



[Seventh Parliament -First Session]

No. 270.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 1.00 p.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1601/11

1.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— (3)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of cases withdrawn by the Attorney General from 2004/01/01 to date after they were indicted;
- (ii) the names of the cases and persons indicted and the dates on which those indictments were served; and
- (iii) the reasons for serving indictments and withdrawing them thereafter ?

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) the cost incurred by the Attorney General's Department for withdrawals of indictments ; and
- (ii) the names of the lawyers who appeared on behalf of the Attorney General's Department for the same ?

(c) If not, why?

1829/11

2.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(3)

(a) Will he admit that—

- (i) there are many teachers who are actually frustrated as a result of not receiving transfers after the completion of the difficult area service period in the government schools administered by the Morawaka, Kotapola and Pasgoda Divisional Education Offices belonging to the Deniyaya Education Office of the Matara District ; and
- (ii) the quality of teaching of these teachers could decline on account of this reason?

(2)

- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the minimum qualifications need to be fulfilled for transfers as per the decisions of the teacher transfer boards ;
 - (ii) of the number of teachers who have sought transfers by now, after the completion of their difficult service period at the above educational zones ;
 - (iii) whether a programme has been drawn up for granting them transfers ;
 - (iv) what that programme is ; and
 - (v) if transfers are given accordingly , the date for same?
- (c) If not, why?

2511/12

3.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
- (i) the names of the villages in the Sampathnuwara Divisional Secretariat Division to which purified pipe-borne drinking water is supplied ;
 - (ii) the names of the villages in the aforesaid Divisional Secretariat Division to which purified pipe-borne drinking water is not supplied ;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to supply purified drinking water to the villages mentioned above ; and
 - (iv) if so, the period of time within which purified drinking water will be supplied to those villages?

- (b) If not, why ?

2698/12

4.

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the date on which the BTI bacterium was imported to this country from Cuba for the purpose of controlling dengue;
 - (ii) of the amount of the aforesaid bacterium imported to this country;
 - (iii) of the total amount of money that was spent on the aforesaid purpose; and
 - (iv) of the manner in which the aforesaid amount of money was spent ?

(3)

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) of the names of the persons who recommended that the BTI bacterium is suitable for the purpose of controlling dengue in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) of the amount of the aforesaid bacterium that has been used of for controlling dengue in this country; and
- (iii) of the progress that has been achieved up to now by the use of the aforesaid bacterium for controlling dengue ?

(c) If not, why ?

2870/12

5.

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the reasons for terminating the aptitude test implemented by the University of Visual and Performing Arts as an entrance requirement;
- (ii) whether any discussions were held with the university officials before taking the decision to terminate the aforesaid aptitude test ;
- (iii) if not, the reason for not having such a discussion ; and
- (iv) if so, the stance taken by the university officials in respect to terminating the aptitude test as an entrance requirement ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether the Ministry or the University Grants Commission received petitions from applicants that the aptitude test is corrupt on the basis that lecturers are partial to applicants whom they are in good terms with ;
- (ii) if so, as to why there has been no investigation or inquiry in this regard; and
- (iii) whether the Ministry had attempted to improve the transparency of the aforesaid test?

(c) If not, why?

6. Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Resettlement,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
- (i) the Muslims of the Northern Province, displaced owing to the war, have returned to their original villages as they were promised of necessary registration and infrastructure facilities;
 - (ii) no step has been taken so far to provide nearly 32,000 such families with necessary registration, infrastructure and educational facilities; and
 - (iii) matters relevant this issue have been raised at nearly 1400 rounds of discussion held by now ?
- (b) Will he state—
- (i) the number of displaced Muslims who have returned to their original villages in the year 2012;
 - (ii) out of those returnees , the number that has been registered by now;
 - (iii) the reason for not effecting the necessary registration and not providing infrastructure facilities despite the required financial allocations being provided by Non-government Organizations for the purpose of resettling the displaced Muslims; and
 - (iv) whether arrangements will be made to register them and provide them with the necessary facilities before a foreign country intervenes to solve this problem ?
- (c) If not, why?

7. Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Rehabilitation and Prison Reforms,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the names of the prisoners who were sentenced to death and released by a presidential pardon as per the Article 34 of the Constitution during the period from the year 2005 to 01.06.2012;
 - (ii) of the period of time that each of the aforesaid prisoner had “served the death sentence”; and
 - (iii) of the date on which each of the aforesaid prisoner was released ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the names of the persons who were convicted of homicide;
- (ii) the names of the persons who were convicted for heroin trafficking or keeping heroin in their possession; and
- (iii) the names of the prisoners and the offences committed by them who do not belong to the either of the aforesaid two categories if there are any;

among the prisoners who were given presidential pardon by the incumbent President as per the Article 34 of the Constitution ?

(c) If not, why?

3173/12

8.

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the number of cases of abuse committed against women and children in Sri Lanka in each year from 2009 up to now, separately ?
- (b) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the aforesaid crimes have increased rapidly into an uncontrollable level;
 - (ii) the Sri Lanka Police show a sluggish interest in bringing the relevant criminals to book;
 - (iii) the accused of most of the aforesaid child and women abuse cases are politicians who have connections with the government; and
 - (iv) enough action is not taken against them due to that reason ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the steps that have been taken for the prevention of women and child abuses by the relevant Ministry, Department of Probation and Childcare Services and the Child Protection Authority;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to seek the involvement of international organizations such as UNICEF and other non-government organizations operating in the country for the prevention of such crimes; and
 - (iii) if so, the activities carried out in regard to that ?
- (d) If not, why?

9.

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

(a) Will he state separately —

- (i) the quantities of B-onion, pumpkin, capsicum, snake-gourd, chillie, tomato, ridged-gourd, cucumber, long bean, papaw, green gram, bitter-gourd and peanut seeds imported annually when importing to Sri Lanka;
- (ii) the quantities of seeds imported out of each variety of imported seeds by the private sector and by the Department of Agriculture; and
- (iii) the price of one kilo of each variety of seed mentioned above?

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) separately, the quantity of seeds produced locally from each variety of crop;
- (ii) whether the aforesaid quantities are sufficient to fulfill the local seed requirement; and
- (iii) the price at which seeds could be provided to the farmers if the aforesaid seeds are produced in the local farms ?

(c) If not, why ?

10.

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,—(2)

(a) Will he state separately—

- (i) the total funds allocated to all nine Provincial Councils in the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 ; and
- (ii) the Ministries of each Provincial Council that the funds allocated for, in the aforesaid years ?

(7)

- (b) Will he also state for the years 2010,2011 and 2012 separately—
- (i) the amount of money spent out of the government allocations by each Provincial Council ;
 - (ii) the value of expenses made out of the money generated from the Provincial Council itself;
 - (iii) the amount of money obtained by the each Provincial Council as government grants and revenue sharing; and
 - (iv) as to how the deficit in budgetary requirement of each Provincial Council is met?
- (c) Will he inform this House whether the revenue collection method in Provincial Councils has been improved after the arrogation of powers in Central Government to the said Councils?
- (d) If, not why?

2445/12

11.

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
- (i) whether a plan has been made by the Water Supply and Drainage Board to construct a salinity barrier in the Bandattara area of the Nilwala river;
 - (ii) the objectives expected to be achieved by the construction of this salinity barrier;
 - (iii) if such a barrier is to be constructed, the amount of money estimated to be spent on it;
 - (iv) whether such funds are sought from local or foreign sources;
 - (v) the institution/institutions that provide funds for the construction of the aforesaid barrier and the amount given by each institution separately; and
 - (vi) whether farmers in the Bandattara area complain that crops grown in a large extent of agricultural lands will be affected as a result of the construction of this salinity barrier ?
- (b) If not, why?

2512/12

12.

