



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 2(10).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 2

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Friday, October 06, 2023

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*

Galaha Bhaddrawathie National Bhikkhu Care Centre Trust Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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Online Safety Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Finance Act (No.1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2(1) of the Finance Act, No. 25 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2329/19 of 25th April 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Finance Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 2(1) of the Finance Act, No. 25 of 2003 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2342/24 of 25th July 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Notification under the Finance Act (No.1),— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 51 read with Section 19 of the Finance Act, No. 35 of 2018 relating to Luxury Tax on Motor Vehicles and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2334/24 of 31st May 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, 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,— Notification under the Finance Act (No.2),— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 51 read with Section 19 of the Finance Act, No. 35 of 2018 relating to Luxury Tax on Motor Vehicles and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2340/42 of 13th July 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2334/23 of 31st May 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2336/69 of 16th June 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Order under the Excise (Special Provisions) Act (No.3),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 3 of the Excise (Special Provisions) Act, No. 13 of 1989 relating to Excise duty and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2338/58 of 30th June 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.1),— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Sections 2, 12, 22 and 25 read with Section 32 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) regarding Amendment of Regulations on Non Potable Spirits Imported into Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2336/70 of 16th June 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 01/2023)

(Cabinet approval signified.)

(3)

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The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Notification under the Excise Ordinance (No.2),— That the Notification made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 22 of the Excise Ordinance (Chapter 52) as amended from time to time, regarding Excise Duty on Liquor and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2338/57 of 30th June 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Excise Notification No. 02/2023)

(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 Acting Minister of Investment Promotion with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies under Section 14(2) of the Sri Lanka Export Development Act, No. 40 of 1979 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2341/63 of 21st July 2023, which was presented on 03.10.2023, 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. 2347/08 of 29th August 2023, which were presented on 03.10.2023, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business.*

Thursday, October 19, 2023

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

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Appropriation Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business.*

(4)

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS
(Friday, October 20, 2023)

2399/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of fresh water fingerlings released to the tanks/ reservoirs in Anuradhapura district from 2016 to 2020 and the fish harvest obtained through that, separately with respect to each year;
 - (ii) whether he is satisfied about the fish harvest obtained in comparison to the fingerlings released to those tanks/reservoirs; and
 - (iii) of the measures taken to promote fresh water fishing industry in small tanks?
- (b) If not, why?

2401/2023

Hon. Ishak Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of filling stations situated in Anuradhapura district;
 - (ii) the addresses of the said filling stations; and
 - (iii) the number of filling stations owned by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and the Indian Oil Company separately, out of the said filling stations?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of filling station licenses granted for Anuradhapura district since 2015;
 - (ii) the name and address separately of each person by whom such licenses were obtained;
 - (iii) the income earned by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation by issuing the said licenses; and
 - (iv) the criteria considered by the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation in issuing the above licenses?
- (c) If not, why?

(5)

2857/2023

Hon. U. K. Sumith Udukumbura,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the subsidiaries and affiliated of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation;
 - (ii) the number of approved staff for the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation;
 - (iii) the number of executive and junior employees of that staff separately;
 - (iv) the monthly salaries and allowances related to each position of executive and junior staff separately; and
 - (v) the value of the insurance claim provided for each employee and his/her family of the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation separately?
- (b) If not, why?

3647/2023

Hon. Vadivel Suresh,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) Muthiyangana Rajamaha Viharaya, Mahiyangana Rajamaha Viharaya and Kataragama Devalaya are located in Uva Province; and
 - (ii) that many Rajamaha Vihara temples have been established in Uva province including Badulla district in order to create a society with religious and cultural values?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of Rajamaha Vihara temples in Badulla district;
 - (ii) of their names;
 - (iii) whether the aforesaid Rajamaha Vihara temples are being conserved in accordance with the related archaeological acts; and
 - (iv) of the steps hitherto taken to preserve the Rajamaha Viharas of Passara, Bogoda, Dowa, Muthiyangana and Mahiyangana and other Rajamaha Viharas?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether measures have been taken to carry out the above conservation activities in accordance with the religious and cultural environment of the Buddhists while protecting the historical heritage; and
 - (ii) of the measures that will be taken to secure these historical religious heritages for the benefit of the future generation?
- (d) If not, why?

3678/2023

Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately according to each service, of the number of officers in the Sri Lanka Principals' Service, Sri Lanka Teachers' Instructors' Service and Sri Lanka Teachers' Service who—
 - (i) retired from 01.01.1997 to 31.12.2019;
 - (ii) retired from 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020;
 - (iii) retired from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021;
 - (iv) retired from 01.01.1997 to 31.12.2021 and were deceased as at 31.12.2021?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the number of persons who received the widows' and orphans'/widowers and orphans' pensions during the period from 01.01.1997 to 31.12.2021 separately per each year according to each of the above services?
- (c) If not, why?

Tuesday, November 07, 2023

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

7/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the date on which a Presidential Commission was established in relation to the Central Bank scam that took place during the term of the Good governance government;
 - (ii) of the number of persons alleged to have been involved in that directly and indirectly according to the evidence recorded by that Commission;
 - (iii) if so, of the names and designations of those persons; and
 - (iv) of the legal action taken against those persons?
- (b) If not, why?

(7)

3506/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the interest rate given in the year 2022 for the account balance of the provident fund maintained for the officers of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of the interest rate given in the year 2022 for the account balance of Employees Provident Fund (EPF);
 - (iii) of the rate of interest given in the year 2022 for the account balance of Employees' Trust Fund (ETF);
 - (iv) if there is any difference between the interest rates given for the account balances mentioned above, the reasons behind for such difference?
- (b) If not, why?

