to pay the price of his irresponsible conduct with their lives;

That this Parliament resolves that it has no confidence in the competence of Hon. Keheliya Rambukwella, Minister of Health to function as a Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers any longer.”

(7)

*2.

Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill— Adjourned debate on question (06th September 2023) [1].

*3.

Social Security Contribution Levy (Amendment) Bill — Adjourned debate on question (06th September 2023) [1].

*4.

The Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— Regulations under the Antiquities Ordinance,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs on 25th May 2023 under Section 47(1) read with Section 46 of the Antiquities Ordinance No. 9 of 1940 (Chapter 188) and which were presented on 05.07.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

National Eye Bank Trust of Sri Lanka Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

Elections (Special Provisions) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*8.

Conferring the Honour of Senior Instructing Attorneys-at-Law Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

Partition (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

Contempt of a Court, Tribunal or Institution Bill—Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

Sri Lanka Ports Authority (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*13.

Animal Welfare Bill — Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*14.

Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*15.

The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation,— Regulations under the Civil Aviation Act (No.1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Section 117 read with Sections 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 31 of the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2292/34 of 09th August 2022, which were presented on 26.05.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*16.

The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation,— Regulations under the Civil Aviation Act (No.2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Section 117(2)(p) of the Civil Aviation Act, No. 14 of 2010 read with Sections 6, 10, 11, 26, 31 (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2326/16 of 03rd April 2023, which were presented on 22.08.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*17.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Rules under the Incorporated Council of Legal Education Ordinance,— That the Rules made by the incorporated Council of Legal Education with the concurrence of the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 7 of the Incorporated Council of Legal Education Ordinance (Chapter 276) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2332/02 of 15th May 2023, which was presented on 18.07.2023, be approved.

*18.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Regulations under the Mediation (Special Categories of Disputes) Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 27 read with Section 4(2) of the Mediation (Special Categories of Disputes) Act, No. 21 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2314/80 of 14th January 2023, which were presented on 08.08.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(9)

*19.

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Order under the Judicature Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 29A(2) of the Judicature Act, No. 2 of 1978 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2328/16 of 21st April 2023, which were presented on 08.08.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*20.

The Minister of Plantation Industries and Minister of Industries,— Regulations under the Companies Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Industries under Section 527 read with Section 222 of the Companies Act, No. 07 of 2007, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2323/41 of 17th March 2023, which were presented on 25.08.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*21.

The Minister of Public Security,— Regulations under the Registration of Persons Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Public Security under Section 52 of the Registration of Persons Act, No. 32 of 1968 on 09th August 2023, which were presented on 22.08.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*22.

The Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation,— Regulations under the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation under Section 10 read with Section 3(5) of the Licensing of Shipping Agents, Freight Forwarders, Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers and Container Operators Act, No. 10 of 1972 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2287/24 of 07th July 2022, which were presented on 23.05.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*23.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies 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. 2324/45 of 24th March 2023, which were presented on 25.04.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*24.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies 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. 2296/30 of 09th September 2022, which were presented on 06.10.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

25.

Lions Clubs International District 306A - National Development Foundation Trust (Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

26.

Tobacco Tax (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

27.

White Rose Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

28.

Roshan Ranasinghe Janasahana Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

29.

Human Rights Organization (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

30.

Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

31.

Institute of Sport for Peace, Education, Empowerment and Development (SPEED) (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

32.

Public Health Emergency Bill — Second Reading.

33.

Re-Awakening East Organization (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

34.

United Christian Fellowship of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

35.

Samadhi Health Service, Environment, Agricultural, Cultural and Sport Centre (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

36.

South Lanka Academy for Tertiary Education and Leadership (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

37.
Sahana Community Development Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
38.
Samadhi Meditation and Yoga Centre (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
39.
Ruhunu Awakening Organization (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
40.
“Matara Season” Organization (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
41.
Sri Lanka Insurance Institute (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
42.
Marriages (General) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
43.
Muslim Marriage and Divorce (Repeal) Bill — Second Reading.
44.
Dassana Bauddha Sanvidhanaya (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
45.
Plastics and Rubber Institute of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
46.
Marriage Registration (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
47.
Minimum Age of Marriage Bill — Second Reading.
48.
Community Association of Professionals (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
49.
Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
50.
Provincial Councils Elections (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.
51.
Pharmaceutical Society of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
52.
Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.
53.
Sri Lanka Babtist Sangamaya (Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business.*

[1].

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