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Ports and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Will he state the total amount of money spent on road development activities in Sampathnuwara Divisional Secretariat Division in the Northern Province in the years 2010, 2011 and 2012?
- (b) Is he aware that the road system in the rural areas of the aforesaid Divisional Secretariat Division is in a state of complete dilapidation at present?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether action will be taken to provide the total amount of money required for repairing the aforesaid roads ; and
 - (ii) the period of time that will be taken for repairing the aforementioned roads which are in a dilapidated condition?
- (d) If not, why ?

2699/12

13.

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Coconut Development and Janatha Estate Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) separately, the amount of palm oil imported annually during the period from the year 2005 to 2012;
 - (ii) the manner in which the import tax imposed on a kilogramme of palm oil was revised during the aforesaid period;
 - (iii) the reasons for the aforesaid revision of the import taxes on palm oil; and
 - (iv) separately, the retail prices of a kilo of palm oil and coconut oil in the local market at present ?
- (b) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the coconut oil production of Sri Lanka has decreased due to adopting a lenient tax policy on importing palm oil; and
 - (ii) the coconut cultivators do not get a fair price for their products due to the decrease in the coconut oil production ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2985/12

14.

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Economic Development,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) about 1500 self employed traders who engaged in trading on pavements around Pettah-Fort area have not yet received alternative business locations; and
- (ii) the traders who engaged in mobile trading using vehicles provided by the “Dimo Batta Project” implemented under the “Divineguma” project for the self-employed traders, face severe difficulties at different occasions due to the action taken by the Traffic Police and Police OICs ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the number of pavement traders to whom alternative locations have been provided by now;
- (ii) the number of traders to whom “Dimo Batta” vehicles have been provided under “Divineguma” project; and
- (iii) whether necessary arrangements will be made to enable them to engage in their trade activities without any hindrance ?

(c) If not, why?

3203/12

15.

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) the number of institutions which have been awarded licenses to import pesticides into Sri Lanka;
- (ii) separately, the quantity of pesticides (insecticides, weedicide, fungicides) which have been imported during the period of time between 2005 to 2012 by each of those institutions; and
- (iii) the number of institutions which have been banned out of those institutions by now?

- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether there is a methodology to check the quality of pesticides before they are imported;
 - (ii) if so, of the aforesaid methodology;
 - (iii) whether there are pesticides which contain arsonic and other harmful substances to man and animals among the imported agro-chemicals;
 - (iv) if so, of the institutions which conduct tests to check the prevalence of those harmful substances;
 - (v) whether the support of the government medical college or the laboratories of the Department of Health is obtained to conduct those tests;
 - (vi) if so, of the names of the aforesaid institutions; and
 - (vii) whether the pesticides are recommended to be used in cultivations after quality certificates are obtained from the above mentioned institutions ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) of the manner in which the Department of Agriculture is involved in matters related to agro-chemicals; and
 - (ii) of the programme implemented by the Department of Agriculture to educate the farmers regarding the use of agro-chemicals ?
- (d) If not, why ?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Presentation of Bills

1.

The Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy,— Mines and Minerals (Amendment),— Bill to amend the Mines and Minerals Act, No. 33 of 1992.

Notice of Motions

2.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,—Sittings of the Parliament (No.1),— That notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 7 and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 09.07.2010, the hours of sitting on 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.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament (No. 2),— That this Parliament at its rising this day do adjourn until 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 07th, 2013.

4.

Hon. Neranjan Wickremasinghe,— Leave to introduce Bill,— That leave be granted to introduce the following Bill:—

“ Bill to amend the Roman Catholic Archbishop and Bishops of Ceylon Ordinance.”

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance and Planning, under Section 3C of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989, as last amended by the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 17 of 2011 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1793/5 of 15th January 2013, which was presented on 07.03.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*2.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce,— Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act (No.1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Industry and Commerce with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance and Planning, under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1794/9 of 22nd January 2013, which was presented on 07.03.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce,— Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Industry and Commerce with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance and Planning, under Section 14(1) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1794/10 of 22nd January 2013, which was presented on 07.03.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

The Minister of Health,— Regulations under the Food Act (No.1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Health in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee under Section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1688/28 of 14th January 2011, which were presented on 09.04.2013, be approved.

