



[Seventh Parliament -First Session]

No. 7 (3).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 7

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Thursday, November 08, 2012

Monday, November 19, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2247/'12

Hon. Tissa Attanayake,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(4)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the term of office of the Tax Appeals Commission established on 01st April, 2011;
- (ii) the number of officers appointed to the aforesaid Commission; and
- (iii) the full name of each of the aforesaid officers and the relevant qualifications ?

(b) Will he inform this House of —

- (i) the location of the five-storey building obtained on rent for the Tax Appeals Commission and the rent paid per month; and
- (ii) the total amount of money spent for the recurrent expenditure including salaries of employees, water and electricity bills of the Commission during the first six months ?

(c) Will he admit that —

- (i) 120 tax appeal files which were under the Inland Revenue Department have been transferred to the new Tax Appeals Commission;
- (ii) none of the investigations regarding those files has been completed within the relevant period; and
- (iii) the government has lost a sum of about Rs. 8 billion as a result ?

(d) If so, will he inform this House of the measures to be taken in that regard?

(e) If not, why?

2491/'12

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare,— (2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) a mother of three children Madugeta Gamage Dharmawathie residing at Nugekanda area in Hiyare, Akmeemana, who served in Baharain has been brought back to Sri Lanka by now is in a serious condition as she had been forced to swallow wire hooks by the woman who owned the house where she served; and
 - (ii) she has requested an entitlement under “Sahan Piyasa” insurance scheme implemented under the Ministry of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare ?
- (b) Will he state the steps taken by now to provide an entitlement to Mrs. Dharmawathie under “Sahan Piyasa” insurance scheme ?
- (c) If not, why?

2612/'12

Hon. R. M. Ranjith Madduma Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(3)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) 120 students have been enrolled per year to the physical education course in the Uva College of Education in the recent past; and
 - (ii) only 60 students have been enrolled to the aforesaid College of Education in the year 2012 due to the cut of allocations ?
- (b) Will he admit that—
 - (i) there are vacancies for physical education teachers in the entire school system of the island; and
 - (ii) the target of filling the aforesaid vacancies cannot be achieved owing to reducing the number of physical education students enrolled to the Uva College of Education in the year 2012 by half ?
- (c) Will he state whether steps will be taken to rectify the injustice caused by the aforesaid situation this year to the children living throughout the country including the Uva Province who possess necessary qualifications to follow the physical education course ?
- (d) If not, why?

2996/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of —
 - (i) the number of Management Assistants currently engaged in the Public Service; and
 - (ii) out of these, the number of those recruited in the years 2011 and 2012 separately, in relation to each institution ?
- (b) Is he aware that a problem has arisen with regard to the posts of Management Assistants due to the assigning of graduates for duties at various state institutions without having a proper plan ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House of the steps that have been taken by the Government to resolve this problem ?
- (d) If not, why ?

Tuesday, November 20, 2012
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1647/'11

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(2)

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) even though six years have passed since the opening of Kottanthivu rural hospital situated in Mundalama Divisional Secretariat Division in Puttlam District, no patient has been admitted to the hospital up to now; and
 - (ii) this situation has arisen as a result of not providing physical and human resources properly, though the hospital was opened?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) if so, whether measures will be taken speedily to address the shortage of resources that exists at the hospital in order to meet the health needs of the people of that area; and
 - (ii) if so, the time frame required for that?
- (c) If not, why?

2300/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(4)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the non government organizations that are engaged in various activities with the Ministry of Education at present;
 - (ii) separately, the tasks performed by various non government organizations in collaboration with the Ministry of Education under various projects and development programmes outside the plantation sector and the Northern and Eastern Provinces during the last ten years; and
 - (iii) separately and on annual basis, the value of financial and material aids received by the Ministry of Education from each of those organizations under the aforesaid programmes during the last ten years ?
- (b) If not, why ?

2525/'12

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Will he state separately in relation to each Provincial Council—
 - (i) the number of schools which were under the purview of Provincial Councils; and
 - (ii) the number of students and teachers in the aforesaid schools; as at 31st December 2011?
- (b) Will he inform this House separately, of the amounts of money allocated by the Provincial Ministries of Education of each Provincial Council to the schools coming under the purview of the aforesaid Provincial Councils in relation to the year 2012 ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2851/'12

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Social Services,—(2)

- (a) Will he state whether —
 - (i) “elders identity cards” are issued under the Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No. 9 of 2000; and
 - (ii) it has been stated on the reverse of the aforesaid identity card that the holder of the identity card should be given priority in services such as health and banking, police and legal advice, postal, pension and office activities ?

