



[Sixth Parliament — Fourth Session]

No. 8.]

**ORDER PAPER
OF
PARLIAMENT
FOR**

Wednesday, June 24, 2009 at 9.30 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

0030/'09

1

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that the National Savings Bank (NSB) has borrowed US dollars 50 million from the ICICI bank India and lent this money to the Government?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the full details of the terms agreed on borrowing and in return on lending;
 - (ii) whether the Board of Directors of NSB had previously engaged in similar transactions; and
 - (iii) if so, names of them?
- (c) Will he also state whether the Board of Directors of the NSB—
 - (i) is empowered by its governing statute to engage in such transactions;
 - (ii) is considered the prudence of strategy and the potential risks in engaging in such foreign currency transactions;
 - (iii) was directed by the Government or the Ministry of Finance and Planning or Secretary to the Treasury to follow the above course of action and the rationale for such directions;
 - (iv) has obtained clearance from the Central Bank;
 - (v) and the above authorities have engaged in an act of abuse of power punishable in terms of the Penal Code; and
 - (vi) had carried out a comprehensive risk review taking cognizance of its responsibilities and accountability?
- (d) If not, why?

0099/'09

2

Hon. R. P. A. Ranaweera Pathirana,—To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of teachers serving in all the schools in the island;
 - (ii) of the number of graduate teachers out of them;
 - (iii) separately of the number of Arts, Commerce, Science and other graduates, out of those graduate teachers;
 - (iv) the number of teachers who teach or are capable of teaching Advanced Level subjects in English medium;
 - (v) of the number of teachers who have studied English as a subject for the degree or obtained the degree in English medium, out of the number of teachers mentioned in the answer for (iv) above; and
 - (vi) the number of graduates who passed English at the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination out of the number of teachers mentioned in the answer for (v) above?
- (b) Will he admit that a sufficient number of teachers to teach the subjects for the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in English medium is not available?
- (c) If not, why?

0199/'09

3.

Hon. Pemasiri Manage,— To ask the Minister of Highways and Road Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that the road that runs through Indipokunagoda which adjoins Tangalle town in Hambantota District is being constructed?
- (b) Will he state,—
 - (i) the amount of money spent on the construction of the aforesaid road; and
 - (ii) the reasons for constructing a new road despite the fact that there are already two roads namely Dikwella-Tangalle road and Dikwella-Beliatta-Tangalle road?
- (c) Will he admit that it would be more fruitful to use the money spent on the aforesaid road for alleviating poverty in Hambantota District?
- (d) If not, why?

0312/'09

4.

Hon. Thilakaratne Withanachchi,— To ask the Minister of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Services,—(1)

(a) Will he submit to this House—

- (i) the number of acres of paddy land that had been cultivated in the Habaraduwa Divisional Secretariat Division of Galle District in each year during the period from the year 2000 to 2008;
- (ii) out of the recorded number of acres of paddy land by the year 2008, the number of acres of paddy land that had not been brought under cultivation;
- (iii) the amount of fertilizer that has been given in each year within this Divisional Secretariat Division, at the subsidized price of Rs. 350.00; and
- (iv) separately, the amount allocated from the year 2004 to 2008 for the reconstruction of canals, dams and anicuts within this Division, with relevance to each project?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) separately, the amount that has been spent each year, to construct the canals, dams and anicuts within the said Division to encourage the farmers to cultivate the paddy lands that had not been brought under cultivation, subsequent to initiating the 'Api Wawamu - Rata Nagamu' programme;
- (ii) the percentage of paddy lands that had not been brought under cultivation during the period from the year 2004 to 2008; and
- (iii) the period of time within which steps would be taken to bring all the paddy lands under cultivation?

(c) If not, why?

0376/'09

5.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,—To ask the Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House whether the provision of Rs. 200/- per month to purchase milk for children from birth to five years of age as proposed on the page No.9 (Sinhala text) of the Mahinda Chinthanaya manifesto has been implemented by now?

(4)

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the Divisional Secretariat Divisions where provision of the aforesaid Rs. 200/- is being implemented at present; and
- (ii) the number of children who have been provided with this amount of Rs. 200/-?

(c) If not, why?

0031/'09

6.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,—To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House, the number of electorates in Kurunegala District?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of new wine stores, foreign liquor stores, restaurants and hotels licenses issued and opened in the Kurunegala District from 01st April, 2004, to date;
- (ii) names of them on electoral basis along with revenue earned from these new outlets as at the end of each year from 2004 to 2007 and to – date; and
- (iii) the information in (i) above as at 31st December of each year from 1998 to 2003 and the total revenue for the Kurunegala District?