*5.

The Minister of Health,— Regulations under the Food Act (No.2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Health in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee under Section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1733/47 of 25th November 2011, which were presented on 09.04.2013, be approved.

*6.

The Minister of Health,— Regulations under the Food Act (No.3),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Health in consultation with the Food Advisory Committee under Section 32 of the Food Act, No. 26 of 1980 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1742/26 of 26th January 2012, which were presented on 09.04.2013, be approved.

*7.

Marriage Registration (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*8.

Kandyan Marriage and Divorce (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*9.

Muslim Marriage and Divorce (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*10.

Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

11.

Hanguranketha Madanwela Rajamaha Vihara Development Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

*12.

Sri Lanka Electricity (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*13.

Defence Services Command and Staff College (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

*14.

The Minister of Transport,— Regulations under the Motor Traffic Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Transport under Section 237 of the Motor Traffic Act (Chapter 203) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1796/22 of 08th February 2013, which were presented on 09.04.2013, be approved.

*15.

The Minister of Economic Development,— Regulations under the Agrarian Development Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Economic Development under Section 95 of the Agrarian Development Act, No. 46 of 2000 as amended by Act, No. 46 of 2011, read with Section 1B of the said Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1801/36 of 15th March 2013, which were presented on 09.04.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*16.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,— That the Regulations made by the President under Section 20 read with Sub-section (3) of Section 4 and Section 14 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 and Article 44 (2) of the Constitution and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1799/15 of 01st March 2013, which were presented on 22.03.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*17.

The Minister of External Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.1),— That this Parliament resolves under Article 157 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the State of Kuwait for the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 05th November 2009, being an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in Sri Lanka of such foreign State, its nationals or corporations, companies and other associations incorporated or constituted under its Laws, which was presented on 07.09.2011 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*18.

The Minister of External Affairs,— Resolution under the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (No.2),— That this Parliament resolves under Article 157 of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, that the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, signed on 22nd October 2009, being an Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments in Sri Lanka of such foreign State, its nationals or of corporations, companies and other associations incorporated or constituted under its Laws, which was presented on 07.09.2011 be approved, as being essential for the development of the national economy.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*19.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Determination under the Constitution,— That this Parliament determines that the salary of Mr. H.A.S. Samaraweera, the incumbent Auditor-General appointed with effect from 15.08.2011 shall be as follows in terms of Article 153(2) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

That this Parliament further determines that Mr. H.A.S. Samaraweera, Auditor-General shall be placed on the salary point of Rs. 48,940/- which is the 2nd step in the salary scale of SL-4-2006, with effect from 15.08.2011 when he was appointed to the said post and that he be paid the other allowances relevant to the post and such annual salary increments as specified in the salary scale.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*20.

The Minister of Lands and Land Development,— Regulations under the Registration of Title Act,— That the Regulations made by the 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 24th August 2009, which were presented on 06.05.2010, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*21.

Order under the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act,—Adjourned Debate on Question (08th September 2011) Motion made and question proposed,— “Order made by the Minister of Justice under Sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Special Provisions) Act, No. 42 of 2007, and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1708/5 of 30th May 2011, which was presented on 23.08.2011, be approved.”

*22.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— Order under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance,— That the Order made by the Minister of Agrarian Services and Wildlife under subsection (1) of Section 2 of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (Chapter 469) and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1735/21 of 06th December 2011, which was presented on 13.12.2011, be approved.

23.

Sri Lanka Women's Conference (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

24.

State Employees' Development Finance Corporation (Incorporation) Bill—
Consideration.

25.

Institute of Martial Arts (Incorporation) Bill — Consideration.

26.

Bodhirajarama Educational and Cultural Foundation (Incorporation) Bill — Second
Reading.

27.

Al-Jamiathul Ghawsiyyah (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

28.

Computer Society of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Bill — Second Reading.

* *Indicates Government Business*
