



(Ninth Parliament - Third Session)

No. 1(14).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 1

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Saturday, November 19, 2022

Saturday, November 26, 2022

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*

Recovery of Possession of Premises Given on Lease Bill— Second Reading.
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Sri Lanka Export Development Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Investment Promotion under Section 14(2) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979, relating to CESS Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2300/15 of 05th October 2022, which was presented on 17.11.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act,— 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. 2302/31 of 21st October 2022, which were presented on 17.11.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Value Added Tax Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2A of Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002 as amended by Act, No. 6 of 2005, relating to the Value Added Tax and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2300/25 of 06th October 2022, which was presented on 18.11.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(2)

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The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act (No.1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2294/26 of 22nd August 2022, which was presented on 18.11.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3(3) of the Ports and Airports Development Levy Act, No. 18 of 2011 relating to Ports and Airports Development Levy and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2300/13 of 05th October 2022, which was presented on 18.11.2022, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,— Order under the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act,— That the Order made by the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms under Section 2 of the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, No. 25 of 2002 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2301/33 of 12th October 2022, which was presented on 19.11.2022, be approved.

*

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Amendments to the Standing Orders of the Parliament,— That the following recommendations of the Committee on Standing Orders relating to the amendments to the Standing Orders of the Parliament made in their Report which was presented to Parliament on 18th November 2022 be agreed to:—

That the following two new Standing Orders be inserted as Standing Order 122 and 123 of the Parliament immediately after the existing Standing Order 121 of the Parliament thereto:—

New Standing Order 122,—

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

(1) There shall be a Committee to be designated the Committee on Banking and Financial Services consisting of sixteen Members, who are not members of the Cabinet of Ministers nominated by the Committee of Selection.

(3)

(2) The Committee shall have power as follows:—

(a) to consider and report on professional standards and culture of the Sri Lankan banking, insurance and other financial sector services;

(b) to make recommendations on reforms for creating improved functioning and diverse banking, insurance and other financial sector services, in order to empower consumers and provide greater discipline on these institutions to raise standards and provide recommendations for legislative and other regulatory actions;

(c) to study and review on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to international economic policy, overseas financial services Regulations, and its effects on Sri Lankan monetary affairs, credit and financial services and economic growth;

(d) to review on a continuous basis, matters relating to monetary policy including Central Bank Reserve System, export and foreign trade promotion, export controls, import controls, financial aid to commerce, industry and small and medium enterprises, financial markets, financial procedures, performance and management of financial institutions, issuance and redemption of notes, coinage and currency, matters relating to disbursement and recovery of loans; and provide recommendations to ensure the stability and continuance of the financial sector;

(e) to conduct and examine regulatory and competitive investigations into the Sri Lanka Inter Bank Offered Rate (SLIBOR) setting process;

(f) to review the co-operate governance, performance and management, transparency and conflicts of interest relating to state financial institutions and financial services provides including insurance;

(g) to conduct policy reviews of the responsibilities of the Government, and of future Governments and Parliament in respect of financial policy and financial institutions including insurance;

(h) to examine and report on the performance and management of the Securities Exchange Commission and capital market developments;

(i) to examine and report on the performance and management of the Colombo Stock Exchange.

(3) The Committee shall, every three months report to Parliament on its findings of any state-owned Bank, or of any other institution providing financial services including Insurance, or other undertaking vested under any written law in the Government and on any matter arising therefrom. The report shall also include observations on matters that require remedial action, and recommendations if any.

(4)

(4) A report of the Committee, once tabled in Parliament shall be referred to the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance and the Ministers in charge of the institutions who shall fulfil the recommendations laid down in the report within a period of eight weeks, and also submit a statement on actions they propose to take with regard to observations, or if the Minister is of the view that particular recommendations may not be fulfilled, the Minister shall explain the reasons for this in writing and indicate alternative action the Minister proposes. If the Committee requires, the Committee may invite the relevant Minister to explain the position in person and to answer the questions that arise as to such matters within eight weeks.