3514/2023

Hon. Asanka Navarathna,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of principals serving in the government schools in Kurunegala district by now; and
 - (ii) the name, official address, private address, telephone number, date of appointment to the post of principal, the grade held at present and the due date for retirement, separately for each of the said principals?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether a decision has been taken by the line ministry or the Ministry of Education of North Western Province regarding the period for which the post of principal of a government school could be held;
 - (ii) if so, what that decision is; and
 - (iii) of the policy decisions taken by the Ministry of Education of North Western Province regarding the transfers of principals subsequent to 01.01.2023?
- (c) If not, why?

3521/2023

Hon. Uddika Premarathne,— To ask the Minister of Mass Media,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of cinema theaters in Sri Lanka with screening facilities for all film categories;
 - (ii) of the annual revenue generated by aforesaid cinema theatres;
 - (iii) whether plans have been made to increase the income, generated by the film industry in Sri Lanka;
 - (iv) if so, of aforesaid plans;
 - (v) whether plans have been formulated for the future progress of the film industry; and
 - (vi) if so, of aforesaid plans?
- (b) If not, why?

3539/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the value of exports by Sri Lanka from 2010 to 2022; and
 - (ii) the foreign exchange earnings received from exports of Sri Lanka during the said period;
 in US dollars?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of—
 - (i) the amount of foreign exchange approved for imports to Sri Lanka from 2010 to 2022; and
 - (ii) the value of imports to Sri Lanka during the said period, in US dollars?
- (c) If not, why?

3549/2023

Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he state, separately—
 - (i) the number of Tamil medium schools in each of the Education zones of Kalutara, Horana and Matugama;
 - (ii) the number of vacancies existing for Tamil medium teachers in each such Education zone at present; and
 - (iii) the number of Tamil medium teachers posted to each of the above mentioned zones when appointments were given to Colleges of Education Diploma holders recently?

(9)

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) whether he is aware that there are nearly 15 vacancies for teachers including the vacancy for a Mathematics teacher in the Ka/Al-Hasania Maha Vidyalaya in the Kalutara Education zone in which around 620 students study;
- (ii) if so, whether steps would be taken to fill those vacancies for teachers;
- (iii) whether he is aware that the above school does not have sufficient building facilities;
- (iv) whether he is aware that the construction work of the three-storied building consisting of 12 classrooms being constructed with the support of the philanthropists is at its final stage at present; and
- (v) whether steps would be taken to provide desks and chairs to those 12 classrooms?

(c) If not, why?

3570/2023

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

(a) Will he admit that—

- (i) it takes over ten months for the payment of monthly pension to public servants to commence after retirement from public service;
- (ii) there are occasions of certain public servants passing away before receiving the first pension owing to the said delay; and
- (iii) the said delay is a severe injustice done to the public servants?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the reasons for the said delay;
- (ii) of the steps taken by now to avoid the said delay;
- (iii) whether a proper programme will be implemented to avoid the said delay; and
- (iv) if so, the date on which such programme will be implemented?

(c) If not, why?

3596/2023

Hon. Harshana Rajakaruna,— 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) of the projects implemented by the Special Projects Unit maintained at the Presidential Secretariat from 14.07.2022;
 - (ii) of the number of employees currently working in that unit;
 - (iii) of the name, position, salary and allowances and the facilities provided including vehicles to each such employee, separately;
 - (iv) whether he is aware that all the staff working in that unit are working full-time in a political party; and
 - (v) of the amount spent monthly for the maintenance of that unit;
- (b) If not, why?

3645/2023

Hon. Vadivel Suresh,— To ask the Minister of Transport and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the buses on a number of peripheral routes including Wewelhinna via Demodara; Kokagala via Madolsima-Kuruwigolla; PalleKeeruwa via Lunugala; Othumba via Demodara; Rokathenna and Rosette from the Badulla town operated by the Badulla depot of the Sri Lanka Transport Board are not operational at present; and
 - (ii) school children in the estate areas and people visiting the Badulla town for various purposes are severely inconvenienced owing to this?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the steps that would be taken to resume the operation of the above mentioned buses; and
 - (ii) the dates on which such operations would resume?
- (c) If not, why?

3672/2023

Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera, — To ask the Minister of Urban Development and Housing,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) whether the casual, substitute, contract and temporary employees employed in the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing been dismissed after the present government took over;
 - (ii) of the number of employees so dismissed;
 - (iii) of the name, address and telephone number of each such employee separately; and
 - (iv) of the reasons for their removal?

(11)

- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether those dismissed employees will be reinstated;
 - (ii) if so, on what date;
 - (iii) of the measures that have been taken so far regarding those employees?
 - (c) If not, why?
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Wednesday, November 08, 2023

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

387/2023

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the risk of landslides in the Colombo-Kandy main bus route, in the upper part of the lower Kadugannawa area, close to the railway line, which was hit by a landslide during the rainy season of 2021, has not subsided until now; and
 - (ii) although the National Building Research Organization took steps to remove the water flowing through the inner soil layer of the above area, that area has been designated as a high risk zone?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the permanent measures that have been taken so far to free the above area from danger; and
 - (ii) whether attention has been paid to developing alternative routes for traveling from Colombo to Kandy?
- (c) Will he also inform this House whether any steps can be taken in connection with the constant risk of landslides at the portion of the railway line from Kadugannawa to the Balana railway Station?
- (d) If not, why?

423/2023

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka,— To ask the Minister of Power and Energy,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the ‘special credit scheme on Solar electricity facility’ for public servants proposed in the budget 2021 to reduce expenses on electricity bills is being implemented;
 - (ii) if so, the date on which the above loan scheme was initiated;

(12)

- (iii) of the amount of credit expected to be granted to one public servant under the above scheme and the corresponding interest rate; and
- (iv) of the number of public servants to whom the loans have been granted under the above credit scheme as of now and the amount of money granted?

(b) If not, why?

