



(Ninth Parliament - Fourth Session)

No. 2(17).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 2

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

391/2023

Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the lands possessed by Kandy National Hospital have been acquired by unauthorized residents; and
 - (ii) more than half of the lands belong to the said hospital have been dispossessed due to the said matter?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the total number of acres of lands that have been acquired as such;
 - (ii) of the number of unauthorized families residing in the said lands;
 - (iii) whether legal actions have been taken against the aforesaid families;
 - (iv) whether any arrangement has been made to settle the concerned unauthorized residents in another area;
 - (v) if so, what that plan is; and
 - (vi) whether necessary actions have been taken by the relevant institutions and authorities in that regard?
- (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

(2)

- (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?

(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?

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 of 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?

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;

(3)

- (iii) of the name, address and telephone number of each such employee separately; and
- (iv) of the reasons for their removal?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether those dismissed employees will be reinstated;
 - (ii) if so, on what date; and
 - (iii) of the measures that have been taken so far regarding those employees?
- (c) If not, why?

3707/2023

Hon. Dullas Alahapperuma,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House in regard to the situation by 01st October 2023, separately of —
 - (i) the number of teachers, grade holding principals and the principals of the Education Administration Service working in government schools;
 - (ii) the number of teachers who should be there for each subject of mathematics, science, technology, English, aesthetics, sports and primary education, and the number of teachers who are currently working there, in each education zone;
 - (iii) the number of vacancies in the post of principal in each education zone; and
 - (iv) the number of teachers serving as Acting Principals in each education zone?
- (b) Will he also inform this House separately of the names of the 20 education divisions where there is the biggest shortage and surplus of teachers and principals?
- (c) If not, why?

3713/2023

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran,— To ask the Minister of Justice, Prisons Affairs and Constitutional Reforms,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) separately, the names of the judges appointed to and transferred from the High Court sitting in Batticaloa from 01st July 2020 and 31st December 2020;
 - (ii) whether the above transfers were done in the ordinary course of regular transfer of judges; and
 - (iii) if not, the reasons for the above mentioned transfers;
- (b) If not, why?

(4)

3718/2023

Hon. B. Y. G. Rathnasekara,— To ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the total tax revenue collected from value added tax since the date on which the value added tax (VAT) percentage was increased, up to date;
 - (ii) of the value of the said amount when compared with the same period of the previous year; and
 - (iii) of the percentage of the increase which has been resulted by inflation?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) separately of the number of tax files which were newly opened and closed down after the enforcement of the new income tax rates;
 - (ii) of the number of persons who have migrated to foreign countries in the year 2023, out of those for whom tax files had been opened; and
 - (iii) of the monthly income received by the government through pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) taxes currently?
- (c) If not, why?

3754/2023

Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi,— To ask from the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the cultural centre of Ratnapura, Weligepola Divisional Secretariat Division has been dilapidated for a long time; and
 - (ii) no steps have been taken so far to reconstruct it?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether steps are taken to allocate necessary funds for the reconstruction of the said cultural centre; and
 - (ii) if so, the dates on which the said reconstruction activities will be commenced?
- (c) If not, why?

(5)

3774/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that approval has been granted by the Cabinet Decision No. 22/0086/315/003 and dated 12.01.2021 for re-establishing the special performance or promotion examination system that existed previously for Management Service Officers' service;
 - (ii) if so, of the date on which the promotion examination system will be re-implemented;
 - (iii) of the current progress of it;
 - (iv) of the current progress in eliminating the salary anomaly in the Management Service Officers' service and providing the MN 3 salary scale to the officers of that service; and
 - (v) of the solution provided to the graduate officers currently serving in the aforesaid service?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he aware that the Inspector General of Police has recommended that the allowance of 40% of the basic salary paid to Police Officers should also be paid to civil staff attached to the Sri Lanka Police; and
 - (ii) if so, of the current progress of it?
- (c) If not, why?

3822/2023

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;
 - (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?

(6)

- (b) Will he also 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?
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Wednesday, January 24, 2024

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

426/2023

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the names of the government institutions that have been established to promote the coconut industry in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of Sri Lanka's annual coconut production, the amounts used for domestic consumption, coconut oil production, and export-related industries separately;
 - (iii) Sri Lanka's coconut harvest in each year from 2001 to 2020 separately;
 - (iv) the programs carried out during the above period to increase coconut harvest; and
 - (v) the amount spent on the said programs?
- (b) If not, why?

436/2023

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Food Security,—(2)

- (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?

(7)

- (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?

