



[Seventh Parliament -First Session]

No. 35.]

**ORDER PAPER
OF
PARLIAMENT
FOR**

Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

0046/'10

1.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of registered religious institutions in the country;
 - (ii) the number of Buddhist Temples, Churches, Hindu Kovils and Mosques separately on District basis;
 - (iii) the number of the registered Clergies belonging to each religion; and
 - (iv) the Names and Addresses of the institutions and persons pertaining to (i), (ii) and (iii) above?
- (b) Will he state the amount of money granted to the above institutions over the last 05 years per year basis?
- (c) If not, why?

0053/'10

2.

Hon. Rajiva Wijesinha,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (3)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) the mechanisms exist to monitor the inflow of foreign funds for Non-Governmental Organizations, and institutions incorporated by Act of Parliament that engage in Social Service;
 - (ii) the mechanisms exist to monitor the inflow of foreign funds for companies registered with the Registrar of Companies that engage in social service or research or advocacy; and
 - (iii) whether such companies submit returns as required, and maintain tax files; and pay taxes on any endowments such companies might have?

(2)

- (b) Will he state —
 - (i) the funds from external sources have been received by the International Centre for Ethnic Studies in the period between 1999 and 2010 inclusive, and of the purposes these funds have been used;
 - (ii) whether the purposes for which such funds obtained were approved by the Department of External Resources; and
 - (iii) whether the use of these funds was monitored by any Government agency?
- (c) If not, why?

0082/'10

3.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Highways,— (2)

- (a) Is he aware that in the 200 metres stretch of the Tharaperiya kanda-Udugalmotae road in the Maligathenna Grama Niladhari Division in the Beliatta Divisional Secretariat Division of the Hambantota District, which was constructed by laying concrete about one year ago, concrete has scaled off and it is in a dilapidated condition by now?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the financial provisions allocated for the development of the said road ;
 - (ii) whether recommendations of Technical Officers have been obtained to the effect that the work had been completed as per the standards in releasing money for constructions;
 - (iii) from what other institutions recommendations were obtained in making payments for the constructions of the said road?
- (c) Will he take action to conduct a proper inquiry in this respect and restore it?
- (d) If not, why?

0214/'10

4.

Hon. Ajith Kumara,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— (2)

- (a) Will he submit to this House—
 - (i) whether there are lands in the Galle district that belong to the Land Reforms Commission ;
 - (ii) if so, the name and the extent of each land, the name of the Grama Niladhari Division to which the land belongs and the condition of the land ;
 - (iii) the annual income from each of the aforesaid lands ;

(3)

- (iv) whether the ownership of the aforesaid lands has been legally transferred to individuals or institutions ;
 - (v) if so, the purpose for which the lands were transferred and the basis on which it was done ;
 - (vi) the names of the individuals or institutions that received lands, their addresses, the dates of transfer, the extents of the lands and the period of time ;
 - (vii) the income earned by the commission from each of the aforesaid lands?
- (b) Will he state—
- (i) whether the lands that belong to the commission are illegally possessed by individuals or institutions ;
 - (ii) if so, their names, the extent of land so possessed and the duration of their possession ;
 - (iii) the courses of action that were taken in this regard and its current situation ;
 - (iv) the extent of land owned by the commission at its inception and at present ;
 - (v) out of the extent of land owned by the commission at its inception, the extent of land transferred to others ;
 - (vi) the names and the addresses of the persons to whom the possession of the land was transferred and the extent of land so transferred?
- (c) If not, why?

0277/'10

5.

Hon. R. Yogarajan,— To ask the Minister of Youth Affairs,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
- (i) the subject of Foreign Employment, career guidance for foreign employment and welfare of migrant workers have been gazetted under the Ministry of Youth Affairs; and
 - (ii) the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau which handled the above functions has been listed as an Institution under the Ministry of External Affairs?

(4)

- (b) Will he state, without this institution, whether the Ministry could-
 - (i) serve the function of foreign employment adequately;
 - (ii) serve the function of career guidance for foreign employment adequately; and
 - (iii) look after the welfare of the migrant workers adequately?
- (c) If not, will he submit proposals for the purpose?
- (d) If not, why?