436/2023

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

(a) Will he inform this House, separately according to each company—

- (i) of the selling price;
- (ii) of the output quantity of milk that could be prepared by those packets in litres; and
- (iii) of the quantity of liquid milk in litres used in the production of the aforesaid packets;

of a full cream milk powder packet and a skim milk powder packet each weighing 1 kilogram and a full cream milk powder packet and a skim milk powder packet each weighing 400 grams?

(b) Will he also inform this House of the volumes of liquid milk packets that are sold in Sri Lanka and the prices of liquid milk packets according to each category of volume separately?

(c) If not, why?

690/2023

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

(a) Will he admit that—

- (i) the rural hospital situated in the Thuraiñeelavanai area within the Kalavanchikudy Divisional Secretariat Division of the Batticaloa District has been upgraded as a divisional hospital;
- (ii) only one doctor has been appointed at present although two doctors should have been appointed for this hospital;
- (iii) the people of this area have been affected because the doctor has been assigned to cover duties at one other hospital as well; and
- (iv) although an ambulance was available at this hospital in the early period, no ambulance is available now?

(13)

- (b) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the reasons for not appointing a permanent doctor for this hospital;
 - (ii) the reasons for not providing the hospital with an ambulance;
 - (iii) the steps will be taken to appoint a permanent doctor for this hospital and to provide it with an ambulance?
- (c) If not, why?

819/2023

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,— To ask the Minister of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that a considerable number of women have become the head of the family due to the death of the husband,/ abandonment, or for any other reason;
 - (ii) if so, the number of females who have taken the role of head of the family;
 - (iii) whether there is a course of action to provide relief to those women; and
 - (iv) of the number of family units rendered helpless due to the death of the husband/abandonment or for any other reason?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of family units where the husband is caring for the children without a wife due to the death of the wife/abandonment, or for any other reason; and
 - (ii) of the course of action that has been implemented to provide relief to those families?
- (c) If not, why?

839/2023

Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately—
 - (i) of the educational zones in the Western Province with a surplus of teachers and those with a shortages of teachers; and
 - (ii) of the surplus and the shortage of teachers with respect to each subject?
- (b) If not, why?

853/2023

Hon. Gamini Waleboda,— To ask the Minister of Public Security,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that the current heads of the government have declared that police powers should be devolved to Provincial Councils as per the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution of Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether it is scheduled to devolve the police powers currently held by the central government to the Provincial Councils;
 - (iii) whether the expenses currently spent on the Sri Lanka Police and other related institutes be revised owing to the said fact; and
 - (iv) if so, the amount thus revised?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the changes occurs in the existing recruitment process of the Sri Lanka Police since the Provincial Councils were given police powers; and
 - (ii) whether the powers to purchase weapons are directly vested in the Provincial Police due to the devolution of police powers to the Provincial Councils?
- (c) If not, why?

874/2023

Hon. Rohana Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of fish hatcheries established in Anuradhapura district;
 - (ii) the names of the above fish hatcheries; and
 - (iii) the steps that will be taken for the further development of the above fish hatcheries?
- (b) If not, why?

Thursday, November 09, 2023

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1317/2023

Hon. Mohomad Muzammil,— To ask the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of Quazi courts functioning in Sri Lanka at present;
 - (ii) the number of divorce cases that have been heard from the year 2015 to date based on the determinations given by the Quazi courts;

(15)

- (iii) the number of Quazis above the age of 60 serving in the Quazi courts;
 - (iv) the number of Quazis with degree qualifications; and
 - (v) the methodology adopted to select Quazis?
- (b) If not, why?

1464/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of Fisheries Co-operative Societies in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of the number of members of aforesaid societies at present;
 - (iii) as to which district has the largest number of Fisheries Co-operative Societies;
 - (iv) of the measures will be taken for the promotion of Fisheries Co-operative Societies?
- (b) If not, why?

1512/2023

Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilizations and National Policies,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the number of vehicles in public institutes in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the number of vehicles owned by Corporations and Statutory Bodies out the above vehicles;
 - (iii) the number of vehicles acquired by public institutes on rental basis; and;
 - (iv) the annual rental amount paid on vehicles that have been acquired on rental basis?
- (b) If not, why?

1550/2023

Hon. (Mrs.) Rajika Wickramasinghe,— To ask the Minister of Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of cinnamon plants distributed among the cinnamon cultivators so far from the year 2019;
 - (ii) the number of cinnamon plants provided to each cinnamon cultivator; and
 - (iii) the areas in which the cinnamon plants have been distributed?

(16)

- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the other facilities given to the cinnamon cultivators in addition to the cinnamon plants given; and
 - (ii) separately, of the amount of money spent on promoting cinnamon cultivation so far in each year from the year 2019?
- (c) If not, why?

1586/2023

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

- (a) Will he admit—
 - (i) that floods do occur in Kalutara District frequently; and
 - (ii) there are areas which get inundated two or three times a year in the District concerned?
- (b) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) what methodology is adopted for curbing floods in the Kalutara District;
 - (ii) what plans have been formulated by now to curb floods in that District; and
 - (iii) in which areas these plans are to be implemented?
- (c) If not, why?

1718/2023

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) separately, as per each year, of the value of the foreign remittances, Sri Lanka received, from 2015 to date;
 - (ii) separately, for each of the aforesaid years, of the amount of the total foreign exchange earnings, as a percentage; and
 - (iii) of the measures, taken to encourage the foreign currency remittance to Sri Lanka, over lawful channels?
- (b) If not, why?

2020/2023

Hon. Kins Nelson,—To ask the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that Mahapola Training Institute (Mahapola Port and Maritime Institute) operates under the Sri Lanka Ports Authority;
 - (ii) of the number of courses currently conducted by the institution;
 - (iii) of each of these courses is; and
 - (iv) of the manner this institution be used for the future economic development of Sri Lanka?
- (b) If not, why?