(5) (a) The Committee shall as required appoint Sub-Committees of its Members to look at any institution, provided that other Members of Parliament may attend any such Sub-Committee meeting if they so wish. Such Sub-Committee shall report to the Committee on such matters as the Committee deem necessary; and

(b) The Committee or any Sub-Committees appointed by the Committee shall as required have sittings in Parliamentary Complex or any relevant institutions as decided by the Committee.

(6) Members of Parliament who are not Members of the Committee may be allowed to observe the proceedings of the Committee with the permission of the Chair.

(7) The Committee on Banking and Financial Services or any of its Sub-Committees shall for the performance of its duties have the power to summon before it and question any person and call for and examine any paper, book, record or other document and to have access to stores and property.

(8) The quorum of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services shall be five Members. Any Member not attending three consecutive meetings of the Committee without good reason acceptable to the Committee shall be deemed to have vacated his membership of the Committee.

New Standing Order 123,—

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC STABILIZATION

(1) There shall be a Committee to be designated the Committee on Economic Stabilization consisting of sixteen Members, who are not members of the Cabinet of Ministers nominated by the Committee of Selection.

(2) The functions of the Committee on Economic Stabilization are:—

(a) to examine the performance, management, operational efficiency, policy framework, legal framework and risk management of state-owned enterprises;

(5)

- (b) to examine the financial stability, debt management, profit and investment management of state-owned enterprises;
 - (c) to examine the requirements for divestiture, opportunities for public-private partnerships and strategies to minimize losses and enhance profits of state-owned enterprises; and
 - (d) to examine human resource management, reduction of excessive or surplus staff, non-payment of wages and statutory dues, over payments of wages and allowances pertaining to those who are employed by the state-owned enterprises.
- (3) The Committee shall, every three months report to Parliament on its findings of any state-owned enterprises governed by the Finance Act, No 38 of 1971 and the Companies Act, No. 7 of 2007.
- (4) A report of the Committee on Economic Stabilization, once tabled in Parliament shall be referred to the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance and the Ministers in charge of the institutions who shall fulfil the recommendations laid down in the report within a period of eight weeks, and also submit statement on actions they propose to take with regard to observations, or if the Minister is of the view that particular recommendations may not be fulfilled, the Minister shall explain the reasons for this in writing and indicate alternative action the Minister proposes. If the Committee requires, the Committee may invite the relevant Minister to explain the position in person and to answer the questions that arise as to such matter within eight weeks.
- (5) (a) The Committee shall as required, appoint Sub-Committees of its Members to look at any institution, provided that other Members may attend any such Sub-Committee meeting if they so wish. Such Sub-Committee shall report to the Committee on such matters as the Committee deem necessary.
- (b) The Committee or any Sub-Committees appointed by the Committee shall as required have sittings in Parliamentary Complex or any relevant institutions as decided by the Committee.
- (6) Members of Parliament who are not Members of the Committee may be allowed to observe the proceedings of the Committee with the permission of the Chair.
- (7) The Committee on Economic Stabilization or any of its Sub-Committees shall for the performance of its duties have the power to summon before it and question any person and call for and examine any paper, book, record or other document and to have access to stores and property.
- (8) The quorum of the Committee on Economic Stabilization shall be five Members. Any Member not attending three consecutive meetings of the Committee without good reason acceptable to the Committee shall be deemed to have vacated his membership of the Committee.

Friday, December 09, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

3/2022

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka,— To ask the Minister of Tourism and Lands,—(3)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) payment of compensation and other administrative expenses for the lands that are acquired for statutory bodies of the government under the Land Acquisition Act should be borne by the relevant institution; and
 - (ii) whereas, the allocations made by the treasury for the aforesaid institutions are being utilized for the purpose?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the method followed to transfer the private lands to the aforesaid institutions that are acquired for statutory bodies utilizing the allocations of the treasury; and
 - (ii) the relevant law in this regard?
- (c) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the Ministry of Lands has instructed the Divisional Secretaries to transfer the private lands, that are acquired for statutory bodies utilizing the allocations of the treasury to the aforementioned institutions, from a transfer certificate in terms of the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act; and
 - (ii) giving such advice is against the provisions of the aforesaid Act, Land Acquisition Orders and the Circulars?
- (d) If so, will he also state the measures that will be taken to rectify this situation?
- (e) If not, why?