0294/'10

6.

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Transport,— (2)

- (a) Will he admit that the S.L.T.B. is bound to pay gratuity to the employees who retired since the Peoplisation of the C.T.B. on 25.08.1991 up to 2002, with effect from their date of first appointment?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the S.L.T.B. sought a Court Order to the effect that gratuity cannot be paid to them from the date of first appointment ; and
 - (ii) what the Court Order is ?
- (c) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the Commissioner of Labour has instructed that gratuity be paid to those pensioners ;
 - (ii) if so, the number of pensioners to whom gratuity be paid; and
 - (iii) the total amount to be paid?
- (d) Will he state—
 - (i) as to why action is not taken to pay gratuity to those pensioners; and
 - (ii) the steps to be taken to pay such gratuity expeditiously?
- (e) If not, why?

0347/'10

7.

Hon. Mohamed Aslam,— To ask the Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities,— (2)

- (a) Will he state as per the Grama Niladhari Division level—
 - (i) the number of shanties in the Bandaragama Pradeshiya Sabha area of the Kalutara District ;
 - (ii) the name and address of the owner / chief occupant of the residing family of each of the aforesaid shanties; and
 - (iii) the names and addresses of the chief occupants of sub families residing in the above houses?
- (b) If not, why?

0354/'10

8.

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Justice,— (2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) rules can be imposed pertaining to the functions of the Sri Lanka Law College under the Legal Education Council Ordinance (Cap 276) ;
 - (ii) the approval of the Minister of Justice is necessary for imposing rules under Section 7 (1) of the Ordinance ; and
 - (iii) after gazetting rules under Section 7 (2) of the Ordinances they should be submitted to the Parliament as soon as possible for “approval” ?
- (b) Will he accept that in terms of Section 7 (a) of the Ordinance Minister of Justice has the power to issue written directives to the Legal Education Council on policy matters?
- (c) If so, will he state whether he will take action to exercise that power at a suitable time?
- (d) If not, why?

0124/'10

9.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Health,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the total numbers of hospitals in the Hambantota district at present ;
 - (ii) separately of the number of doctors, nurses, attendants, labourers and officers in other grades that should be in the approved cadre for each of the aforesaid hospitals;
 - (iii) the numbers of staff, in relation to each of the above positions, who presently serve in those hospitals ;
 - (iv) whether steps will be taken to fill the vacancies in these hospitals, if there are any ;
 - (v) if so, the period of time within which it will be done ; and
 - (vi) if there is excess staff in these hospitals, the tasks for which they will be deployed?
- (b) Is he aware of the fact that patients from rural areas travel as much as 10 miles to reach a hospital?
- (c) Will he take steps to initiate mobile health services to improve the health condition in the rural areas?
- (d) Will he admit the fact that such a system is capable of improving the health conditions in the rural areas?
- (e) If not, why?

0215/'10

10.

Hon. Ajith Kumara,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— (2)

- (a) Will he submit to this House—
 - (i) whether there are lands in the Matara district that belong to the Land Reforms Commission ;
 - (ii) if so, the name and the extent of each land, the name of the Grama Niladhari Division to which the land belongs and the condition of the land ;
 - (iii) the annual income from each of the aforesaid lands ;

(7)

- (iv) whether the ownership of the aforesaid lands has been legally transferred to individuals or institutions ;
 - (v) if so, the purpose for which the lands were transferred and the basis on which it was done ;
 - (vi) the names of the individuals or institutions that received lands, their addresses, the dates of transfer, the extents of the lands and the period of time ;
 - (vii) the income earned by the commission from each of the aforesaid lands?
- (b) Will he state—
- (i) whether the lands that belong to the commission are illegally possessed by individuals or institutions ;
 - (ii) if so, their names, the extent of land so possessed and the duration of their possession ;
 - (iii) the courses of action that were taken in this regard and its current situation ;
 - (iv) the extent of land owned by the commission at its inception and at present ;
 - (v) out of the extent of land owned by the commission at its inception, the extent of land transferred to others ;
 - (vi) the names and the addresses of the persons to whom the possession of the land was transferred and the extent of land so transferred?
- (c) If not, why?

