



(Ninth Parliament - Fifth Session)

No. 1(3).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 1

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Thursday, March 07, 2024

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

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Penal Code (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill— Second Reading.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under Electronic Transactions Act,—That the Regulations made by the Minister of Technology under Section 24 read with Section 8(2) of the Electronic Transactions Act, No. 19 of 2006 read with Article 44(3) of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2311/40 of 22nd December 2022, which were presented on 05.03.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Administration, Home Affairs, Provincial Councils and Local Government,— Regulations under 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. 2370/15 of 07th February 2024, which were presented on 07.03.2024, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

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The Minister of Tourism and Lands and Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs,— Regulations under Title Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Tourism and Lands under Section 67 of the Registration of Title Act, No. 21 of 1998 relating to Registrations of Title and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2308/27 of 01st December 2022, which were presented on 05.03.2024, be approved.

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The Minister of Power and Energy,— Regulations under Petroleum Products (Special Provisions) Act,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Power and Energy under Section 7 read with Sections 5 and 6 on the advice and recommendation of the Committee appointed under Section 3 of the Petroleum Products (Special Provisions) Act, No. 33 of 2002 regarding Licensing of Petroleum Products and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2340/02 of 10th July 2023, which were presented on 07.03.2024, be approved.

*** Indicates Government Business.**

Tuesday, April 09, 2024

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

589/2024

Hon. Jagath Kumara Sumithraarachchi,— 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) separately, of the total number of public servants of Sri Lanka serving in each Ministry/Department as at 31.12.2022;
 - (ii) of the number of public servants retired during the period from 01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019;
 - (iii) separately, of the number of public servants recruited and retired during the period from year 2020 to 2022 according to each year; and
 - (iv) of the total number of public servants as at 01.01.2023?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware a large number of vacancies exist in the public service at present;
 - (ii) if so, the aforesaid number of vacancies are;
 - (iii) whether he admits that there has been a breakdown in the public service due to not filling the vacancies created recently; and
 - (iv) of the program that has been prepared to run the public service efficiently preventing the aforesaid breakdown?
- (c) If not, why?

613/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of Liquor licenses issued by the Excise Department of Sri Lanka as at 01.01.2023;

(3)

- (ii) the types of Liquor licenses in Sri Lanka at present;
 - (iii) the number of licenses issued in relation to each such type of Liquor, separately;
 - (iv) the number of Liquor licenses issued from 01.01.2023 to 01.01.2024;
 - (v) that number, as a percentage of the total number of licenses issued so far; and
 - (vi) that percentage in relation to each type of Liquor license, separately?
- (b) Does he admit that—
- (i) the abundance of Liquor results in the consumption of Liquor increasing; and
 - (ii) it leads to diseases associated with Liquor increasing and thereby necessitating the allocation for health to be enhanced ?
- (c) If not, why?

637/2024

Hon. B. Y. G. Ratnasekara,— To ask the Minister of Education,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the number of government schools that have been closed so far; and
 - (ii) the steps that have been taken to use the lands and buildings of those schools for other productive purposes?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of —
- (i) of the total number of Sri Lankan students who have gone abroad for education in the year 2023; and
 - (ii) of the amount of foreign exchange that has to be spent for aforesaid students per year?
- (c) Will he also further this House of —
- (i) the number of development officers who have been absorbed into the teachers' service; and
 - (ii) the measures that have been taken to overcome the current shortage of principals ?
- (d) If not, why?

1091/2024

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

- (a) Will she inform this House—
- (i) of the number of wild elephants that died in collisions with trains since 2015;
 - (ii) whether there is a systematic method in place to avoid trains colliding with wild elephants;

(4)

- (iii) whether there is a combined mission of the Department of Railway and the Department of Wildlife Conservation regarding the said matter; and
- (iv) of the measure to be implemented by the Department of Wildlife Conservation to avoid elephant-train collisions in the future?

(b) If not, why?

1127/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware of the fact that the ornamental fish exporters are in severe difficulty owing to the increase of electricity tariff;
 - (ii) of the number of ornamental fish exporters in Sri Lanka;
 - (iii) of the revenue earned through the export of ornamental fish from 2019 up to now, separately for each year; and
 - (iv) of the programme implemented to protect the ornamental fish industry?
- (b) if not, why?

1147/2024

Hon. (Mrs.) Muditha Prishanthi,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,— (1)

- (a) Is she aware that—
 - (i) Ratnapura, Udawalawa reservoir has dried up due to recent drought;
 - (ii) the farmers and wild animals in the area suffered greatly due to lack of water as a result;
 - (iii) the said reservoir has been heavily overfilled due to siltation?
- (b) Will she inform this assembly—
 - (i) whether steps are taken to remove the silt in the Udawalawa reservoir;
 - (ii) the amount expected to be allocated therefore; and
 - (iii) the date on which the desilting operations will commence?
- (c) If not, why?