33/2022

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether steps have been taken to enact new laws and amend the existing laws to protect intellectual property;
 - (ii) if so, separately of the said new and amended laws; and
 - (iii) if so, separately of the advantages and the safeguards provided for the designers?

(7)

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) the number of convicted persons for misusing intellectual property from 01.01.2018 to 01.01.2021; and
- (ii) separately, the course of action that has been taken against each of the said person?

(c) If not, why?

300/2022

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

(a) Will he admit that—

- (i) the normal flow of the Mahaweli river has been blocked due to sand mining activities carried out on the banks of the river;
- (ii) the said heaps of sand dumped on the banks of the river have resulted in a high possibility of frequent flood even in small rains; and
- (iii) a large portion of area near Peradeniya-Gannoruwa Army camp and Getambe Rajopavanarama temple has covered with the above mentioned heaps of sand dumped around them?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the said area mentioned in (a) (iii) above is being utilized in any productive economic activity; and
- (ii) if not, whether there is any arrangement to utilize the said area in such a plan as mentioned above?

(c) If not, why?

347/2022

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the saline requirement of government hospitals and private hospitals in Sri Lanka, separately;
- (ii) whether saline manufacturing institutions have been established in Sri Lanka by now; and
- (iii) the amount of money spent annually for the importation of saline?

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) the amount of saline manufactured in Sri Lanka out of the annual saline requirement of Sri Lanka if saline is manufactured in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) whether a programme is available at present to increase the aforesaid manufacturing capacity;

(8)

- (iii) if so, the aforesaid programme;
- (iv) whether there is a programme to commence the manufacture of saline in Sri Lanka if saline is not manufactured in Sri Lanka; and
- (v) if so, the said programme?
- (c) If not, why?

674/2022

Hon. Kins Nelson,— To ask the Minister of Tourism and Lands,—(3)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) most of the families residing in Polonnaruwa district including Hingurakgoda engage in Ornamental Flower Plantation; and
 - (ii) the aforesaid community is faced with number of issues in finding soil needed for the industry and not having a fixed price for their flowers?
- (b) If so, will he inform this House of the steps that would be taken to solve the said issues?
- (c) If not, why?

970/2022

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

- (a) Is he aware of the fact that—
 - (i) betel cultivation is abundantly done in Batticaloa district; and
 - (ii) the selling price of betel is very low although there is a high demand for betel?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether measures will be taken to increase the selling price of betel?
- (c) Is he also aware of the fact that—
 - (i) 30% of the population dwelling in the villages such as Pudukudirippu – West and Kirankulam, engage in cashew cultivation as their livelihood; and
 - (ii) even though the Provincial Council has set aside allocations for above mentioned communities under the Rural Development Coordination Project, the said allocations have not been disbursed yet?
- (d) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the reasons for not disbursing the aforesaid allocations; and
 - (ii) the measures that will be taken to disburse the said allocations?
- (e) If not, why?

1107/2022

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the date on which the Presidential Commission of Inquiry was appointed to probe the Central Bank Bond Scam;
- (ii) the recommendations that have been prescribed by the above mentioned commission;
- (iii) the names of the persons those who have directly got involved in the said Bond Scam; and
- (iv) the course of action that has been taken on the said Bond Scam so far?

(b) If not, why?

1514/2022

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of field officers who served as Members of the Local Government institutions before the conduct of the Local Government Election of 2018;
- (ii) the institutions in which each officer served, separately;
- (iii) out of them, the number of officers who served as Chairman/Vice Chairman/Mayor/Deputy Mayor and the names of those Local Government institutions;
- (iv) out of the officers mentioned in (i) above, the number of Samurdhi Development Officers and Agriculture Research and Production Assistants who served as Members of the Local Government institutions; and
- (v) out of them, the number of officers who served as Chairman/Vice Chairman/Mayor/Deputy Mayor and the names of those Local Government institutions?

(10)

- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he admits that the officers mentioned in (a) (iv) above faced an injustice owing to the laws formulated by the then government banning the field officers from contesting elections;
 - (ii) if so, the steps that would be taken to rectify that;
 - (iii) whether arrangements would be made to amend the Act relating to that; and
 - (iv) the date on which it would be done?
- (c) If not, why?

