



(Ninth Parliament - Second Session)

No. 1(14).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 1

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Wednesday, May 11, 2022

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NO DATES HAVE BEEN FIXED

P. 46/2022

Hon. Sajith Premadasa
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka
Hon. (Dr.) Rajitha Senarathne
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Eran Wickramaratne
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella
Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Palani Thigambaram
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. Patali Champika Ranawaka
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Vadivel Suresh
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. M. Udayakumar

Hon. Waruna Liyanage
Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara
Hon. Harin Fernando
Hon. Kumara Welgama
Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. Hesha Withanage
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Rauff Hakeem
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— Displeasure of Parliament for not having properly exercised, performed and discharged the powers of the President under the Constitution,— Whereas in terms of Article 42 of the Constitution the President is responsible to Parliament for the due exercise, performance and discharge of his powers, duties and functions under the Constitution and any written law, including the law for the time being relating to public security;

And whereas His Excellency Gotabaya Rajapaksa was elected as the President on 17th November 2019 and continues to hold that office to date;

And whereas soon after his election, the President appointed his brother Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, MP as the Prime Minister and invited him to form the government, which he did;

And whereas the government headed by the President announced a series of tax reliefs in December 2019 with a view to win the General Election, which the President was entitled to call for at the end of February 2020;

And whereas the said tax reliefs resulted in the State losing as much as 25% of the expected revenue, which in turn contributed largely to the ratings falling from B to B- by April 2020, and to CCC by November 2020, shutting the country out of being able to borrow any further from the international financial markets;

And whereas in or about April 2021 the President ordered the prohibition of the use of chemical fertilizer and implemented the order with immediate effect causing untold hardship and colossal loss of yield of various produces;

And whereas there was a lack of due process in handling the COVID-19 pandemic, while also ignoring expert scientific advice, the President misused the COVID-19 pandemic to expand and increase militarization around the island;

And whereas scientific and medical advice was not heeded, which resulted in targeting minority communities through forced cremations including that of a 20 day old baby as well as the encouragement of quack remedies. The fund balance in the 'ITUKAMA' COVID-19 Healthcare and Social Security Fund had surpassed a sum of Rs. 1.659 billion by October 2020, yet there was a massive shortage in hospital and medical facilities available to patients;

(3)

And whereas the President failed to follow procedures set in law and brought into force illegal declarations of 'curfew' and 'quarantine curfew' during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic without the necessary Gazette publications;

And whereas purchasing the Sinopharm vaccine for 15 USD per dose instead of the 2.85 USD rate, and thereby worsening the dent in the economy while failing to take urgent and timely steps to secure the required vaccines and commence the vaccination drive to curb the rapid spread of the deadly virus;

And whereas the President appointed his brother Hon. Basil Rajapaksa, against whom court cases for fraud were pending, as the Minister of Finance in July 2021;

And whereas the President appointed Mr. Ajith Nivard Cabraal as the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in or about September 2021 by ignoring his previous murky track record in economic decision making;

And whereas nearly 730 incidents of gas cylinder explosions were reported due to a change in composition of the LP gas cylinder causing multiple deaths and injuries;

And whereas the President has continuously failed to make decisions based on rational, scientific and expert advice and resorted to the counsel of a soothsayer while also using public funds to construct her temple and provide her with military protection;

And whereas on or about the 01st of April 2022, the President abused powers under the Public Security Ordinance by invoking the said powers and illegally declaring a State of Emergency for his personal security and thereby infringing on the citizens fundamental rights to peaceful protest, movement, freedom to practice a religious of their choice, freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention, freedom of association and to engage in lawful businesses;

And whereas on or about 03rd of April 2022, a Social media ban imposed on the citizens further deprived their fundamental rights including the right to access to information including crucial and essential information such news updates and easy access to the daily power cut schedule;

And whereas when the President was challenged of his illegal decision by asking that a vote be taken in Parliament, he immediately revoked the proclamation of emergency on 05th of April 2022;

And whereas on or about the 19th of April 2022, citizens in Rambukkana who were exercising their right to protest by agitating about the sudden increase in fuel prices were shot at by law enforcement officers, killing one (01), critically injuring three (03) and injuring many other unarmed civilians;

And whereas many citizens came by their deaths while standing in queues for essential items due to severe shortages as a result of the exacerbation of the economic status of the Country;

(4)

And whereas the President admitted that he had made mistakes in imposing an immediate ban on chemical fertilizers and in delaying to seek the help of the International Monetary Fund. Both 'mistakes' had very serious adverse impact on the economy;

That this Parliament expresses its displeasure for not having properly exercised, performed and discharged the powers of the President under the Constitution.