2397/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of State owned Textile Centers in Anuradhapura district;
 - (ii) of the number of employees employed in such centers;
 - (iii) whether he admits that textile products are in decline;
 - (iv) of the measures that have been taken to promote the production of the textile industry; and
 - (v) whether provisions have been allocated for the implementation of the said measures?
- (b) If not, why?

2552/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) of the number of teachers sent on retirement on 31.12.2022 owing to their having completed the age of 60 years;
 - (ii) whether there exists a risk of government schools becoming hampered by the retirement of such a large number of teachers all at once; and
 - (iii) what courses of action will be taken to fill the vacancies that have been resulted in by the retirement concerned?
- (b) If not, why?

2883/2023

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the financial allocations made for the development of Livestock by the supplementary budget of 2020;
 - (ii) the allocations utilized and unutilized out of the above, separately; and
 - (iii) the measures that have been taken to promote chicken production and dairy production in Sri Lanka?
 - (b) If not, why?
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Friday, November 10, 2023

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1623/2023

Hon. Tissa Attanayake,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that the Agriculture Instructor of Kundasale sought the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture in 2018 to prepare a suitable program for the production of vegetable seeds in greenhouses as a solution to the problems arising in the production of vegetable seeds due to weather changes in each cultivation season in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the action taken by now in that regard;
 - (iii) whether it is expected to get the involvement of the greenhouses owned by the private sector in the above programme; and
 - (iv) if so, the methodology adopted in getting the involvement of the aforesaid green houses in the programme mentioned above?
- (b) If not , why?

1640/2023

Hon. Milan Jayathilake,—To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—(1)
 - (i) whether he is aware of the fact that a large number of new inventions have been invented to enable the alternative energy consumption owing to the shortage of gas and the sky rocketing of gas price;
 - (ii) whether he is aware of the fact that the foreign exchange expenditure on gas imports, could be saved by promoting the above inventions; and
 - (iii) of the steps taken as of now to encourage the inventors and the consumers of the above inventions separately?
- (b) If not, why?

1683/2023

Hon. Charles NirmalaNathan,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the main livelihood of a majority of people, living in 20 Grama Niladhari divisions in the Vengala Chettikulama Divisional Secretary's division in the district of Vavunia, is agriculture;
 - (ii) the above farmers face numerous difficulties in accessing the relevant Agrarian Services Center and obtaining its services as the area of the Vengala Chettikulama Divisional Secretary's division is too large; and
 - (iii) farmers residing in some villages of Vengala Chettikulama have to travel as long as 40 Kilometers to the Agrarian Services Center in order to obtain their agrarian services?

(19)

- (b) Will he inform this House whether steps would be taken to establish a new Agrarian Services Center for the farmers residing in the Vengala Chettikulama area to obtain agrarian services?
- (c) If not, why?

1760/2023

Hon. Samanpriya Herath,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether investigations have been commenced regarding the employees of the Central Cultural Fund who were victims of political vengeance after 2015;
 - (ii) if so, according to those investigations, the number of employees who have been given relief so far; and
 - (iii) whether the employees who have not yet been given relief be given such relief in the future?
- (b) If not, why?

1818/2023

Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of villages in Gampaha district, which do not have drinking water facilities;
 - (ii) the names of the aforesaid villages; and
 - (iii) the measures taken to provide clean drinking water facilities to the people of the said villages?
- (b) If not, why?

2536/2023

Hon. Imran Maharoof,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately of—
 - (i) the approved cadre for the Kantale Base Hospital in Trincomalee District as well as the cadre currently employed there;
 - (ii) the number of doctors and nurses working in that hospital according to their language of communication; and
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the measures taken to fill the existing vacancies in the above hospital?
- (c) If not, why?

2580/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of the—
 - (i) number of rice research institutes in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) areas where the said institutes are located;
 - (iii) different varieties of rice introduced by each research institute; and
 - (iv) recommended cultivation areas for each of these rice varieties?
- (b) If not, why?

2624/2023

Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Investment Promotion,—(1)

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

3101/2023

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of public schools in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of the number of schools with Principals in Principals' Service and Acting Principals in the said schools, separately; and
 - (iii) of the number of schools with Acting principals by province, separately?

(21)

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) whether there is a procedure to absorb the Acting Principals into the Sri Lanka Principals' Service;
- (ii) if so, the measures taken so far;
- (iii) whether competitive examinations will be conducted to select the deserving candidates in filling the vacancies in the post of principal; and
- (iv) if so, the dates on which the competitive examinations will be held?

(c) If not, why?

3156/2023

Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) invasive aquatic plants have grown in many tanks in Sri Lanka currently; and
- (ii) the tanks have got filled due to organic sediments that get deposited in the river beds when these plants decay?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether there is any program to remove the invasive plants in the above tanks;
- (ii) of the program which is implemented to renovate the tanks which have got filled by now; and
- (iii) whether a program will be formulated in collaboration with the Farmers' Associations to eradicate the invasive plants that grow in tanks?

(c) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) of the steps that have been taken to protect the tank reservations and the dams; and
- (ii) whether steps will be taken in collaboration with the public to protect tanks?

(d) If not, why?

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

P.7/2023

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Ensuring welfare for migrant workers,— That this Parliament resolves that steps be taken expeditiously to launch a programme ensuring welfare for the families of migrant workers who contribute most of the foreign exchange to Sri Lanka.

P.22/2023

Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene,— Strict regulation of microfinance institutions and leasing companies,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary action be taken by the Government to strictly regulate microfinance institutions and leasing companies as the urban and rural community is shattered by the actions of the microfinance institutions, and whereas a large number of families that obtained loans due to the inducement of such institutions on microfinance and leasing facilities are traumatized, and whereas the interest rates of those institutions are at different levels, and whereas people who fail to pay lease installments are subjected to various harassments and violations.