1531/2022

Hon. Ishak Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House, the number of tanks located in the Mahaweli system H which receives water from the Kalawewa?
- (b) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the aforesaid tanks are covered with watery plants due to lack of proper maintenance;
 - (ii) the farmers who engage in paddy cultivation face immense difficulties owing to this situation; and
 - (iii) the fishermen who engage in fishing activities in the said tanks are faced with the threat of losing their occupations?
- (c) Will he also inform this House whether measures will be taken to renovate the aforesaid tanks considering the difficulties encountered by the above mentioned farmers and fishermen?
- (d) If not, why?

1675/2022

Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of villages out of those in Matale district that are facing irrigation water problem by now;
 - (ii) the names of those villages; and
 - (iii) the measures taken by the Ministry to address the irrigation water problem in Matale district?
- (b) If not, why?

1898/2022

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) separately, as per each year, the number of Sri Lankan migrant workers who died, fell ill and met with accidents while engaging in foreign employments since 2015 to date;
 - (ii) separately, the number of Sri Lankan migrant workers who were entitled and not entitled to the insurance coverages;
 - (iii) the total amount of money paid to Sri Lankan migrant workers who were entitled to the insurance coverages;
 - (iv) whether measures have been taken to provide some benefits to Sri Lankan migrant workers who were not entitled to the insurance coverages; and
 - (v) if so, aforesaid details?
- (b) If not, why?

2003/2022

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala,— To ask the Minister of Tourism and Lands,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the name of each land in Kurunegala district that has been taken over by the Land Reform Commission and distributed among people for occupation, the extent of each land, the number of lots belonging to each land, the date the lots were distributed, the village, Grama Niladhari Division and Divisional Secretariat Division where each land is situated, separately;
 - (ii) whether action has been taken to provide deeds for the said lots; and
 - (iii) if not, the date by which deeds are expected to be provided for those lands?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether money is charged for the lots mentioned in (a)(i) above; and
 - (ii) if so, the basis for such charges?
- (c) If not, why?

2044/2022

Hon. Velu Kumar,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) whether a Cabinet decision has been taken on 06.09.2021 in relation to establishing Dairy farms in the estates belonging to the Janatha Estate Development Board;
 - (ii) the extents of land in acres obtained from each of the estates known as “Galaboda” and “Mount Jin” for that purpose, separately;
 - (iii) the name of each estate that obtains such land, names of directors of each company and the nationality of each such director (whether local or foreign), separately; and
 - (iv) the advance payment made by each of the above companies and the annual tax of an acre, separately?
- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether he is aware that there is sufficient lands in the Dairy farms in the districts in which the above estates are located;
 - (ii) if so, the basis on which the above lands are given for Dairy farms; and
 - (iii) whether feasibility study have been conducted in relation to establishing those dairy farms?
- (c) If not, why?

2061/2022

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether an action would be taken to initiate the third phase of Norochcholai Coal Power Station;
 - (ii) if so, the amount of money allocated to spend on it;
 - (iii) the funding source;
 - (iv) the power generating capacity projected in Mega Watts; and
 - (v) whether tenders have been called for this project?
- (b) If not, why?

2173/2022

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of members of the Education Employees Co-operative Thrift and Credit Society Limited at present;
 - (ii) the amount of assets of that society at present;
 - (iii) unions including Lanka Teachers Union accuse that the governing body of the society misappropriate the funds of its members; and
 - (iv) the measures to be taken to prevent such misappropriations?
- (b) If not, why?

2521/2022

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of dates that the Security Council meetings were conducted from January 2015 to November 2019;
 - (ii) the names of the participants in those meetings; and
 - (iii) the officers and politicians who are authorized by law to participate in Security Council meetings?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that it has been revealed in the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into the Easter Sunday attack during the aforementioned time period, various people have participated in the Security Council meetings, breaking the tradition; and
 - (ii) if so, the steps taken in this regard?
- (c) If not, why?