694/2023

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Defence,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the BT/PT/ Kurukkalmadam Kalaivani Maha Vidyalaya in Batticaloa has been established on Main Street at present and part of the school's playground at the place where the school had existed formerly is under the occupation of the Sri Lanka Army;
 - (ii) for this reason, it has not been possible to use this playground for sports?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the steps that will be taken to free the above-mentioned playground from the Sri Lanka Army?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether any other playgrounds in the Eastern Province are in the Army's custody;
 - (ii) if so, how many;
 - (iii) where they are located; and
 - (iv) what steps will be taken to free such playgrounds, too, from the Sri Lanka Army?
- (d) If not, why?

826/2023

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,—To ask the Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform the House—
 - (i) the volume of vegetable is annually produced in Sri Lanka, in metric tons;
 - (ii) the amount of vegetable is consumed annually;
 - (iii) whether there exists a surplus or a shortfall in the production of vegetables and if so, by what amount; and
 - (iv) the volumes of vegetables that were imported to Sri Lanka during the periods from 2015 to 2019 and 2019 to 2021 separately?
- (b) If not, why?

839/2023

Hon. Premnath C. Dolawatte, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (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,—(2)

- (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 also 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?

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 the names of each of these courses; and
 - (iv) of the manner this institution be used for the future economic development of Sri Lanka?
- (b) If not, why?

3799/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether steps have been taken by Sri Lanka Railways to build an electric rail track from Kadugannawa to Gampola on aid provided by the Asian Development Bank;
 - (ii) whether he is aware of the risk of losing access roads including Devaraja Road used by the residents of the villages of Kahatapitiya and Bothalapitiya of Udapalatha Divisional Secretariat Division in Gampola, as a result of constructing the said rail track;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to construct the said track without causing damage to their houses/property and access roads, as the houses of those residents have been constructed on small plots of land with 4 or 6 perch area close to the Mahaweli River;
 - (iv) if so, what the proposals presented for that are; and
 - (v) whether alternative proposals submitted in that regard will be considered?
 - (b) If not, why?
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Friday, January 26, 2024

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;
 - (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?

1467/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of government Ayurvedic hospitals in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of those hospitals, the number of Ayurvedic hospitals belonging to the central government and provincial councils separately;
 - (iii) whether new Ayurvedic hospitals are to be established; and
 - (iv) the areas where they will be constructed?
- (b) If not, why?

1515/2023

Hon. (Mrs.) Kokila Gunawardene,— To ask the Minister of Mass Media,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of cinema halls in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of that number, the number of cinema halls that screen films at present;
 - (iii) the number of films that has been screened by the National Film Corporation from 2019 up to date, in relation to each year, separately; and
 - (iv) the amount of money given out as loans for producing films from 2019 up to date, in relation to each year, separately?
- (b) If not, why?

1554/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the endemic herbal plants in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) whether Sri Lanka exports herbal plants;
 - (iii) if so, what those herbal plant varieties are; and
 - (iv) of the annual revenue earned through the export of them?
- (b) If not, why?

1585/2023

Hon. Sanjeeva Edirimanna,— To ask the Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the areas in Sri Lanka where Cinnamon is cultivated;
 - (ii) the areas where Cinnamon related products are made in abundance;
 - (iii) the basis on which Cinnamon saplings and fertilizer are made available for Cinnamon cultivation; and
 - (iv) the extent of land in which Cinnamon has been cultivated after 2019?
- (b) If not, why?

1626/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) of the measures taken to protect Muthurajawela Wetlands according to the Ramsar Convention reached by the government on 15th of October 1990;
 - (ii) whether a database has been maintained by the Central Environmental Authority and the Department of Wildlife Conservation on the fauna and flora of Muthurajawela Wetlands; and
 - (iii) of the proper action taken regarding the complaints made in relation to illegal landfilling at Muthurajawela Wetlands?
- (b) If not, why?

1648/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the extent of land owned by Sri Lanka Ports Authority;
 - (ii) of the extent of land out of the aforesaid extent that is being for constructions and development activities by now;
 - (iii) whether those lands have been leased to the private;
 - (iv) if so, what those companies/institutions are; and
 - (v) of the annual revenue earned by the Authority through the leasing of lands?
- (b) If not, why?

2402/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the National Housing Development Authority provides financial assistance to repair the houses of the families of the kidney patients;
 - (ii) of the amount of aforesaid financial assistance;
 - (iii) of the qualifications required, to receive the aforesaid financial assistance; and
 - (iv) of the documents required to be submitted to receive the aforesaid financial assistance?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) separately, as per each district, of the number of people who have applied for aforesaid financial assistance and the number of people who received the assistance so far ;
 - (ii) whether the assistance is provided to all eligible applicants;
 - (iii) if so, of the date; and
 - (iv) whether measures will be taken to start a program to build houses for the families of the homeless kidney patients?
- (c) If not, why?

2697/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the total number of students in Matale district who sat the G.C.E (Advanced Level) examination from 2015 to date;
 - (ii) those students as a percentage according to the streams of Science, Mathematics, Commerce and Arts, separately; and
 - (iii) the steps that will be taken to direct the majority of students in Matale district towards the Science or Mathematics stream at the G.C.E (Advanced Level) examination?
- (b) If not, why?