0274/'10

11.

Hon. Rajiva Wijesinha,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— (2)

- (a) Is he aware of an organization called the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA)?
- (b) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether this organization has benefited from foreign funding;
 - (ii) if so, the amount received in each year over the last decade;
 - (iii) whether the above all foreign funding received, has been approved by the Department of External Resources; and
 - (iv) the proportion of the budgets of CPA and its subsidiary organizations, met by foreign funding during 2008 and 2009?

(8)

(c) Will he inform —

- (i) whether this organization or any of its employees is liable for tax in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) if so, whether they have met their liabilities;
- (iii) the salaries and other emoluments have been received by the Directors and other senior officials of this organization; and
- (iv) whether the tax has been paid on these?

(d) Will he also state the names of subsidiary organizations established by CPA and as to how they have been funded?

(e) If not, why?

0281/'10

12.

Hon. R. Yogarajan,— To ask the Minister of Economic Development,— (2)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) 500 facilitators were appointed for Plantation areas in order to assist the public, who lack knowledge in Sinhala language, in transacting business with government institutions;
- (ii) over 250 of such facilitators have left their jobs for other positions such as teaching posts; and
- (iii) even though applications were called to fill these vacancies, they have not been filled yet?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether action would be taken to fill these vacancies; and
- (ii) if so, the time frame within which aforesaid vacancies will be filled?

(c) If not, why?

0348/'10

13.

Hon. Mohamed Aslam,— To ask the Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities,— (2)

- (a) Will he state as per the Grama Niladhari Division Level —
 - (i) the number of shanties in the Panadura Pradeshiya Sabha area of the Kalutara District;
 - (ii) the name and address of the owner/chief occupant of the residing family of each of the aforesaid families; and
 - (iii) the names and addresses of the chief occupants of sub families residing in the above houses?
- (b) If not, why?

0125/'10

14.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Health,— (2)

- (a) Is he satisfied with the services presently offered by the offices of the Divisional Health Services Directors in the Hambanthota District?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of Family Health Services Divisions in that district at Divisional Health Services Division level;
 - (ii) what those Family Health Services Divisions are;
 - (iii) of the approved number of family health officers; and
 - (iv) of the number of family health officers who are employed at present?
- (c) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of pregnant mothers who attended family health clinics during the period elapsed up to now in the year 2010;
 - (ii) whether they have been provided with bag of nutrients monthly;
 - (iii) the number of bags of nutrients so given;
 - (iv) the items included in the aforesaid bags of nutrients;
 - (v) whether those pregnant mothers were provided with the required medical attention in a proper manner;
 - (vi) the number of times that those pregnant mothers were examined during a period of one month; and
 - (vii) the number of pregnant mothers that were examined?
- (d) If not, why?

0275/'10

15.

Hon. Rajiva Wijesinha,— To ask the Minister of Rehabilitation and Prison Reforms,— (2)

- (a) What are the figures of those under the age of 25 now held under judicial restraint, and what proportion is this of all those currently under judicial restraint?
- (b) Will he state whether the current remanding and sentencing policy with regard to suspected offenders under the age of 25, is in accordance with current social needs and the need to pursue reform rather than retribution?
- (c) Will he also state —
 - (i) whether the Judges Training Institute conducts programs for magistrates and others that will encourage different approaches to those now in operation with regard to the remanding and sentencing of those under the age of 25;
 - (ii) if not, as to why such programs are not conducted; and
 - (iii) whether the remedial action would be initiated in this regard?
- (d) If not, why?

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 1 of Public Business appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the Standing Order No. 23.

2.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.07.2010, the hours of sitting this day shall be 1.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

3.

Hon. Karu Jayasuriya,— Leave to introduce Bill,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to provide for freedom of access to official information; specify grounds on which access may be denied: the establishment of the Freedom of Information Commission: the appointment of Information Officers; setting out the procedure for making requests for information and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Resolution under the Public Security Ordinance,— That the Proclamation made by the President under Section 2 of the Public Security Ordinance (Chapter 40), as amended by Act, No. 8 of 1959, Law No. 6 of 1978, and Act, No. 28 of 1988, bringing into operation the provisions of Part II of the aforesaid Ordinance throughout Sri Lanka with effect from September 15th, 2010, be approved.