(5)

- (b) Will he inform this House —
- (i) of the legislation drafted and the regulations imposed by the government to accord the above priority;
 - (ii) whether such laws and regulations are submitted to the Parliament; and
 - (iii) if not, the reasons for same ?
- (c) Will he state whether measures will be taken as soon as possible to issue a legally empowering circular and /or regulation for giving priority to senior citizens at least in meeting doctors, attending clinics and obtaining medicines at government hospitals ?
- (d) If not, why ?

Wednesday, November 21, 2012
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2110/'11

Hon. John Amaratunga,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (5)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately—
- (i) the value of the shares held by the Employees Provident Fund in commercial banks in Sri Lanka or abroad on per bank basis ;
 - (ii) the dates on which each lot of shares was purchased on per company basis ;
 - (iii) the person and/or persons from whom such shares were purchased on per company basis ;
 - (iv) the value at which each lot of shares was purchased;
 - (v) if any such shares have been subsequently sold, the price at which they were sold and the persons to whom they were sold; and
 - (vi) the names, designations and academic qualifications of the nominees of government and/or Employees Provident Fund to the Boards of Directors of each bank in which the shares are being held ?
- (b) If not, why?

2346/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the institution with which Daycare Centres for children should be registered; and
- (ii) separately at district level, the number of Daycare Centres for children that have been registered with the aforesaid institution in the years 2000, 2005 and 2010 and the number of children, the number of wardens and the number of assistants in those Daycare Centres?

(b) If not, why?

2548/'12

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) separately, at district level, of the number of complaints of rape, sexual harassment and child abuse received by the Sri Lanka Police from the year 2009 up to now; and
- (ii) of the number of complaints regarding which investigations have been completed out of the number of complaints mentioned in a (i) above ?

(b) If not, why?

3004/'12

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva,— To ask the Minister of Postal Services,— (1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the stamps of what revenue denomination are the most popular for postal purposes, in order of popularity;
- (ii) whether the stamp of 5 rupees is usually of the size 2 cm x 2.5 cm;
- (iii) the dimensions of the Rs 5 stamp printed to commemorate 25 years of the Institute of Ship Brokers;
- (iv) the dimensions of the two stamps of Rs 10.00 on which the suspension bridge at Peradeniya and the ancient stone bridge at Mahakandarawa have been printed;
- (v) the total cost per stamp of each of the stamps referred to in (iii) and (iv) above, inclusive of paper, printing, transport, storage and distribution etc.; and
- (vi) the comparison of the costs of each of the stamps referred to in (iii) and (iv) above with a Rs 5 stamp of the usual size 2cm x 2.5 cm?

(b) If not, why?

Thursday, November 22, 2012
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2291/'12

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,—(4)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether a decision has been taken to change the Matron posts of pre-schools administered by Local Authorities; and
 - (ii) if so, the reason for it ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the administration of the pre-schools coming under the Local Authorities has been assigned to other institutions;
 - (ii) the names of the pre-schools of which the administration has been assigned to other institutions as mentioned above; and
 - (iii) the names of the institutions to which the administration of those pre-schools has been assigned?
- (c) Will he admit that the decision taken not to approve new pre-school Matron posts, which has been mentioned in the letter bearing No. DMS/D3/97/27/02 issued by the Director General of Management Services, will lead to closure of pre-schools governed by the Local Authorities ?
- (d) If not, why?

2884/'12

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare,— To ask the Minister of Co-operatives and Internal Trade,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit the facts that—
 - (i) resting the financial and administrative powers of the Co-operative Societies in the elected Chairmen and the Board of Directors, lead to corruption and malpractices in administrative and financial matters of those Societies ;
 - (ii) the Matale, Rattota Multi Purpose Co-operative Society has plunged in to a huge financial crises owing to massive fraud and corruption that has occurred in the financial and administrative affairs of the Society within the aforesaid context; and
 - (iii) the customers of this Co-operative Society are immensely inconvenienced owing to the inability of the Society to run its outlets and 'Co-op' cities due to the financial crises ?