(c) If not, why?

0109/'09

7.

Hon. R. P. A. Ranaweera Pathirana,—To ask the Minister of Cultural Affairs and National Heritage,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the date of appointment of the lady legal officer who is presently employed at the State Film Corporation and the basis on which she was recruited; and
- (ii) whether formal approval of the Board of Directors has been granted to recruit the aforesaid officer, confirm her in service and determine the salary paid to her?

(b) If so, will he submit to this House the documents which contain the decisions of the Board of Directors that given the aforesaid approval?

(5)

- (c) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether the bio-data submitted by the aforesaid officer to the relevant Corporation and the Ministry are false information with contradictions ;
 - (ii) the salary and allowances paid to the aforesaid officer; and
 - (iii) whether the approval of the Board of Directors has been granted for the payment of the aforesaid salary and allowances?
- (d) If any irregularities have taken place with regard to the aforesaid matter will he state the measures that will be taken regarding those irregularities?
- (e) If not, why?

0200/'09

8.

Hon. Pemasiri Manage,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the number of foreign visits made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs since January 2008 up to now;
 - (ii) the names of the countries so visited by the Minister concerned; and
 - (iii) the amount of money that has been spent on those foreign visits?
- (b) If not, why?

0353/'09

9.

Hon. Thilakaratne Withanachchi,— To ask the Minister of Re-settlement and Disaster Relief Services,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that the houses that belonged to the persons who were residing at unsafe places in Nagoda Divisional Secretariat Division in Galle were destroyed by the floods in 2003?
- (b) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the number of persons who have been given lands from the Thalgaswala Estate, out of the above mentioned persons who were affected by the floods;
 - (ii) the amount of compensation arrears which should be paid to the persons who are to be paid compensation as mentioned above; and
 - (iii) the time period within which the approved compensation arrears will be given to the aforesaid persons to construct houses?

(6)

- (c) Will he submit to this House the number of persons who have constructed their houses in unsafe areas because they have not received the approved lands though their houses which were on the same unsafe areas were destroyed?
- (d) Will he admit that the Divisional Secretary of Nagoda has informed the relevant Parliamentary Consultative Committee that compensation can be paid to the aforesaid persons in a future disaster under a non compensating agreement?
- (e) If so, will he mention the time period within which the compensation arrears which was approved to be paid for the destruction of houses in the year 2003, will be paid to the persons whose houses have been destroyed and who have built their houses in the same unsafe areas?
- (f) If not, why?

0377/'09

10.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,—To ask the Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House whether the provision of a bag of nutritious food free of charge to pregnant mothers who cannot afford to meet their nutritional needs as proposed on page No.8 (Sinhala text) of the Mahinda Chinthanaya manifesto has been implemented by now?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the Divisional Secretariat Divisions where provision of the aforesaid bag of nutritious food is being implemented at present; and
 - (ii) the number of pregnant mothers who have been provided with a bag of nutritious food as mentioned above?
- (c) If not, why?

0033/'09

11.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Nation Building and Estate Infrastructure Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the requirement to receive Samurdhi benefits;
 - (ii) the number of families that have been receiving Samurdhi benefits in the country from the year 1995 to-date on yearly basis;
 - (iii) the financial hand out and percentage given to the Samurdhi recipients during that period;

(7)

- (iv) whether the Samurdhi beneficiaries have got the increase given to them after the year 2005; and
- (v) if so, the date and the amount?
- (b) Will he state from the year 2004 to 2008 separately for Colombo District taking 2004 as the base year—
 - (i) the amount that the Samurdhi recipients received in rupee value;
 - (ii) the inflation for each year; and
 - (iii) the real purchasing power after deflating the inflation for each year?
- (c) If not, why?

0201/'09

12.

Hon. Pemasiri Manage,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether foundation stones have been laid for the construction of fisheries harbours in the year 2008;
 - (ii) of the places and the relevant dates if such foundation stones have been laid;
 - (iii) whether construction work has been commenced in the places where foundation stones have been laid;
 - (iv) of the names of such places, if construction work has been commenced in those places;
 - (v) as to when the relevant construction work commenced; and
 - (vi) of the progress of the above mentioned construction work at present?
- (b) If not, why?

0354/'09

13.