2883/2023

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the financial allocations made for the development of Livestock by the supplementary budget of 2022;
 - (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?

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWERS

(Friday, January 26, 2024)

3741/2023

Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera,— 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) whether he is aware that secretaries of the private staff of ministers and the coordinating secretaries of the permanent secretary to a ministry are entitled to a pension in terms of Schedule "Q" of the Pensions Minutes;
 - (ii) separately, of the number of those who are currently receiving the aforesaid pension and the number of those who have applied for the same; and
 - (iii) whether the said secretaries (i) above will be given the entitlement to receive the widows/orphans pension and the retirement gratuity?

- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether the subject clerks of government institutions will be provided with a training in forwarding the relevant documents to the Department of Pensions online; and
 - (ii) whether a direct telephone number of an officer of the Department of Pensions will be provided to obtain advice in that regard?
 - (c) Will he further inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that the pension that Mr. Chamal S. Piyasundara, who served as a Secretary of a Minister's private staff and as a Coordinating Secretary of the Secretary to State Ministry of Plantations, is entitled to has not been paid to date; and
 - (ii) if so, of the reasons for not paying the pension to him?
 - (d) If not, why?
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NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NO DATES HAVE BEEN FIXED

P. 82/2024

Hon. (Dr.) Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, PC,— Select Committee of Parliament to make recommendations for the Review and Reform of Legal Education in Sri Lanka,— Whereas Sri Lanka Law College is established and maintained under the provisions of Council of Legal Education Ordinance No. 2 of 1900 enacted as of far back in 1900 and the Council is consisting of seven members which includes three ex-officio members and four persons appointed by the Minister of Justice;

And whereas three ex-officio members are the Chief Justice, Secretary to the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General and the Chief Justice serves as the ex-officio Chairman, while the principal of the Law College is appointed on a contract basis from time to time;

And whereas the number of students enrolling in the College has rapidly increased over the last two to three decades, neither has the scope of education expanded nor have the required facilities been provided and there are a few gateways through which students can enter the College, such as;

- a) direct enrollments through competitive examinations;
- b) students who have completed local LL.B degree from
 - (i) The University of Colombo
 - (ii) The University of Peradeniya
 - (iii) The University of Jaffna
 - (iv) The Open University of Sri Lanka
 - (v) General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University;

- c) students who have completed LL.B degree from overseas universities which have been recognized by the Council of Legal Education;

And whereas there are around 7,500 students at present, the infrastructure facility remains almost the same as it was prior to a few decades and there is only one permanent teacher in the College despite being the student population of around 7,500;

And whereas the reformation and revisit of the overall affairs of legal education and the Law Collage remain long overdue;

And whereas there are two categories of professionals who enter the legal profession together with the professional qualifications from the Law College,

- a) Attorneys-at-Law who have passed the three examinations of the Law College,
- b) Attorneys-at-Law who have obtained an LL.B degree either from a local or overseas university and passed the final year examination of the Law College who are qualified both academically and professionally;

And whereas the scope of legal education has been widened over the last few decades in many jurisdictions and similarly, many new subjects and disciplines have been added to the legal education;

That this Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament to make recommendations for the Review and Reform of Legal Education in Sri Lanka, be appointed since there is a timely need to expand legal education and to have new legal framework to meet the existing requirement:—

- (a) to formulate State Policy relating to legal studies for legal professionals and the required standards of the legal profession;
 - (b) to introduce policy and a legal framework for the establishment of a governing body to regulate legal education for legal professionals;
 - (c) to introduce a criterion for the members to be appointed to the governing body of legal education;
 - (d) to introduce a procedure to be applied in relation to—
 - i) Admission to the Law College and the basic requirements; and
 - ii) A criterion to be applied in relation to the recognition of the law degree for the purpose of admission of students to Law College.
 - (e) to introduce a criterion regarding education modules taking into consideration the diversified professional requirements in the modern world;
 - (f) to introduce a model to operate it independently and self-sufficiently; and
 - (g) any other matter incidental to the advancement and standard of professional legal studies and practice.
2. (a) That the Chair and Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Speaker; and
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 101 of Parliament, the Committee shall consist of Fifteen (15) Members.

3. That the Committee shall have the power to—
 - (a) fix its quorum;
 - (b) summon any person to appear before it, to require any person to procure any document or record, to procure and receive all such evidence, written or oral, as the Committee may think it necessary for the fullest consideration of the matters referred to above;
 - (c) obtain the services of specialists and experts in the relevant fields to assist the Committee; and
 - (d) make interim reports from time to time and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment or prorogation of Parliament.
 4. The Committee shall present its report to Parliament within a period of six months (06) from the first meeting of the Committee or within such further period as Parliament may grant.
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