(b) Will he state separately and in relation to Rattota Multi Purpose Co-operative Society—

- (i) the number of outlets and 'Co-op' cities, the number of functioning outlets and 'Co-op' cities and employees; and
- (ii) the number of representatives of the General Assembly that should be present at an election from the outlets, and the number of such representatives that was present at the election held on 20.03.2010 ?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) the measures to be adopted to look into the incidents of administrative weaknesses, corruption and malpractices taking place in the Co-operative Societies;
- (ii) whether a formal investigation will be conducted regarding the corrupt deals that have place in the Rattota Multi Purpose Co-operative Society ; and
- (iii) if so, when ?

(d) If not, why ?

2916/'12

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether a pledge has been made by the 'Mahinda Chinthana - A vision for the future' policy manifesto presented in 2010 to the effect that a new system through which the pension will be sent directly to the homes shall be implemented to prevent the senior citizens from facing difficulties in the process of receiving the government pension;
- (ii) if so, as to what the new system through which the pension will be sent directly to the homes as per the aforesaid pledge, is going to be; and
- (iii) if the aforesaid pledge has not been honoured, the reasons for that ?

(b) If not, why ?

2954/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that although United Nursing Officers' Association has held a number of discussions with the health sector authorities regarding 15 demands, they have not been granted up to now ?

- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the demands made by the United Nursing Officers' Association during the aforesaid discussions ;
 - (ii) of the number of demands that have been granted out of those demands by now ; and
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to grant the demands made by the above mentioned Nursing Officers' Association, which would be helpful in strengthening the health sector ?
- (c) If not, why ?
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Friday, November 23, 2012
QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2830/'12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the process to select suppliers of surgical gloves used in hospitals ;
 - (ii) the names and designations of persons making decisions on purchase of surgical gloves;
 - (iii) the standard clauses in supply contract in relation to the date of delivery, period of delivery, and failure to supply the product within the agreed time; and
 - (iv) the amount allocated and spent on the purchase of surgical gloves for the years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, separately?
- (b) Will he admit that —
- (i) a fraud regarding the purchase of surgical gloves has been revealed in a preliminary investigation; and
 - (ii) this fraud has been referred to the Ministry of Finance and Planning for further investigation?
- (c) Will he state —
- (i) the nature of the aforesaid fraud;
 - (ii) the financial loss due to the fraud; and
 - (iii) the results of the investigation, if it was done as (b) (ii) ?
- (d) If not, why ?

2917/'12

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Justice,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) there is no procedural law on contempt of court in effect in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) it has been recommended by the United Nations Human Rights Committee in the “Tony Fernando” case that a procedural law on contempt of court should be imposed in Sri Lanka; and
 - (iii) a draft of the procedural law on contempt of court has been passed by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and submitted to the Ministry of Justice ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether he admits that a procedural law in relation to contempt of court should be imposed in Sri Lanka soon; and
 - (ii) if so, the date on which the relevant Bill will be moved in Parliament ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2955/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Education ,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the students were greatly inconvenienced when answering the Combined Mathematics paper of the G.C.E (Advanced Level) Examination held on 06th August 2012 by the Department of Examinations due to the errors in that question paper; and
 - (ii) the students had to answer the entire question paper under tremendous pressure as they were unable to manage the time in a proper manner because they were attempting to answer the erroneous questions in the question paper ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether Advanced Level Examination papers are not re-checked before they are given to the students;
 - (ii) the number of candidates who sat the Combined Mathematics paper at the G.C.E. (Advance Level) Examination in 2012 ; and
 - (iii) whether steps will be taken to serve justice to the students who sat for the aforesaid exam in the Mathematics stream who were inconvenienced due to the irresponsible action of the relevant authorities?
- (c) If not, why ?

3000/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Petroleum Industries,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether a Committee has been appointed to inquire into the importation of substandard diesel that took place on 23rd June 2012;
- (ii) if so, of the number of members of the said Committee and their names;
- (iii) whether the damage caused by the importation and distribution of substandard diesel has been assessed; and
- (iv) if so, of the amount ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of complaints received as regards vehicles damaged due to the use of substandard diesel imported as mentioned above ;
- (ii) separately, as per each institution, the number of vehicles of public sector institutions that were damaged, according to the above complaints;
- (iii) separately, the financial loss incurred by each institution as a result of damages caused to the said vehicles;
- (iv) the number of private buses damaged as a result of using substandard diesel; and
- (v) the financial value of the damages caused to the said buses ?