P.68/'10

2.

Hon. P. Dayaratna

Hon. Kumara Welgama

Hon. Maithripala Sirisena

Hon. W.B. Ekanayake

Hon. (Dr.) (Mrs.) Sudarshini Fernandopulle,— Select Committee of Parliament to look into the alarming increase in traffic accidents,—

Whereas it has been reported that around 150 traffic accidents occur daily in Sri Lanka which cause loss of about 5 – 6 valuable lives;

And whereas it has been reported that the Government spends billions of rupees yearly for the treatment of persons injured in traffic accidents;

And whereas it has been reported that a large number of vehicles are damaged every year and billions of rupees are paid by the insurance companies to repair the damaged vehicles;

And whereas a considerable percentage of fuel used for vehicles is wasted due to traffic congestion;

And whereas road accidents have been a tremendous health and socio economic burden for the people and the country;

And whereas the UN General Assembly has declared 2011-2020 Decade of Action for Road Safety; and

Whereas the Select Committee appointed in Sixth Parliament to look into the alarming increase in traffic accidents was unable to submit the Final Report to Parliament before its dissolution.

This Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to look into and report to Parliament,

- (a) whether it is necessary to classify statistically the increase in traffic accidents and to identify scientifically the causes for such increase;
 - (b) whether the road network is adequate to meet the increasing number of vehicles;
 - (c) whether there is a total disregard of road rules by the users of the roads inclusive of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians;
 - (d) whether there is a failure on the part of the implementing authorities, specially the Police, to effectively enforce the rules of the road;
 - (e) whether it would be necessary to introduce new legislation or to amend existing legislations regarding road rules;
 - (f) whether the modern road safety equipment, technologies and systems are experimented in the country to prevent accidents;
 - (g) whether there is a system to look after the welfare of the victims of accidents and to compensate them and their families;
 - (h) what short term and long term procedures should be followed to prevent traffic accidents.
2. (a) That the Committee and its Chairman shall be nominated by the Speaker.
- (b) That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 95, the Committee shall consist of not more than seventeen (17) Members.
3. That the Committee shall have the power to—
- (a) fix its quorum ;
 - (b) summon any person to appear before it, to require any person to procure any document or record, to procure and receive all such evidence, written or oral, as the Committee may think it necessary for the fullest consideration of the matters referred to above ;
 - (c) obtain the services of Specialists and Experts in the relevant fields to assist the Committee ; and
 - (d) make interim reports from time to time and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of Parliament.

3.

Hon. (Al-Hajj) A.H.M. Azwer,—Select Committee of Parliament to inquire and report on strengthening the independent character of the Parliamentary Service,—

WHEREAS it has become necessary to submit recommendations to strengthen the independent character of the Parliamentary Service in all its areas of activity,

This House resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to inquire and report on:

- (a) Strengthening of the independent character of the Parliamentary service; and
 - (b) any other matters the Committee deem relevant.
2.
 - (a) The Committee and its Chairman shall be nominated by Mr. Speaker; and
 - (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 95, the Committee shall consist of five (05) members.
3. That the Committee shall have the power to:
 - (a) fix its quorum;
 - (b) summon any person to appear before it, require any person to produce any document or record, to procure and invite all such evidence, written and/or oral representations from present and former members of the Staff of the Secretary-General of Parliament and Staff organizations, as the Committee may think it necessary for the fullest consideration of the matters referred to above;
 - (c) obtain the services of Specialists and Experts in the relevant fields to assist the Committee; and
 - (d) make interim reports from time to time and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of Parliament.
4. The Committee on considering all such matters shall make its Report to Parliament within a period of five (05) months of the setting up of the Committee or such latter date as Parliament may in its discretion appoint.

*4.

Provincial Councils (Amendment) Bill,— Second Reading.

*5.