Hon. Thilakaratne Withanachchi,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he submit to this House, separately—
 - (i) the annual production of processed tea in Sri Lanka from the year 2000 to December 2008 and out of the aforesaid quantity the quantity of tea exported in kilograms along with the names of the countries to which tea was exported; and

(8)

- (ii) the income earned by our country from exporting tea?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) separately, of the quantity of tea imported to Sri Lanka during the above mentioned period and the names of the countries from which tea was imported; and
 - (ii) of the total amount of money spent annually for importing tea?
- (c) Will he admit that the officials informed at the relevant consultative committee meeting that when other countries order tea from our country, those buyers order tea produced in other countries (e.g: Assam tea) as well?
- (d) Will he submit to this House the quantities and types of tea produced in other countries that was ordered as mentioned above along with the names of the countries where tea so ordered has been produced?
- (e) Will he submit to this House the copies of the aforesaid orders?
- (f) Will he take immediate steps to stop the importation of tea since the exportation of Sri Lankan tea after mixing it with imported tea despite the fact that high quality tea is produced in Sri Lanka, causes a big damage to the exportation of our tea?
- (g) If not, why?

0378/'09

14.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella,—To ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that, on behalf of the Government of Netherlands, a Minister in that country has stated in the Parliament of the Netherlands that all aid from the Government of Netherlands to Sri Lanka has been completely stopped?
- (b) Will he admit the fact that the particular statement has cited grave human rights violations, civilian deaths and the breach of the supremacy of law in Sri Lanka as reasons for stopping aid?
- (c) Will he state the measures adopted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to build better diplomatic relations with the Netherlands again?
- (d) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—Department of Coast Guard,— Bill to provide for the establishment of a Department of Coast Guard; to specify the functions of the Department of Coast Guard; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Notice of motions

2.

Hon. Lalith Dissanayake,— Leave to introduce Bill,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“Bill to incorporate the Rohitha Abeygunawardhane Foundation ”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

Road Development Authority (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.

*2.

Chief of Defence Staff Bill — Second Reading.

*3.

The Minister of Industrial Development,—Supplementary Sum—Head 149— Programme 2,— †That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rupees two hundred million (Rs. 200,000,000) be payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or any other fund or monies of, or at the disposal of, the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or from the proceeds of any loans obtained by the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the services of the Financial year beginning on 1st January, 2009 and ending on 31st December, 2009 and that the said sum may be expended as specified in the schedule hereto:

Schedule

Head 149 — Ministry of Industrial Development

Programme 2 — Development Activities

Capital Expenditure	Rs.	<u>200,000,000</u>
	Rs.	<u>200,000,000</u>

(Cabinet approval signified)

†Vide Supplementary Estimate No.3 of 2009 presented on 12th June, 2009; total of estimates 1 and 2, Rs. 2,749,830,000.

*4.

The Minister of Transport,—Supplementary Sum—Head 114— Programme 2,— †That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rupees two thousand two hundred and ninety nine point eight three million (Rs. 2299.83 million) be payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or any other fund or monies of, or at the disposal of, the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka or from the proceeds of any loans obtained by the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the services of the Financial year beginning on 1st January, 2009 and ending on 31st December, 2009 and that the said sum may be expended as specified in the schedule hereto:

Schedule**Head 114** — Ministry of Transport**Programme 2** — Development Activities

Recurrent Expenditure	= Rs.	<u>2,299.83 million</u>
	Rs.	<u>2,299.83 million</u>

(Cabinet approval signified)

†Vide Supplementary Estimate No.2 of 2009 presented on 12th June, 2009; total of estimate No.1, Rs. 450,000,000.

*5.

Employees' Provident Fund (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*6.

Indian Immigrant Labour (Repeal) Bill — Second Reading.

*7.

Regulation of Asset Backed Securitization Bill — Second Reading.

*8.

Secured Transactions Bill — Second Reading.

*9.

Regulation of Insurance Industry (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*10.

Default Taxes (Special Provisions) Bill — Second Reading.

*11.

Housing Development Finance Corporation Bank of Sri Lanka (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*12.

Public Enterprises Reform Commission of Sri Lanka (Repeal) Bill—Second Reading.

*13.

Assistance and Protection to Victims of Crime and Witnesses Bill,— Adjourned debate on question (17th June, 2008) [1].

*14.

Governors' Pension Bill—Second Reading.

*15.

Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties Bill — Adjourned Debate on question — (04th April, 2006) [1]

*16.

Recovery of Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) (Amendment) Bill — Adjourned Debate on question — (18th July, 2006) [1]

*17.