(c) If not, why ?

Saturday, November 24, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2832/'12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Social Services,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House the percentage of disabled people in the population of Sri Lanka?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether Sri Lanka, in the year 2007, has signed the United Nations Convention of Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (ii) whether the aforesaid Convention has been ratified by the Sri Lankan Government;
- (iii) if not, the reasons for not ratifying the aforesaid Convention;
- (iv) as to why the 'Disability Rights Bill' that was approved by the Cabinet in the year 2006, was not presented to the Parliament; and
- (v) the local law implemented to give effect to the Convention?

(c) If not, why?

2919/'12

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether action has been taken to pay a monthly allowance of Rs. 750/- for the parents of the Police Officers who were in service from 14.02.1977 to 19.05.2009 during which period the war persisted in Sri Lanka; and
- (ii) if so, the number of mothers and fathers who would be given the monthly allowance under the aforesaid programme ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether the government will supply the funds necessary for paying the aforesaid allowance; and
- (ii) if not, of the methodology that adopted to source the aforesaid funds ?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) whether paying an allowance of Rs. 750/- for the parents of the Police Officers is sufficient ; and
- (ii) if so, the rationale behind the assumption that it is sufficient ?

(d) If not, why ?

2956/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) parts of the syllabus for Medical Science are being removed instead of adding new fields of study to Medical Science to suit the present, and that provisions allocated in this regard are being reduced;
- (ii) under the above circumstances as mentioned by the Sri Lanka Medical Council, the section on surgery is being removed from the syllabus; and
- (iii) the efforts made to develop a quality medical service have been jeopardized by that ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the subjects that have been recommended for the degree in Medicine at present;
- (ii) the reasons for removing the field of surgery from the syllabus of the degree in Medicine;
- (iii) whether knowledge in the field of surgery would not be of great use in producing a quality doctor; and
- (iv) whether action will be taken the field of surgery in the syllabus of the said degree on a fulltime basis without removing it from the Medical degree ?

(c) If not, why ?

3006/'12

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (1)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) the objectives of the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report submitted to the Parliament under the Fiscal Management (Responsibility) Act No.3 of 2003 is enable the public to evaluate the Government's fiscal performance against the fiscal strategy as set out in its Fiscal Strategy Statement; and
- (ii) a statement of estimated and actual amounts for the first four months of the relevant year must be contained in the said report for expenditure, revenue, cash flow, and borrowing?

- (b) Will he state whether the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report for the year 2012 dated 29 June 2012 contains—
- (i) the estimated and actual expenditure ;
 - (ii) the estimated and actual revenue;
 - (iii) the estimated and actual cash flow; and
 - (iv) the estimated and actual borrowings;
- for the first four months of 2012?
- (c) If not, why?

Monday, November 26, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2833/'12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) as to when the building in New York referred to the Monetary Board Advisory Audit Committee Report in the Central Bank Annual Report, 2011, was purchased;
 - (ii) the person who authorized the aforesaid purchase and the purpose of buying;
 - (iii) the address, number of floors, floor area of the building and the cost incurred on purchase;
 - (iv) whether it was a joint venture or a single investment; and
 - (v) if it was a joint venture, the names of the parties involved and percentage owned by each party separately?
- (b) Will he state —
- (i) in whose name the building was registered;
 - (ii) whether the said building has been sold or rented out now;
 - (iii) if it was sold, name of the buyer; the price, and the date of sale; and
 - (iv) if it was rented, the names of the tenants, the rent, and the period of lease?
- (c) If not, why?

2383/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(3)

- (a) Is he aware that a supplementary estimate of Rs. 500 million for the purpose of paying for the drugs purchased from the local market to avoid a shortage in the supply of drugs until the drugs ordered were received, was submitted for approval in 2011?
- (b) Will he submit to this House—
 - (i) whether the Ministry of Health did not have an estimate of the drug requirements for the year 2011;
 - (ii) of the types of drugs that had to be purchased from the local market during the aforesaid year due to the delay in placing orders?
 - (iii) of the reasons for such delays in placing orders for drugs;
 - (iv) of the procedure followed in purchasing those drugs from the local market ; and
 - (v) separately, of the types and amounts of drugs purchased from the local market and the institutions from which those purchases were made ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2957/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Postal Services,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the main post office in Bulathsinhala, which had a developed system of communication that enabled communication with foreign countries even in the year 1982, is in a dilapidated condition at present;
 - (ii) no reconstruction has been carried out in the aforesaid office since the year of its beginning up to now; and
 - (iii) there are vacancies for 11 officers in that office at present ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of sub-post offices coming under the aforesaid main post office;
 - (ii) the total number of employees serving in the main post office and the aforementioned sub-post offices; and
 - (iii) the number of service recipients who are served by the main post office alone ?