P.24/2023

Hon. (Prof.) Ranjith Bandara, — Granting transfers to Sri Lankan teachers once in five years,— That this Parliament resolves that appropriate programme be formulated by the Government to grant transfers to all teachers once in five years for the purpose of creating an educational system that will fulfil the sole objective of providing education and creating a good social citizen, since the personal contacts formed due to working in the same school for many years may at times cause injustice to some children, working with children from different layers of society deprives teachers of the opportunity to understand child mentality and gain experience, Political and Social relationships can create obstacles to maintain an independent education system, the opportunities to understand different subcultures in the society could be lost, opportunities would be very little to gain experience from dialects and subcultures.

P.23/2023

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney at Law,— Issuance of a circular outlining the methodology to be followed in school development activities,—That this Parliament resolves that appropriate measures be taken by the Government towards releasing a circular outlining the method of allocating the required funds for school development initiatives, the manner of display of such financial statements, and as to how the follow up on the aforesaid developmental activities be carried out because the financial allocations required for school development activities are charged annually from parents and which are unbearable for some parents due to the current economic crisis and students of such parents have to endure inconveniences in the classroom.

P.3/2023

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Uplifting the collapsed financial institutions,— That this Parliament resolves that a programme be formulated by the Government with immediate effect to uplift the financial institutions of the country, whereas several such institutions have collapsed throughout the past period and whereas the depositors of the said institutions encounter a number of common issues in spite of the fact that a significant impact is made by these financial institutions towards the economic development and on the financial market of a country.

P.4/2023

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Increase of the local canned fish production,— That this Parliament resolves that action be taken by the Government to initiate a programme with immediate effect to develop the local canned fish industry, whereas a substantial amount of money is annually spent on the importation of canned fish required by the country amidst Sri Lanka being a country surrounded by the sea.

P.6/2023

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Repairing the disposable vehicles in Local Authorities,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should prepare an accelerated programme to repair the disposable vehicles that are piled up in Local Authorities, which is a common scene, whereas a large amount of money can be saved by repairing those vehicles without purchasing new vehicles.

P.8/2023

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri,— Developing the bee honey industry,— That this Parliament resolves that an expedited programme should be implemented by the government to develop the local bee honey industry as bee honey is of very high medicinal value and in great demand in the local and international market.

P.10/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Educating the public on the nutritious value of traditional, local rice varieties,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should prepare and implement a national level programme to educate the public on the nutritious value of the traditional, local rice varieties available in the Sri Lankan market at present, of the new rice varieties consumed at present, and of the varieties of rice that should be consumed by people with various diseases, and also to provide facilities for farmers to cultivate those varieties of paddy.

P.11/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Minimizing the damage caused to bio-diversity by invasive plants and animals,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should make interventions to identify and name the invasive plants and animals that can cause damage to bio-diversity in Sri Lanka and to prohibit breeding and importing of such plants and animals in order to protect the environment in Sri Lanka and that appropriate action should be taken promptly to formulate necessary laws in that regard.

P.12/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Formulating the research theses of the students of universities and other tertiary education institutions with a focus on the development work undertaken by the relevant ministries,— That this Parliament resolves that a formal procedure be formulated by the government to make use of the research theses written by the students of the universities and the other tertiary education institutions to achieve the long-term, medium-term and short-term objectives of the relevant ministries when the future development processes are undertaken as it is of utmost importance to draft the research theses of the students of universities and other tertiary education institutions functioning in Sri Lanka at present related to their courses of study, with a focus on the economic, social and cultural developments in Sri Lanka, and whereas an officer responsible for each ministry at ministry level is required to be appointed to coordinate between the thesis supervisor and the ministry concerned.

P.13/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Taking the initiative to protect the Buddhist places of worship worldwide,— That this Parliament resolves that an appropriate programme be formulated by the government enabling Sri Lanka to initiate advocating the Buddhist leaders and organizations around the world with a view to establishing a strong organization to tighten the security of the Buddhist temples worshipped by the Buddhists living around the world to lobby on behalf of Buddhists at the international level.

P.14/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Expanding the Maintenance Boards for Elders island wide,— That this Parliament resolves that the necessary steps be taken by the government enabling the expansion of Maintenance Boards for Elders functioning under the National Council and Secretariat for Elders of the Ministry of Health to the provincial, district and divisional secretariat levels with the objective of facilitating the elders, who spend the last stage of life, to lodge complaints regarding various injustices faced by them due to the discrimination caused by their family members and certain organizations.

P.15/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Combining the knowledge on Sri Lankan food culture with the teaching process,— That this Parliament resolves that an appropriate programme be implemented by the government to make the food culture of Sri Lanka known among local and foreign people and elevate the Sri Lankan identity by endowing the future generations with the Sri Lanka food culture pedagogy through pedagogical methodologies as food art of Sri Lanka is comprised of a number aspects including the art of flavors and mixation, art of cooking food, art of coloring and the art of food carving.

P.16/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Suppressing the drug rackets carried out through online marketing,— That this Parliament resolves that a proper programme be formulated and implemented by the government whereas substandard pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and beauty culture products are hugely sold online at present and this makes a huge threat to the safety of the lives of the people of our country.

P.17/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Making the society aware of the value of school children,— That this Parliament resolves that a national level programme be formulated and implemented by the government in regard to the manner in which children should be protected in the face of social challenges for the future betterment of the society and the country, having explained the value of children in a simple manner through sociological and psychological methodologies to the persons such as parents, teachers, sports coaches, school van drivers that always associate with school children.

P.18/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— Strengthening the economy of elderly communities through a loan scheme,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should make a suitable arrangement to implement a loan scheme through the banking system for those who are above 60 years of age, whereas the contribution of the elderly community over 60 years can be obtained to enhance the development in the entire Sri Lankan economy by strengthening their livelihood, and whereas they are discriminated against in the society as that elderly community is not granted loan facilities through the banking system.