2536/2022

Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment,—(2)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) whether any irregularity, irregular appointment, any act of corruption or any illegal activity has taken place in Kidney Fund during the period from year 2015 to 2019;
 - (ii) if so, separately the nature of such acts that have taken place at the aforesaid Fund; and
 - (iii) separately, the value of the financial, property and human resources that the government has lost due to each of the aforesaid act?

(14)

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) whether investigations have been carried out to identify the officers who are responsible for the acts mentioned in (a) (i) above;
- (ii) if the responsible officers have been identified, the action that has been taken against them;
- (iii) if no action has been taken against them, the reasons for that;
- (iv) whether action will be taken against them in future; and
- (v) the measures that will be taken to prevent the occurrence of such acts in future?

(c) If not, why?

2554/2022

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether any irregularity, irregular appointment, any act of corruption or any illegal activity has taken place in National Defence College during the period from year 2015 to 2019;
- (ii) if so, separately the nature of such acts that have taken place at the aforesaid College; and
- (iii) separately, the value of the financial, property and human resources that the government has lost due to each of the aforesaid act?

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) whether investigations have been carried out to identify the officers who are responsible for the acts mentioned in (a) (i) above;
- (ii) if the responsible officers have been identified, the action that has been taken against them;
- (iii) if no action has been taken against them, the reasons for that;
- (iv) whether action will be taken against them in future; and
- (v) the measures that will be taken to prevent the occurrence of such acts in future?

(c) If not, why?

2568/2022

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the Thriposha required by pregnant mothers and infants is currently being issued;
 - (ii) whether the production activities of the Thriposha factory in Kapuwatta, Jaela, are ongoing;
 - (iii) whether the raw materials required for the production of Thriposha are found locally;
 - (iv) if not, whether the said raw materials are imported; and
 - (v) if imported, the quantity of raw materials that have been imported during the period from the year 2015 up to now and the amount of money spent for it, separately?
- (b) If not, why?

2591/2022

Hon. Tissa Attanayake,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the main regional office of the Sri Lanka Transport Board of Eastern region, is housed in a building in Kalmunai area on rental basis; and
 - (ii) a suitable land has been allotted in the Batticaloa area for the establishment of aforesaid office?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the year in which the building referred to in (a) (i) above was acquired on rental basis;
 - (ii) the procedure followed for the above acquisition; and
 - (iii) separately, the amount of monthly rent of the building and the total amount of rent paid from the date it was acquired on rental basis?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) the year in which the land referred to in (a) (ii) above was allotted for the above purpose;
 - (ii) the factors that caused the delay in the construction of the relevant building on aforesaid land;
 - (iii) the future plans regarding the construction of the said building; and
 - (iv) whether the views and suggestions of the Members of Parliament, representing the Batticaloa district will be sought in establishing this office?
- (d) If not, why?

2605/2022

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the years in which the economic growth of Sri Lanka recorded a negative value after it gained independence from its colonial status;
 - (ii) the economic growth of each of the aforesaid years, separately;
 - (iii) the names of the persons who served as the President and the Minister of Finance in each of the aforesaid years, separately; and
 - (iv) whether the then governments took action to restore the economy of Sri Lanka to normalcy in the years mentioned above?
- (b) If not, why?

2625/2022

Hon. D. Weerasingha,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of Pirivenas currently existing in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) separately, the total number of clergy and lay students studying in the aforesaid Pirivenas; and
 - (iii) separately, the total number academic and non-academic staff members serving in the said Pirivenas?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the allocated provision for the year 2022 to develop infrastructure facilities in those Pirivenas; and
 - (ii) whether any arrangement has been made to commence new Pirivenas?
- (c) If not, why?

2633/2022

Hon. Sampath Athukorala,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether arrangements have been made to ensure continuous supply of fertilizer required for both Yala and Maha seasons in future;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to provide adequate amounts of seed paddy;

(17)

- (iii) whether he is aware that seed paddy is currently being sold at various prices; and
- (iv) whether arrangements are in place to control the price of seed paddy?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that weedicides and pesticides are being sold at various prices;
 - (ii) whether an arrangement will be made to control the prices of weedicides and pesticides; and
 - (iii) whether the government has made some intervention by now to provide them at concessionary rates?
- (c) If not, why?