1153/2024

Hon. Madhura Withanage, Attorney at Law,— To ask the Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) the number of archaeological sites administrated by the Central Cultural Fund;

(5)

- (ii) whether suitable sanitary facilities are provided at those places for local and foreign tourists;
 - (iii) of the programs currently implemented by the Central Cultural Fund to attract tourists to archaeological sites; and
 - (iv) whether proper measures have been taken to remove unauthorized constructions and prevent new constructions at archaeological sites?
- (b) Will he also inform this House —
- (i) whether the official website showing the archaeological sites has been updated; and
 - (ii) if so, how often such updates will be made?
- (c) If not, why?

1250/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the progress with regard to increasing the plantation workers' daily wage on par with the increased cost of living in the last few years in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) if there is a progress, the amount of the wage increment;
 - (iii) the date of payment of the aforementioned increment; and
 - (iv) the impediments the Minister is facing if there has been no progress?
- (b) If not, why?

1253/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of licenses that have been issued by the Geological Survey and Mines Bureau since 2015;
 - (ii) of the procedure followed by the said Bureau in issuing licenses;
 - (iii) whether he is aware that it has been revealed in the Committee on Public Enterprises in Parliament that the independence of the licensing process is being influenced;
 - (iv) if so, of the measures that have been taken to ensure the independence of the licensing process; and
 - (v) of the measures that will be taken to restore the above institution out of the corrupt situation which is prevalent?
- (b) If not, why?

(6)

1284/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House —
 - (i) separately of the number of teacher vacancies currently existing in each of the education divisions in the Kurunegala and the Puttalam districts;
 - (ii) of the steps that will be taken to fill the aforesaid vacancies; and
 - (iii) if there is a delay in filling those vacancies, of the reasons for such delay?
- (b) If not, why?

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1287/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the date on which the 'Shrama Wasana' Fund was initiated;
 - (ii) its initial objectives;
 - (iii) the number of people who have benefitted from that Fund from 2015 to date;
 - (iv) the sources of this fund; and
 - (v) the steps that would be taken to strengthen the Fund further?
- (b) If not, why?

1700/2024

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the thirty two (32) types of drugs approved under the tender number 2022/MSD/V/R/P/0066 under emergency purchases ;
 - (ii) out of the aforesaid drugs, the types of drugs that were provided;
 - (iii) whether the above drugs have been registered;
 - (iv) whether the standard tender procedure has been followed when the above tender was granted; and
 - (v) if not, why?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether any harmful effects have been reported by using the said drugs ;

(7)

- (ii) of the person who has issued the Work Order Request for the said drugs; and
- (iii) of the reasons for the Medical Supplies Division (MSD) to grant its approval to purchase the drug concerned above, while the above order includes several drugs which should be given between a temperature of 2-8 degrees Celsius ?

(c) If not, why?

1702/2024

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

(a) Will he inform this House of—

- (i) the number of officers serving by now in the posts of Inspector of Police, Sergeant and Police Constable of Sri Lanka Police, separately;
- (ii) the number of vacancies that exist for each of the said posts by now, separately;
- (iii) the methodology followed in granting promotions to the officers serving in the said posts;
- (iv) the time taken to be promoted to the post of Inspector of Police from the post of Police Sergeant; and
- (v) the methodology followed by now in recruiting Police Constables to Sri Lanka police?

(b) If not, why?

1727/2024

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

(a) Will he inform this House —

- (i) of the number of people and wild elephants, died due to the human-elephant conflict in Puttalam district, separately according to each wildlife zone, from 2010 to date; and
- (ii) of the measures that will be taken to provide a permanent solution to the human- elephant conflict in Puttalam district ?

(b) If not, why?

1737/2024

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

(a) Will he inform this House of—

- (i) the number of paddy warehouses of the Government located in Trincomalee district;

(8)

- (ii) the places where they have been established;
 - (iii) the quantity of paddy that can be stored in each of the above warehouses separately; and
 - (iv) the amount of paddy stored in the above warehouses from 2015 to date separately according to each year?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) whether there are any paddy warehouses among the paddy warehouses mentioned in (a)(i) above, which are not taken for any use currently;
 - (ii) if so, of the number of such paddy warehouses;
 - (iii) of the places where they are located;
 - (iv) of the measures that have been taken to re-use the paddy warehouses which are not in use; and
 - (v) of the programs to be implemented to take the maximum use of the warehouses in Trincomalee district?
- (c) If not, why?

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NO DATES HAVE BEEN FIXED

P.27 /2024

Hon. Sajith Premadasa
Hon. Lakshman Kiriella, Attorney at Law
Hon. (Prof.) G. L. Peiris
Hon. (Mrs.) Rohini Kumari Wijerathna
Hon. Heshan Withanage
Hon. Dilip Wedaarachchi
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena
Hon. Rishad Bathiudeen
Hon. Niroshan Perera
Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva
Hon. Ajith Mannapperuma
Hon. Nayana Wasalathilake
Hon. Buddhika Pathirana
Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara
Hon. Shan Vijayalal De Silva
Hon. Chandima Weerakkody, Attorney at Law