P.25/2023

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna,— Procurement of office equipment from the State Timber Corporation and other responsible institutions,— That this Parliament resolves that appropriate programme be implemented by the Government to procure office equipment from the State Timber Corporation and other responsible institutions due to reasons that although the wooden furniture used as office equipment in the past by Government and statutory bodies in Sri Lanka had been used for longer period of time, the equipment utilized by such institutions at present are produced of plywood sheets and other artificial sheets which are brittle and nondurable do not last long, importation of raw materials from foreign countries required to manufacture contemporary office equipment causes a huge outflow of money and because these materials have an immense impact on our environment.

P.31/2023

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney at Law,— Re-promotion of traditional local vegetable and fruit seeds,— That this Parliament resolves that the government shall implement a national program to re-promote traditional indigenous vegetable and fruit seeds that are currently depleting in Sri Lanka because it is costly to import seeds to meet the local deficit of traditional vegetable and fruit seeds and also the seeds obtained from the harvest of such imported seeds are dormant whereas the yield obtained by germinating traditional indigenous seeds contain more properties resilient to pests.

P.32/2023

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney at Law,— Establishment of an institution attached to the subject Ministry of Vocational Training to issue an identity card for skilled workers,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary measures to establish an institution attached to the subject Ministry of Vocational Training to register skilled workers and to issue an identity card since both the skilled workers who are trained in institutions and persons having an innate ability to engage in certain occupations are among such employees and there is no registration agency for those employed in the trades such as masonry, carpentry, motor-mechanic, welding, painting, etc., hence, the same person engages in several occupations and also for the convenience of providing medical treatment in the event that a skilled worker meets with an accident, there arises the need to produce an identity card including information on the blood group and including the information conforming the identity of the skilled worker to the person who obtains his services.

P.33/2023

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney-at-Law,— Granting transfers to officers in combined service and all island services once every five years, — That this Parliament resolves that the government should make necessary arrangements to provide transfers every five years to the officers who are engaged in the combined service and all island services in order to establish an efficient and optimal public service, as working in one place for more than five years leads to a depletion in gaining experience and knowledge of special skills, as they will be deprived of the opportunity to relieve frustration and distress and perform duties with a refreshing, enthusiastic, fresh mindset, as the resulting social interactions may lead to irregularities, fraud, and corruption, and due to political and social relationships, obstacles may arise to maintain an independent service, and as the positive effect of increasing diversity of experience in divisional administration is less.

P.34/2023

Hon. Sagara Kariyawasam, Attorney-at-Law,— Engaging school students in extracurricular activities one day a week, - That this Parliament resolves that the government should urgently prepare a suitable program taking into consideration the prevailing situation to engage students in compulsory extracurricular activities on one day, such as Friday, out of the five school days, to prevent serious problems that may arise in the future, as social analysts have presented facts that the mental stress of school students has increased by not engaging in extracurricular activities by them due to various factors, and as it has been psychologically proven that the mental and physical development of students takes place by engaging in sports and aesthetic activities such as music, art, dance and agricultural activities such as gardening.

P.35/2023

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,— Standardization of unhygienic hotels, bakeries and canteens,— This Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary steps to standardize unhygienic hotels, bakeries and canteens with the intervention of Ministry of Health and Public Health Inspectors in this respect, since the standard and the cleanliness of hotel and bakery products in the market remain at minimum level and since the chairman of the Association of Canteen Owners has himself stated that there exists a greater chance of customers being exposed to ailments due to certain bakery products are unhygienic.

P.36/2023

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,— Standardization of goods purchased online,— This Parliament resolves that the government should take action to standardize goods purchased through the internet, since a greater tendency has been created among customers to purchase goods and services via the internet at present, since there is no possibility to identify the parties responsible for the complications faced by the consumers while consuming the above products, and since a greater possibility may arise that this situation encourages various disparities and divisions in the society and gives rise to conflicts.

P.37/2023

Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama,— Launching a staff-participated cultivation program in lands belonging to the state institutions in Sri Lanka,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should make the necessary arrangements to launch an island wide food promotion programme on the lands owned by the government institutions in our country with the participation of the staff and appraise on national level the most successful cultivations after imparting special training to the selected government employees, who are interested in cultivating, from agricultural training centres in Gannoruwa and other areas, as it helps to earn additional income through the cultivation of fruits, vegetables, and yams, and to solve the food shortage prevailing in the country.

P.38/2023

Hon. Jagath Samarawickrama,— Carrying out dairy cattle management in national parks,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should implement an appropriate course of action to issue an identity card after identifying the real dairy farmers to carry out dairy farming management in national parks as the consumption of liquid milk and milk powder is high in Sri Lanka, a large amount of money is spent to import milk powder as the local milk production is not sufficient, and because of the dairy farmers have been discouraged due to the difficulties in finding grass for the dairy cows, and dairy farmers are taken into custody as they keep the cows in national parks illegally.

P. 39/2023

Hon. Samanpriya Hearth,— Expansion of Drumsticks (Moringa) Cultivation,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary steps to introduce market to expand Drumstick cultivation since Drumsticks and Drumsticks related products are in high demand in various countries of the world as well as in the local market, and Drumsticks cultivation is a great help to raise the economic level of the rural people and Sri Lanka can earn a lot of foreign exchange.

P.40/ 2023

Hon. D.Weerasinghe,—Promoting fruits that fulfill the vitamin requirement throughout the island,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary steps should be taken to popularize and promote Pineapple, Papaya and Banana as these three fruits which fulfill the vitamin requirement of adults and children and, since they are currently being imported and a lot of money is spent on importing those fruits to Sri Lanka, although they are grown anywhere in the island.