Non-performing Assets (Recovery) Bill — Adjourned Debate on question — (18th July, 2006) [1]

*18.

Gaming (Special Provisions) Bill — Adjourned Debate on question — (18th July, 2006) [1]

*19.

Safeguard Measures Bill — Adjourned Debate on question — (04th April, 2006) [1]

*20.

Civil Aviation Bill— Second Reading.

*21.

The Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration, and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—Determination under the Constitution (No.1),— That this Parliament hereby determines under Article 108(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that the monthly salaries payable to the Hon. Chief Justice, the Judges of the Supreme Court, the President of the Court of Appeal and the Judges of the Court of Appeal, with effect from 01.01.2006, shall subject to the provisions of the Public Administration Circular No.6/2006 dated 25.04.2006, be as follows:

Hon. Chief Justice	Rs. 70,000.00
	Rs. 1,500.00
Judges of the Supreme Court and the President of the Court of Appeal	Rs. 65,000.00
Judges of the Court of Appeal	Rs. 63,500.00

And this Parliament further resolves that the salaries determined by this resolution, replace the salaries determined by the resolution moved in Parliament on September 09, 2004, relating to the salaries payable to the judges of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeal.

(Cabinet approval signified)

*22.

The Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration, and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—Determination under the Constitution (No.2),— That this Parliament hereby determines under Article 108(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that the monthly personal allowance payable to the Hon. Chief Justice, the Judges of the Supreme Court, the President of the Court of Appeal and the Judges of the Court of Appeal shall be an amount equivalent to 25% of their respective salaries, with effect from 01.07.2008.

And this Parliament further resolves that the personal allowance determined by this resolution, replaces the personal allowances determined by resolution moved in Parliament on March 17th, 1998, relating to the personal allowances payable to the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeal.

(Cabinet approval signified)

*23.

The Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration, and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—Determination under the Constitution (No.3),— That this Parliament hereby determines under Article 108(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that the monthly rent allowance payable to the Hon. Chief Justice, Judges of the Supreme Court, the President of the Court of Appeal and the Judges of the Court of Appeal with effect from 01.08.2007, be as follows:

Hon. Chief Justice	Rs. 27,500.00
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Judges of the Supreme Court and the President of the Court of Appeal	Rs. 25,000.00
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Judges of the Court of Appeal	Rs. 22,500.00
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And this Parliament further resolves that the rent allowances determined by this resolution, replaces the rent allowances determined by Parliament on September 09, 2004, as payable to the judges of the Supreme Court and of the Court of Appeal.

(Cabinet approval signified)

*24.

The Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration, and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,—Determination under the Constitution (No.4),— That this Parliament hereby determines under Article 108(1) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that the Hon. Chief Justice shall be paid a monthly allowance of Rs. 3,500/- as an entertainment allowance with effect from 01.07.2008.

And this Parliament further resolves that the entertainment allowance determined by this resolution, replaces the entertainment allowance determined earlier by the resolution moved in Parliament, relating to the entertainment allowance payable to the Hon. Chief Justice.

(Cabinet approval signified)

*25.

The Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Administration, and Deputy Minister of Defence, Public Security, Law and Order,— Rules under the Excise Ordinance,— That the Rules made by the President under Section 32 of Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52), relating to Excise Tax and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1544/17 of 10th April, 2008 which were presented on 19.06.2008, be approved.

*26.

The Minister of Posts and Telecommunication,— Rule under the Post Office Ordinance,— That the rule made by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunication with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance under Sections 12, 21, 25, 27, 81, 62, 06, 39, 49, 44, 68, 67, 40, 24, 59, 60, 35, 59, 67 and 64 of the Post Office Ordinance (Chapter 190) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1494/10 of 25th April 2007 which was presented on 17.07.2007, be approved.

*27.

The Minister of Healthcare and Nutrition,—Regulations under the Medical Ordinance,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Healthcare and Nutrition under Section 19 read with Section 72 of the Medical Ordinance (Chapter 105) in consultation with the Sri Lanka Medical Council and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No.1590/13 of 25th February, 2009 which were presented on 21.04.2009, be approved.

28.

Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution Bill — Second Reading.

29.

Abolition of the Temporary Amalgamation of the Northern and Eastern Provinces (Special Provisions) Bill — Second Reading.

30.

Prohibition of Forcible Conversion of Religion Bill — Consideration.

* Indicates Government Business

[1] Motion made and Question proposed “That the Bill be now read a Second time.”