Hon. M. A. Sumanthiran
Hon. Tissa Attanayake
Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha
Hon. Hector Appuhamy
Hon. S. M. Marikkar
Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara
Hon. (Dr.) V. Radhakrishnan
Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka
Hon. Kins Nelson
Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake
Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera
Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe
Hon. Rohana Bandara
Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri
Hon. (Dr.) Upul Galappaththi
Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala
Hon. (Mrs.) Thalatha Athukorala, Attorney at Law
Hon. Seyed Ali Zahir Moulana
Hon. Wasantha Yapabandara, Attorney at Law
Hon. W. H. M. Dharmasena
Hon. (Dr.) Kavinda Heshan Jayawardhana
Hon. Velu Kumar
Hon. Jayarathna Herath
Hon. Abdul Haleem
Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena
Hon. (Prof.) Charitha Herath
Hon. Vijitha Herath

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— Vote of No Confidence against Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane, the Speaker,— Whereas, by allowing the government to adopt certain Clauses of the Bill titled Online Safety during the Committee of the whole Parliament of the said Bill contrary to the determination of the Supreme Court in respect of that Bill disregarding the strong objections raised by Members of Parliament of the opposition to the effect that the some Clauses of the Bill concerned were being passed in contravention of the determination of the Supreme Court regarding the Bill;

Particularly,

- (a) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 13 of the aforesaid Bill with a simple majority without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the said Clause was inconsistent with Article 12 (1) of the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if it were to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected;

- (b) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 17 of the aforesaid Bill as it was with a simple majority while the Supreme Court had determined that the said Clause was inconsistent with the Constitution and hence should be passed with a special majority and while the Attorney-General had informed the Supreme Court that the Clause concerned would be removed during the Committee of the whole Parliament;
- (c) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clauses 20, 33(6), 34(1) and 35(1) of the aforesaid Bill with a simple majority without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the Clauses concerned were inconsistent with the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if they were to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected;
- (d) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 21 of the aforesaid Bill as it was with a simple majority without acting in pursuance of the assurance given by the Attorney-General to the Supreme Court that the amendments necessary to pass the Clause concerned with a simple majority would be moved during the Committee of the whole Parliament when the Supreme Court determined that the said Clause was inconsistent with the Constitution and hence should be passed with a special majority;
- (e) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 22 of the Bill as it was with a simple majority, without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the Clauses concerned were inconsistent with the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if they were to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected; and
- (f) And whereas by allowing the passage of Clause 31 of the Bill as it was with a simple majority, without incorporating the amendments specified in the determination of the Supreme Court, which had determined that the Clause concerned was inconsistent with the Constitution and as such, should be passed with a special majority, and if it was to be passed with a simple majority, the amendments so specified should be effected;

And whereas it has been stated in the letter dated 08th February 2024, sent to the Speaker of Parliament by the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka, confirming this, and pointing out that the Supreme Court determination has not been followed with pertinence to passing certain Clauses of the said Bill and therefore, that there are serious concerns regarding the fact whether the number of votes required to pass the Bill as it is, has been received in Parliament or not;

And whereas at the same time, whereas by allowing the Bill to be passed at the third reading without calling for a division, despite the request made by the Chief Opposition Whip calling for a division, at the third reading of the Online Safety Bill;

And whereas and by endorsing the certificate on the said Bill, ignoring the request made by a group of Opposition Members from the speaker at the special meeting of the Party Leaders which was held on the 01st of February 2024, not to endorse the Bill until it is seriously scrutinized, as certain Clauses have been passed by the government contravening the determination issued by the Supreme Court at the Committee of the whole Parliament of the Online Safety Bill;

And whereas, when the name for the post of Inspector-General of Police, recommended by the Hon. President was considered at the meeting of the Constitutional Council held on the 26th of February 2024, 4 members of the Constitutional Council voted for the appointment of that recommended person for the said post and 2 members voted against while 2 members abstained from voting and as such while the said recommended name for the post of Inspector-General of Police remained unapproved as per the provisions of the Constitution, the Speaker has unlawfully aided and abetted and sponsored the President to appoint the person recommended by the President to the post of Inspector-General of Police in an illegal and unconstitutional manner by stating in paragraph 4 of the letter dated 26th February 2024 that intimated to the President that:—

“However, as there are no provisions with regard to abstaining from voting at a meeting of the Constitutional Council as per Article 41(e) of the Constitution and if abstaining from voting is deemed as being opposed to, before the law and in relation to the aforementioned issue if it is deemed as a tie in voting as per Article 41(e)(5) of the Constitution, I hereby inform that I exercise my casting vote as the Chair”

And whereas, the Speaker has acted in a manner in blatant violation of the Constitution in handling the affairs of Parliament;

And whereas, the Speaker has acted in a manner that public confidence in the supreme institutions of Parliament and the Constitutional Council would be eroded;

And whereas, the Speaker has blatantly violated the Standing Orders of Parliament;

And whereas, the Speaker has blatantly desecrated the independence and dignity of the office of the Speaker by clearly exhibiting that he acts partially;

And whereas, the Speaker who is bound to protect the rights and privileges of the Members of Parliament impartially, has himself violated the rights and privileges of Members of Parliament; and

And whereas, the Speaker has neglected to perform the functions and responsibilities of the office of the Speaker.

That this Parliament resolves that it has no confidence in Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane, the Speaker any longer.