- (c) Will he inform this House whether action will be taken to—
- (i) renovate the main post office in Bulathsinhala; and
 - (ii) look into the current shortcomings of that institution and to fulfill them ?
- (d) If not, why ?

3007/'12

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (1)

- (a) Is he aware that the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report for a particular year shall state the reasons for shortfall in the estimated revenue or cash flow, or an excess in the estimated expenditure or borrowings ?
- (b) Will he state in respect of the Mid-Year Fiscal Position Report for the year 2012-
- (i) whether there are shortfalls in the estimated revenue or cash flow ;
 - (ii) if so, whether the reasons have been given for such differences;
 - (iii) whether there is an excess in the estimated expenditure or borrowing; and
 - (iv) if so, whether the reasons have been given for such difference?
- (c) If not why?

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2870/'12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the reasons for terminating the aptitude test implemented by the University of Visual and Performing Arts as an entrance requirement;
 - (ii) whether any discussions were held with the university officials before taking the decision to terminate the aforesaid aptitude test ;
 - (iii) if not, the reason for not having such a discussion ; and
 - (iv) if so, the stance taken by the university officials in respect to terminating the aptitude test as an entrance requirement ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether the Ministry or the University Grants Commission received petitions from applicants that the aptitude test is corrupt on the basis that lecturers are partial to applicants whom they are in good terms with ;
- (ii) if so, as to why there has been no investigation or inquiry in this regard; and
- (iii) whether the Ministry had attempted to improve the transparency of the aforesaid test?

(c) If not, why?

2958/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) a six- storeyed building was constructed in Kurunegala Teaching Hospital in the year 2008 in order to establish a Cardiac Surgery Unit; and
- (ii) an operating theatre has not been established in the aforesaid building up to now in order to facilitate heart surgeries?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of government hospitals where heart surgeries are performed at present;
- (ii) the number of heart surgeries performed in the aforesaid hospitals annually; and
- (iii) the number of cardiac patients who have been registered in the waiting lists of the government hospitals at present awaiting heart surgeries ?

(c) Will he also state whether immediate action will be taken to —

- (i) grant approval for the establishment of a Cardiac Surgery Unit in the aforesaid building which was constructed in the Kurunegala Teaching Hospital; and
- (ii) provide surgical equipment and drugs required for the aforesaid purpose ?

(d) If not, why ?

3031/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of —
 - (i) the name of the country that granted financial aid for the reconstruction activities of the Moratuwa-Modera Fisheries Harbour, which had been destroyed by the Tsunami disaster of 2004;
 - (ii) the amount so received as aid, and
 - (iii) the date on which the reconstruction work of the aforesaid Fisheries Harbour commenced?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of—
 - (i) the length and breadth of the Moratuwa-Modera breakwater in metres; and
 - (ii) the size of the bend of the breakwater in metres ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3076/'12

Hon. (Al-Haj) A.H.M. Azwer,— To ask the Minister of Sports,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that hundreds of youths and school children have faced difficulties without a sports ground in Pulmoddai area in Trincomalee District?
- (b) Will he take action to provide a full pledged play ground, so as to enable the youths of the area to improve their skills in sports?
- (c) If not, why?

Thursday, November 29, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2959/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that the practice question papers which had been given to the students of Anuradhapura Education Zone who sat the Grade 5 Scholarship Examination in the year 2012 had contained a large number of errors ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the reasons as to why the authorities had not taken steps to correct the errors in the aforesaid question papers before they were given to the students;
- (ii) the names of the parties who are responsible for the damage which was caused to the students who were about to sit the Grade 5 Scholarship Examination by giving practice question papers which contained errors; and
- (iii) whether action will be taken to attach officers who perform duties in a responsible manner to the relevant positions so that problems of the aforesaid nature would not arise again ?