P.41/2023

Hon. D. Weerasinghe,— Expanding the local production of Finger Millet,— That this Parliament resolves the government should implement a proper program to expand local production of Finger Millet by identifying new varieties and promoting them among farmers since huge amount of foreign exchange is being spent to import bulk quantities of Finger Millet at present whereas the nutritionists have pointed out that Finger millet used from ancient times in Sri Lanka has the ability to prevent and control various kind of diseases.

P.42/2023

Hon. D. Weerasinghe,— Obtaining the contribution of senior citizens who possess various skills for the national economy,— That this Parliament resolves the government should prepare a proper program to encourage senior citizens, who spend lonely lives at elders' homes and in their own homes, to make products from the skills they possess and transform it to a livelihood by introducing new markets while helping them improve concentration since there is no mechanism available to obtain their active contribution towards national economy whereas no study has been carried out on the capability and the knowledge they possess to make environment friendly products as majority of senior citizens possess aforesaid various professional skills.

P.44/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Developing sports in estate sector,— That this Parliament resolves that a Sports development program should be launched in order to get the youth contribution of the estate sector for the sports development of the country, as they have displayed their skills locally and internationally, and they do not have any sports facilities in their estate schools as well as the estate areas where they live.

P.45/2023

Hon. Velu kumar,— Developing cricket in up country estate areas,— That this Parliament resolves that a special program should be implemented to provide necessary training facilities to the areas whether many talented players are residing, in order to get the contribution of the talented cricket players in estate areas, as Sri Lanka is a country which had earned international recognition in Cricket and the performance of the Sri Lankan Cricket team was very unsatisfactory in the recent past.

P.46/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Establishment of Tea small holding system in place of Tea Industry,— That this Parliament resolves that, as Sri Lankan tea plantation is of twofold like Tea estates and tea Small holdings, measures should be taken to transform tea estates system to tea small holdings and make the estate workers the owners of such tea Small holdings in order to develop the same since the estate tea plantations system is failing .

P.47/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Improvement of Traditional Arts of Up Country People into a Commercial Activity,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should establish a suitable centre in order to facilitate the protection of Traditional Arts and improve them as commercial activity as up country people of Indian Origin of Estate Sector is a community representing Sri Lanka, and Traditional arts such as Nadagam, Kohombakale dance, kavadi dance and traditional stick dance are seen within this community.

P.48/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Setting up a Standard and a Regulatory System for Child Day Care Centers,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take appropriate steps to set up a proper standard and a regulatory system with regard to Day Care Centers for the safety and the welfare of the children who decide the future of the country, as private parties run Day Care Centers in different areas of the country and no proper standard, methodology and a regulatory system in regard to such centers that are run by estate Companies.

P.49/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Improving the process of forest cultivation in the Central Province,— That this Parliament resolves that the Government should initiate necessary measures to stop cultivating the pine trees completely and launch the natural afforestation system as an alternative whereas most of the water catchment areas in Sri Lanka are located in the central hills, especially in the Kandy and Matale districts have severely been affected by pine cultivation.

P.50/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Providing drinking water supply to the Estate community of the upcountry,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary measures be taken for the inclusion of plantation areas in the Government programme for the provision of potable water, having paid attention to the need for the implementation of drinking water supply programme carried out in other areas since the people of the plantation sector in the upcountry fulfill their drinking water requirement from natural water springs, rivers, canals and wells as a result of the poor implementation of plans for the supply of drinking water, whereas these people have to face various health problems owing to a situation where they are unable to find water suitable for drinking due to increasing population and environment pollution caused by excessive use of agrochemicals, and whereas a scarcity of water has occurred due to the diversion of water in plantation areas to other parts of the country.

P.51/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Acquisition of estate roads to the Government,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary steps be taken to acquire the estate roads to be under the Local Government and Provincial Council roads as the ownership, as management and administration of estates that have a significant place in the plantation sector of Sri Lanka are subjected to changes at different times whereas the dwellings of the plantation workers are located in the middle of the estates far away from the main road and whereas the estate roads used by these people are in highly dilapidated condition with no development.

P.52/2023

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayake,— Empowerment of female-headed families,— That this Parliament resolves that a sustainable plan be drafted by the government to successfully respond the problematic situation which has arisen and encountered by the female headed families in a context where 25% out of the total family units in Sri Lanka are female headed families, whereas 50% out of the said females are widows and whereas the issues related to gender, land ownership and limitations of livelihood opportunities, are prominent among the major challenges faced by the aforesaid families and whereas the females already engaged in livelihood activities encounter immense difficulties and hindrances related to lack of training and facilities required, and further, whereas matters pertaining to marketing and issues related to prioritizing male children in land inheritance matters hamper them immensely.

P. 53/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Declaring the Day of the Martyrs of the Hill Country Trade Union,— That this Parliament resolves that the Hill Country Trade Union Martyrs Day be declared in order to commemorate the first worker and all the martyrs who laid down their lives in the pursuit of non-violent struggle for the rights and welfare of the plantation workers and that the day shall be set on the 10th of January as it aligns with the sacrifice of the first Hill Country martyr, “Mulloya Govinthan”, who had been shot

dead by a white national in the face of their opposition to the struggle, during the first trade union struggle for salary hikes of plantation workers in Sri Lanka unfolded from December 1939 to January 1940, and whereas through democratic means, the Hill Country plantation workers have fervently fought for and secured their rights and as a testament to their struggles, the Hill Country people of Indian origin have long demanded that these martyrs who selflessly laid down their lives in the pursuit of democracy be commemorated on a designated day, and the Hill Country plantation workers stand as a community in Sri Lanka's history, having made significant contributions to its economic growth.