2641/2022

Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe,— To ask the Minister of Environment,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) garbage is discharged into rivers, abundantly, by the factories and the other construction sites; and
 - (ii) Environmental Protection Licenses have been issued to certain factories without conducting a proper study?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether measures will be taken to avoid the disposal of garbage, educating the factories/institutions that discharge the garbage into rivers;
 - (ii) the number of factories/institutions identified in connection with the disposal of garbage into rivers, by now; and
 - (iii) whether legal actions have been instituted against aforesaid factories/institutions?
- (c) If not why?

2646/2022

Hon. Gamini Waleboda,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife and Forest Resources Conservation,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the lands which had been human habitats and cultivation lands for decades in Sri Lanka have been Gazetted as forest reserves later;
 - (ii) the people who lived in those areas have been affected as a result; and
 - (iii) a methodology should be devised to take proper action in relation to the problems of those people?

- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of problems that have been reported owing to the Gazette Notifications mentioned in (a)(i) above, so far;
 - (ii) the steps that have been taken to solve those problems, so far; and
 - (iii) the steps that will be taken to prevent the emergence of such problems in future?
- (c) If not, why?

2652/2022

Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) the number of nursing officers serving at government hospitals in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the number of vacancies currently existing in the Government Nursing Service; and
 - (iii) steps that will be taken to fill those vacancies?
- (b) If not, why?

2662/2022

Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene,— To ask the Minister of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of persons with disabilities living in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the amount of money spent on the monthly allowance paid to them;
 - (iii) separately, the allowances paid to them as individuals and on the basis of family units; and
 - (iv) the number of persons with disabilities in the waiting lists expecting to receive the allowances?
- (b) If not, why?

2690/2022

Hon. Vasudeva Nanayakkara,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether 01 vehicle of Lamborghini model, 01 vehicle of Rolls-Royce model and 02 vehicles of Hummer model had been imported up to the Customs by 22 February 2022 despite the current ban on importation of vehicles into Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether he is aware that the market value of the aforesaid vehicles is around 57 crores of Rupees; and
 - (iii) whether those vehicles have been released by Sri Lanka Customs at a value of 750 - 800 lakhs of Rupees?

(19)

(b) Will he admit that—

- (i) the aforesaid release of vehicles is illegal; and
- (ii) a huge financial loss has been caused to the government through such release of vehicles?

(c) If not, why?

2724/2022

Hon. Mohomad Muzammil,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether permission had been granted to a financial institution known as Central Investments and Finance PLC (CIFL), by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to engage in business activities;
- (ii) the money of the depositors has not been paid back to their depositors by that institution;
- (iii) whether the Central Bank of Sri Lanka conducted an investigation over the bankruptcy of that institution;
- (iv) the measures that have been taken in relation to the recommendations of the report of that investigation; and
- (v) whether steps would be taken to pay back the money of the above depositors?

(b) If not, why?

2887/2022

Hon. Mayadunna Chinthaka Amal,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

(a) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) whether he is aware that the pomegranate is grown in the Kalpitiya Peninsula;
- (ii) if so, the area under pomegranate cultivation in Kalpitiya Peninsula;
- (iii) the number of farmers who cultivate the pomegranate in Kalpitiya Peninsula;
- (iv) whether it is known that the farmers do not get proper technical knowledge and there are obstacles in selling the products; and
- (v) the measures taken to resolve aforesaid issues?

(b) If not, why?

2981/2022

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of filling stations owned by Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies Ltd;
 - (ii) the area in which each of the aforesaid filling stations is situated; and
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to grant permission to Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies Ltd. to open new filling stations?
- (b) If not, why?

3087/2022

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number persons who have obtained loans from the Housing Development Finance Corporation as of now;
 - (ii) qualifications that should be fulfilled to obtain loans from the aforesaid institute; and
 - (iii) the annual interest rate charged by the aforementioned institute for their loans?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the number of persons who have defaulted on their loans obtained from the Housing Development Finance Corporation;
 - (ii) whether there is any possibility to provide any loan concession for people with severe financial difficulties; and
 - (iii) if so, the details in that regard?
- (c) If not, why?

