

No. 3 (4).]



(Sixth Parliament - Second Session)

**ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 3
OF
PARLIAMENT**

Issued on Friday, June 15, 2007

NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NO DATES HAVE BEEN FIXED

P.43/'07.

Hon. Lakshman Kiriella

Hon. Lakshman Senewiratne

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara

Hon. Palitha Range Bandara,— Select Committee of Parliament to look into and recommend steps to be taken to prevent the recent increasing of the abductions of persons—

Whereas abductions appear to have become a common daily occurrence in Colombo;

And whereas abductions are now taking place in Mahanuwara;

And whereas many of these abductions are taking place in broad daylight;

And whereas over a hundred persons have been abducted in the past two years alone;

And whereas the motives behind these abductions appear to be both political and criminal (extortion of money);

And whereas the law enforcement machinery has not taken meaningful steps to prevent these abductions or trace the abductees after the event;

And whereas very often the abductees turn up as corpses;

And whereas the Police have not been able to trace the killers of the Member of Parliament Mr. N. Raviraj killed in Colombo in broad daylight on a busy city highway;

And whereas as recently as June 2007 two Red Cross members (Katikesu Chandramohan and Sinnarasa Shanmugalingam) were abducted from the Fort Railway Station in the presence of hundreds of commuters and two days later their corpses turned up in the Ratnapura District;

And whereas a fear psychosis is gripping the nation and spreading panic and alarm at all levels of society;

And whereas if this trend continues unabated, the day to day life in these cities and its environments will come to a complete standstill with disastrous consequences;

This Parliament Resolves that a Committee of Parliament be appointed to inquire into and report on:

- (a) the circumstances of these abductions,
 - (b) measures necessary to prevent such occurrences,
 - (c) measures to be taken to identify and bring the culprits to book and,
 - (d) such other and further measures as the Committee deems necessary in these circumstances.
2. (a) The Committee and its Chairman shall be nominated by Mr. Speaker,
(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 95, the Committee shall consist of not more than twenty one (21) members.
3. That the Committee shall have the power to :
- (a) fix its quorum ;
 - (b) send for persons, papers and records, may order any person to attend before Parliament or before such Committee, and to produce any paper, book record or document in the possession or under the control of such person;
 - (c) verify or otherwise ascertain by the oral examination of witnesses and examine witnesses upon oath or affirmation which the Chairman of the Committee or a person specially authorized for that purpose may administer;
 - (d) obtain the services of Specialists and Experts in the relevant fields to assist the Committee; and,
 - (e) make interim reports from time to time and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of Parliament.
4. The Committee shall make its Report within One Year of the date of its first sitting or such other or further time as Parliament may grant.

P.44/'07.

Hon. Jeyaraj Fernandopulle
Hon. Wimal Weerawansa
Hon. Vijitha Herath
Hon. (Mrs.) Renuka Herath

Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama
Hon. Mano Ganesan
Hon. C.B. Rathnayake
Hon. Bimal Ratnayake
Hon. Achala Jagodage
Hon. Deepal Gunasekara
Hon. K.V. Samantha Vidyaratne
Hon. M. Joseph Michael Perera
Hon. Sunil Handunnetti
Hon. Piyasiri Wijenayake
Hon. Jinadasa Kitulagoda
Hon. R.P.A. Ranaweera Pathirana
Hon. P. Weerakumara Dissanayake
Hon. Samansiri Herath
Hon. Lakshman Nipunaarachchi
Hon. S.K. Subasinghe

Hon. Chandrasena Wijesinghe,— Parliamentary Select Committee to amend the Act, No.35 of 2003 in order to grant Sri Lankan citizenship to the persons who are in refugee camps for Sri Lankans in Tamil Nadu and to provide other facilities to them,—

Whereas it has been reported that in refugee camps for Sri Lankans, situated in Tamil Nadu, there are at present nearly 28,500 persons, who though entitled to Sri Lankan citizenship have not been granted such status,

And whereas they have been unable to obtain citizenship due to the fact that they had to live as refugees in Tamil Nadu being unable to live in Sri Lanka due to the situation that prevailed there from time to time since 1983 thereby failing to fulfil the requirement to the effect that “the children of those with continuous residence in Sri Lanka since October 30th, 1964 will be qualified to citizenship” in terms of provisions of “Granting of Citizenship to citizens of Indian Origin Act, No.35 of 2003”,

And in order to grant citizenship to nearly 28,500 aforesaid persons who have not been able to obtain the citizenship of Sri Lanka and hence have become “a group of stateless persons” requesting the citizenship of our country at present, Part II of the aforesaid Act be amended by including the following paragraph:—

“The persons who have not been able to prove the continuous residence in Sri Lanka as a result of being compelled to live outside Sri Lanka due to the reasons which are beyond their control and yet have been permanent residents of Sri Lanka from 30th of October 1964, shall be entitled to the citizenship of Sri Lanka” as accepted by the Law Commission of Sri Lanka by now,

Further more, this Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed,—

- (a) to appoint a Committee with full powers and resources in order to make arrangements for the re-settlement of approximately 80,000 Sri Lankans at present living in refugee camps in Tamil Nadu.

- (b) to arrange a joint action plan in collaboration with India to take steps to uplift the condition of the Sri Lankan refugees as well as the refugee camps in Tamil Nadu;
 - (c) to provide employment in our country through a Special Graduate Employment Programme, to nearly 2500 unemployed graduates who have obtained their degrees from Higher Education Institutes in India while staying as refugees in Tamil Nadu;
 - (d) to provide without delay the required additional human and physical resources to the High Commissioner's Office in Chennai to conduct these activities vigorously and smoothly;
 - (e) to look into and provide for other matters in order to address the issues faced by the aforesaid groups of persons.
2. (a) The Committee and its Chairman shall be nominated by Mr. Speaker,
(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 95, the Committee shall consist of not more than twenty one (21) 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 of Parliament.
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