(c) If not, why ?

3032/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Environment,—(1)

(a) Is he aware of a racket of exporting to India the timber of the tree called 'Wallapatta' (Gyrinops Walla) belonging to the group of endangered plants, which is a plant with herbal medicinal efficacy that is endemic to Sri Lanka and used as a substitute for the medicinal herb called agava?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of kilogrammes of 'Wallapatta' timber in piece form that was taken into custody from the Wemmiyagoda area (adjoining the Sinharaja Rain Forest) in Kalawana ready to be exported;
- (ii) the amount that had been paid by the racketeers per kilogramme;
- (iii) the price at which a kilogramme of 'Wallapatta' timber has been sold in the world market;
- (iv) the names of the racketeers behind the 'Wallapatta' exportation; and
- (v) whether the racketeers above have been taken into custody by now;
- (vi) the punishment that will be imposed on them ?

(c) Will he also state the steps that have been taken to conserve the medicinal plant called 'Wallapatta' ?

(d) If not, why?

3093/'12

Hon. (Al-Haj) A.H.M. Azwer,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that the children of about 70 families that have been resettled after being displaced due to the war, in Tennamarawedi Tamil village of Kuchchaweli Pradeshiya Sabha area, Trincomalee District, do not have a school to receive education ?

(b) Will he inform this House —

- (i) whether he admits that it is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education to provide basic facilities to the children of the aforesaid village to receive education ; and
- (ii) if so, whether steps will be taken to start a primary school, enabling the children of Tennamarawadi village to receive their education ?

(c) If not, why ?

3094/'12

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House whether—

- (i) the Colombo Crime Investigation Unit of the Department of Police has been asked to conduct a formal investigation to ascertain whether the Auditor known as Jayawardana has committed an act of fraud by not attempting to prevent a fraud that took place in the National Water Supply and Drainage Board during 1996-2006 ;
- (ii) the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption has been asked to conduct an investigation to ascertain whether the aforesaid Auditor has obtained bribes ;
- (iii) No-pay leave has been approved for that officer to migrate for employment ; and
- (iv) he admits that it is illegal to approve leave to him without carrying out the recommendations of the preliminary inquiry conducted by a formal committee?

(b) If not, why ?

Friday, November 30, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2109/'11

Hon. John Amaratunga,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,— (6)

(a) Will he inform this House separately —

- (i) the number of shares held in Galadari Hotels Lanka PLC, Laughs Gas PLC and Ceylon Grain Elevators PLC by the Employees Provident Fund ;
- (ii) the dates on which each lot of shares were purchased;

- (iii) the price at which the aforesaid shares were purchased ;
- (iv) the persons from whom the shares were purchased;
- (v) if the said shares have been subsequently sold, the person or persons to whom they were sold, on per lot basis ;
- (vi) the price at which the said shares were sold per each lot ; and
- (vii) the names of the brokers involved in these transactions?

(b) If not, why?

2960/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Agrarian Services and Wildlife,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) an officer has not been appointed to the office of the Director General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation since 22nd July 2011;
- (ii) the duties of the aforesaid office is being covered by the Secretary to the Ministry of Agrarian Services and Wildlife at present; and
- (iii) a number of activities have been carried out during his tenure contravening the ordinances ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the reasons for not appointing a suitable officer to the office of the Director General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation which has remained vacant for over a year;
- (ii) the reasons for not taking action to date against the Secretary to the Ministry who acted contravening the relevant ordinances; and
- (iii) whether action will be taken to appoint a suitable officer to the office of the Director General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation ?

(c) If not, why ?

3033/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Transport,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the total number of buses that have been set aside by now as condemned buses in the Depots of the Sri Lanka Transport Board all over the island;
- (ii) the number of buses that have been sold out of those buses; and
- (iii) the proceeds from the sale of those buses ?

- (b) Will he inform this House of —
- (i) the number of buses belonging to the Sri Lanka Transport Board that are scheduled to be sold in due course; and
 - (ii) the amount expected to be derived out of the sale ?
- (c) Will he state the income lost by the Sri Lanka Transport Board from July 2011 up to now, as a result of using of low quality diesel ?
- (d) If not, why ?