3117/2022

Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of electricity consumers in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) separately, the number of consumers who have received connections from the Ceylon Electricity Board and the Lanka Electricity Company (Pvt) Limited;
 - (iii) the number of persons who have applied for new connections; and
 - (iv) whether the Ceylon Electricity Board is in a position to supply power to the aforesaid applicants?
- (b) If not, why?

3156/2022

Hon. Samanpriya Herath,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the volume of plastic brooms, plastic Ekel brooms and the plastic brushes used for cleaning purposes that is imported to Sri Lanka annually, separately; and
 - (ii) the amount of money spent to import them annually?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the measures that have been taken to encourage and promote coir related products at present; and
 - (ii) whether a policy decision has been taken to discourage the importation of alternatives to coir related products?
- (c) If not, why?

3165/2022

Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) public servants should pass the Efficiency Bar Examinations to get their promotions and increments; and
 - (ii) they have not received their promotions and increments because Efficiency Bar Examinations have not been held since January in 2022?
- (b) If not, will he inform this House the measures taken to hold the said Efficiency Bar Examinations?
- (c) If not, why?

3171/2022

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of houses situated in high risk zones of Kandy, Matale and Nuwara Eliya districts from year 2015 to date;
 - (ii) whether a programme has been prepared to relocate the families residing in the aforementioned houses; and
 - (iii) whether he admits that the benefits granted to them are inadequate?
- (b) If not, why?

3208/2022

Hon. Milan Jayathilake,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the construction of the elevated expressway from New Kelani Bridge to Athurugiriya has already been started;
 - (ii) if not, the date on which the related construction work will be commenced;
 - (iii) whether how much time will be taken to complete the construction of aforesaid expressway; and
 - (iv) the date on which the construction of aforesaid expressway will be completed?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether the surveys relating to the construction of the above expressway has been completed; and
 - (ii) whether compensation will be granted to the people who will lose their lands due to the construction of the expressway?
- (c) If not, why?

3218/2022

Hon. Sudath Manjula,— To ask the Minister of Urban Development and Housing,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of institutions registered for carrying out constructions in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether those institutions have been categorized; and
 - (iii) if so, those categorizations?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the methodology adopted regarding the institution that carry out substandard constructions; and
 - (ii) the number of construction institutions that have been black listed by now?
- (c) If not, why?

3234/2022

Hon. Imran Maharoof,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether permanent appointments have been given to all the graduate trainees who were given employments in year 2019 under the second phase of the programme to give public sector employments to graduates;
 - (ii) if so, the date on which they were confirmed in their service;
 - (iii) the date on which their one-year training period ended; and
 - (iv) the manner in which the salary in arrears and the period of service relating to their training period will be calculated?
- (b) If not, why?

3262/2022

Hon. Marjan Faleel,— To ask the Minister of Tourism and Lands,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that tourism associated with the coastal belt from Beruwala to Hikkaduwa has slumped; and
 - (ii) the steps that will be taken to promote tourism in the area concerned?
- (b) Will he also inform the House—
 - (i) whether action will be taken to provide relief regarding the loans obtained by tourist hotel owners; and
 - (ii) the projects that have been commenced for uplifting tourism?
- (c) If not, why?

3267/2022

Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the total area of the so called land, “Yayawatta” which is situated in Medagama Grama Niladhari Division of Tangalle Divisional Secretariat Division in Hambantota district in acres; and
 - (ii) the decision of the court case filed on 09.04.1979 and summoned under the Number P 1935 regarding the above mentioned land?

- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the total area of the portion taken over from the said land to construct houses for the victims of Tsunami caused in 2004;
 - (ii) the portion of the said land allocated for the Cemetery; and
 - (iii) the area of the remaining portion after the aforesaid allocation?
- (c) If not, why?