The Minister of Lands and Land Development,— Regulations under the Registration of Title Act,— That the Regulations made by Minister of Lands and Land Development under Section 67 of the Registration of Title Act, No 21 of 1998 read with Section 60 and 62 of that Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No 1616/23 of 24, August 2009, which were presented on 06.05.2010, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified)

*6.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Resolution under the Appropriation Act,— That this Parliament resolves the Order made by the Acting Minister of Finance and Planning with the approval of the Government, by virtue of powers vested in the Minister of Finance and Planning by Section 8 of the Appropriation Act, No. 43 of 2008 and specified in the Order No. 27 hereto, be approved.

Appropriation Act, No. 43 of 2008
Order No. 27 under Section 8

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Section 8 of the Appropriation Act, No.43 of 2008, I, Sarath Amunugama, Acting Minister of Finance and Planning with the approval of the Government, do by this Order, vary the limits specified against the activity Item No. 21302 “Printing Publicity and Sales of Books - Department of Education Publications” of the third Schedule to that Act.

- | | | |
|--|------|-------------------|
| (i) Maximum limit of expenditure specified in Column II of the third Schedule to that Act. | | Not Revised |
| (ii) Minimum limit of receipts specified in Column III of the third Schedule to that Act. | From | Rs. 2,400,000,000 |
| | To | Rs. 2,162,000,000 |
| (iii) Maximum limit of debit balance specified in Column IV of the third Schedule to that Act. | | Not Revised |
| (iv) Maximum limit of debit liabilities specified in Column V of the third Schedule to that Act. | From | Rs. 100,000,000 |
| | To | Rs. 960,000,000 |

(This Order is valid up to 31.12.2009 only)

Sgd. DR. SARATH AMUNUGAMA,
Acting Minister of Finance and Planning.

03.07.2010
Colombo 01.

(Cabinet approval signified)

*7.

The Minister of Health,—Annual Report and Accounts of the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation of Sri Lanka - 2007,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation of Sri Lanka together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year ended by 31.12.2007 and presented on 08.07.2009 under the Section 30(2) of State Industrial Corporation Act, No.49 of 1957 and Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No.38 of 1971, be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Healthcare and Nutrition on 05.05.2009)

*8.

The Minister of Health,—Annual Report and Accounts of the Wijaya Kumarathunga Memorial Hospital - 2007,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Wijaya Kumarathunga Memorial Hospital together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year ended by 31.12.2007 and presented on 08.07.2009 under the Section 30(2) of State Industrial Corporation Act, No.49 of 1957 and Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No.38 of 1971, be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Healthcare and Nutrition on 05.05.2009)

*9.

The Minister of Health,—Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital - 2006,— That the Annual Report and Accounts of the Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year ended by 31.12.2006 and presented on 08.07.2009 under the Section 30(2) of State Industrial Corporation Act, No.49 of 1957 and Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No.38 of 1971, be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Healthcare and Nutrition on 05.05.2009)

*10.

The Minister of Technology and Research,—Annual Report of Sri Lanka Standard Institution, 2007,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Standard Institution together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year from 01st January, 2007 to 31st December, 2007 and presented on 09.09.2009 under Sri Lanka Standard Institution Act, No.06 of 1984 and Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No.38 of 1971, be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Science and Technology on 06.08.2009)

*11.

The Minister of Technology and Research,—Annual Report of Sri Lanka Industrial Technology Institute - 2006,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Industrial Technology Institute together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year from 01st January, 2006 to 31st December, 2006 and presented on 06.09.2009 under the Section 40(3) of Science and Technology Development Act, No.11 of 1994 and Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No.38 of 1971, be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Science and Technology on 06.08.2009)

*12.

The Minister of Technology and Research,—Annual Report of Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment - 2006,— That the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment together with the Auditor General's observations prepared for the year from 01st January, 2006 to 31st December, 2006 and presented on 09.09.2009 under the Section 29(5) of Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Act, No.32 of 2005 and Section 14(3) of the Finance Act, No.38 of 1971, be approved.

(Considered by the Consultative Committee on Science and Technology on 06.08.2009)

* *Indicates Government Business*