P.54/2023

Hon. Velu Kumar,— Regularization of the Postal Service of Sri Lanka in the Plantation Sector,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary measures be initiated by the Government to regularize the postal services for the plantation community, who have been integral to the nation for nearly two centuries, whereas marking two centuries since the establishment of settlements by plantation communities in Sri Lanka, it is noteworthy that this community has faced with various difficulties due to the deprivation of the convenience of door step mail delivery, and whereas Sri Lanka's postal service has a history spanning two centuries which commenced in 1798 and subsequently came under regularization by the English in 1882, and whereas after independence, the Postal Service of Sri Lanka has emerged as one of the pivotal government service run by the Postal Department.

P.58/2023

Hon. (Major) Sudarshana Denipitiya,— Reissuance of withheld season tickets that have been rendered to students studying in technical colleges on concessional basis,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary steps be taken by the Government to cancel the withholding imposed on season tickets that have been rendered on concessional basis and re-issue them whereas a majority of students studying in many technical colleges are from low-income families, whereas one daily commute costs a lot of money per student, whereas students come to study courses amidst many economic hardships, whereas the concessionary season tickets rendered to above students until the end of academic year 2022 have been withheld from the academic year 2023, and therefore.

P.59/2023

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna,— Production of very human-friendly Mee oil,—That this Parliament resolves that an expeditious course of action be implemented by the government to plant Mee (Madhuka) trees around paddy fields in order to propagate Mee trees that are necessary in the production of Mee oil that is both Human and agriculture-friendly, to raise public awareness regarding the consumption of Mee oil that can be produced locally and to raise awareness abroad about the quality of Mee oil, and to export Mee oil.

P.60/2023

Hon. Lalith Varna Kumara,— Implementing a biological course of action to control Dengue mosquitoes,—That this Parliament resolves that a biological course of action to control Dengue mosquitoes be implemented promptly by the government together with the participation of the relevant parties, whereas the Measures adopted to control Dengue in Sri Lanka do not show much progress, whereas the number of Dengue patients increases annually, whereas the increased demand for mosquito coil manufacturing companies and thereby people being misled by the attractive commercials used in selling mosquito coils is inevitable unless proper scientific methods are adopted to curb mosquito breeding.

P.61/2023

Hon. Kumarasiri Rathnayaka,— Protecting the Maragala Ecosystem,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should urgently take necessary measures to stop the clearing and construction of houses in the Maragala mountain range and to provide alternative lands from other suitable areas for the second and third generations whereas drinking water is supplied to more than 4000 families living in Monaragala town and suburbs from the sources of water found in this area, whereas rubber cultivation is currently under the Janatha Estate Development Board in this mountain range, where it was used to grow tea and coffee during the British rule, whereas there is a large number of people living in line houses here, since clearance and setting fire to the forest, for the construction of new houses and for cultivation has become a big environmental problem, and whereas this area has been designated as an ecological protection area by a gazette notification to protect the ecosystem and water sources that are being destroyed.

P.62/2023

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— Establishment of a medical council for indigenous medical affairs,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary measures to establish an indigenous medical council from amongst the indigenous medical doctors and with the intention to secure and nurture the indigenous Hela medical practice tradition and its practitioners, in order to protect, the local traditional doctors and the future of the tradition of indigenous Hela medical practice that have cured hundreds of thousands of people throughout the two thousand five hundred years old history of Sri Lanka that possesses a great culture in the world, is crucial for the future generation.

P.63/2023

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— Preservation of dilapidated Buddhist shrines located in remote and underserved areas,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should put into action a suitable program to protect the temples and historical Buddhist shrines that have been destroyed in the Northern and Vanni areas and in the remote areas and to use a state fund to carry out development activities in these places.

P.64/2023

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— Repatriation of stranded migrant workers into Sri Lanka safely,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary steps be taken by the government to execute an expedited programme to get them repatriated into the country safely whereas the migrant workers contribute the highest amount of foreign exchange earnings in Sri Lanka, and whereas the labourers concerned have become helpless in most of the countries in the Middle East due to fake racketeers who send labourers for foreign employment.

P.65/2023

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— Minimizing the damage caused to Victoria Lake by invasive plant species,— That this Parliament resolves that necessary measures be taken by the government to control the spread of these invasive plant species whereas invasive plant species cause huge damage to the bio-diversity and the reservoirs in Sri Lanka, including Victoria Lake, and whereas several zones of it have already been affected by this menace.

P.66/2023

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— Promoting Cultivation of local paddy varieties and introducing new paddy varieties,— That this Parliament resolves that a suitable program be arranged and implemented by the government to make the farmers aware of local paddy varieties, and provide them with all the facilities to cultivate them, and further, import globally produced new paddy varieties after conducting researches on them from which a higher harvest could be obtained and provide such varieties to the farmers with the facilities needed for their cultivations.

P.67/2023

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— Introducing a concessional loan scheme for producing youth entrepreneurs,— That this Parliament resolves that a suitable arrangement be made by the government to introduce a loan scheme with a concessional interest rate through the banking system in order to produce entrepreneurs among the unemployed youth.

P.68/2023

Hon. Hisha Withanage,— The need for preventing religious extremism,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should prepare an expeditious program to prevent the attempts made to surface and promote religious extremism and to rehabilitate those who have already become victims of it, since having extremist views in any field in any country can be immensely harmful, whereas there has been a serious discourse in society regarding religious extremism following the Easter Sunday attack taken place.

P.69/2023

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Continuing the construction work of Ruwanpura Expressway,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take necessary measures to carry out the construction work of Ruwanpura Expressway continuously at least in phases since not only the people living in Ratnapura district but also in Badulla and Hambanthota districts will be benefitted from the construction of the Expressway as it would help gain immense benefits despite the economic difficulties the country is currently experiencing.

P.70/2023

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— Extending the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura,— That this Parliament resolves that the government should take measures to extend the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura since it is considered as one of the railway lines that generate a higher income for the Sri Lanka Railways Department, whereas people living in a number of districts, including Ratnapura, Hambanthota and Badulla will be benefitted from extending the Kelani Valley railway line up to Ratnapura.