3318/2022

Hon. Muditha Prashanthi,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that there are many uncultivated lands owned by Sri Lanka Plantation Companies;
 - (ii) the extent of uncultivated lands in acres in each province separately;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that uncultivated lands owned by Plantation Companies are found in Godakawela, Opanayaka and Waligepola Divisional Secretariat Divisions in Ratnapura district;
 - (iv) the extent of uncultivated lands found in each Divisional Secretariat Division in acres;
 - (v) whether there is a method for making these lands available to the public for cultivation?
- (b) If not why?

3335/2022

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Labour and Foreign Employment,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the labour receiving foreign countries for which Sri Lankan workers are sought for employment opportunities; and
 - (ii) Separately, the number of employment opportunities informed to be provided to Sri Lanka by each of the aforesaid countries?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the countries for which language certificates are required for employment;
 - (ii) the countries for which valid vocational training certificates are required for employment;
 - (iii) whether there are any countries for which language and vocational training certificates are not required; and
 - (iv) if so, the names of the aforesaid countries?

(25)

(c) Will he further inform this House—

- (i) of the steps hitherto taken to direct Sri Lankan workers for foreign employment; and
- (ii) of the measures that have been taken to enable the Sri Lankan workers to accomplish the qualifications required for foreign employment expeditiously?

(d) If not, why?

3370/2022

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Highways,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) even though there are 7 bus depots of the Sri Lanka Transport Board in the Northern province, they have not been able to provide a proper service to the people of the province owing to the shortage of buses and vacancies prevailing on the staffs;
- (ii) it has resulted in public servants, teachers and students being unable to reach their places of work and schools on time; and
- (iii) people in some areas have to incur huge costs to meet their transport needs, as there are no transport services to those destinations?

(b) Will he inform this House of the measures to be taken to provide the people of the Northern province with a quality transport service?

(c) If not, why?

3578/2022

Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the outstanding sum of money that the Sri Lankan Airlines has to pay to the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation; and
- (ii) the steps that the Ministry would take for the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation to receive that sum of money?

(b) If not, why?

3581/2022

Hon. Hector Appuhamy,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the total value of outstanding bills in due to the Ceylon Electricity Board;
 - (ii) whether he is aware of the fact that famous and powerful people have defaulted in the electricity bills; and
 - (iii) the courses of action that will be taken to charge the aforesaid due amounts from them?
- (b) If not, why?

3662/2022

Hon. Yadamini Gunawardena,— To ask the Minister of Technology,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether a national definition has been formed in relation to the Information Technology Literacy of Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) if so, the said definition; and
 - (iii) if not, the time that will be required to formulate the said definition?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether there is a possibility to provide the figures of information technology literacy in Sri Lanka based on national, district and Divisional Secretariat levels, separately;
 - (ii) if not, the manner in which a methodology can be drafted to measure the information technology literacy rates depending on each of the above levels;
 - (iii) whether a methodology is implemented at the moment to increase information technology literacy; and
 - (iv) if not, the measures that can be taken to increase the information technology literacy?
- (c) If not, why?

3852/2022

Hon. S. M. Marikkar,—To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that the school playground of the Siddhartha Vidyalaya in Sedawatta, Kolonnawa is in such a state that students of the above-mentioned school cannot use it for sports activities as soil has remained heaped in the playground for about three years;
 - (ii) the reasons why the task of bringing the playground to a state where it can be used for sports activities has been delayed so far; and
 - (iii) date on which reconstruction of the playground will be completed and the playground will be made available for use of the students for sports activities?
- (b) If not, why?

3866/2022

Hon. Imthiaz Bakeer Markar,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of Tamil medium national schools and provincial schools in Kalutara district, separately; and
 - (ii) the name of each of those schools, the education zone that school belongs to, the classification relevant to the school and the number of students according to the grades in the school, separately?
- (b) If not, why?

3911/2022

Hon. Upul Mahendra Rajapaksha,— To ask the Minister of Urban Development and Housing,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he admits the fact that if there is opportunity for public employees to obtain houses on a concessionary lease basis, it will be a huge concession to them;
 - (ii) whether a housing project meant for the public officers working in the public institutions situated in Colombo and its suburbs will be planned to be implemented in areas with transportation facilities, from which houses could be obtained on a concessionary lease basis;
 - (iii) if so, whether such a housing project will be planned for Gampaha district?
 - (b) If not, why?
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