3098/'12

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Economic Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
- (i) the total number of tanks that have been selected to be de-silted in the district of Anuradhapura;
 - (ii) separately the number of the aforesaid tanks as per the Divisional Secretariat Divisions; and
 - (iii) the amount allocated for each of the aforesaid tanks ?
- (b) Will he also state—
- (i) whether the assistance of the Irrigation and Agrarian Service Officers has been sought for the above project;
 - (ii) if not, whether the assistance of other people is sought for that;
 - (iii) if so, who those persons are;
 - (iv) the institutions to which they belong;
 - (v) separately, the number of de-silted acres of each tank mentioned above;
 - (vi) whether it is possible to collect adequate water in the aforesaid tanks for cultivating both the seasons after de-silting ?
 - (vii) if not, what are the reasons for it ?
- (c) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether tanks are de-silted annually;
 - (ii) if not, of the time duration in which it is done; and
 - (iii) whether the tanks that have not been de-silted this time will be de-silted in the next 'yala' season ?
- (d) If not, why ?

Monday, December 03, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2961/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) only a part of the Yatadola Water Supply Project, for which the foundation stone was laid in the year 2003, spending Rs. 1,700,000.00 under the Asian Development Bank Loan Fund, has been completed up to now; and
 - (ii) under the aforesaid circumstances, it has not been possible to fulfil the drinking water requirements of the students of Yatadola Kanishta Vidyalaya completely ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the reasons for completing only a part of the Yatadola Water Supply Project; and
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to fulfill the drinking water requirement of the villagers in Yatadola and the Students of Yatadola Kanishta Vidyalaya completely ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3034/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Transport,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the total number of buses belonging to the Sri Lanka Transport Board by now;
 - (ii) the number suitable for running, out of these buses;
 - (iii) the number not suitable for running;
 - (iv) the number of SLTB buses that have been run for more than 15 years; and
 - (v) the number of SLTB buses that have been used in running operations for less than 10 years ?
- (b) Will he state whether any buses of the Sri Lanka Transport Board have been dropped off from running operations due to shortage/lack of cables and batteries or for various other reasons ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3100/'12

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he state separately, the number of —
 - (i) government schools;
 - (ii) schools that have been closed down during the period from year 2005 to 2012;
 - (iii) teachers serving;
 - (iv) total teaching vacancies that exist in total;
 - (v) teaching vacancies that exist as per each subject;
 - (vi) acting principals;
 - (vii) teachers holding grades;
 - (viii) teachers serving on voluntary basis;in each district of the North Central Province ?
- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether salaries are paid to the teachers serving on voluntary basis in the districts of Polonnaruwa and Anuradhapura in the North Central Province;
 - (ii) if so, what that salary is;
 - (iii) whether officers of the Civil Security Force serve as teachers in the government schools of the above districts;
 - (iv) if so, what that number is ;
 - (v) whether they have been provided with a training under the Department of Education or any other institution; and
 - (vi) whether it is expected to attach them to the Teachers Service in future ?
- (c) If not, why?

3135/'12

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare,— To ask the Minister of Industry and Commerce,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of factories in which the production activities are carried out ;
 - (ii) the number of factories that are being constructed ; and
 - (iii) the number of factories that have been proposed to be constructed ;at the Nalanda Industrial Park in the Naula Divisional Secretariat Division in Matale;

- (b) Will he inform this House of—
- (i) the total extent of land set aside for the above mentioned industrial park ;
 - (ii) the maximum and minimum limits of the extent of the land allotted to each factory within the industrial park ;
 - (iii) separately, the extent of land allotted for each of the factories mentioned in (a) above;
 - (iv) the basis for that allocation ;
 - (v) the total extent of land that has been allotted for the project by now and the extent that remains unallotted ; and
 - (vi) the names of the factory owners who have already started their factories in it?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) whether a possibility prevails to allocate lands for private use out of the land area of the industrial park premises in Nalanda ; and
 - (ii) if so, of the basis on which it is done?
- (d) If not, why ?

Tuesday, December 04, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2962/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Economic Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that there is a plan to abolish the Samurdhi assistance to the present recipients who are above 70 years of age as a programme has been designed to provide them with a monthly allowance of Rs. 1,000.00;
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the total amount of money spent by the government monthly on giving the Samurdhi assistance to citizens who are over 70 years of age;
 - (ii) whether approval has been granted to cut off the Samurdhi assistance given at present due to the payment of the aforesaid allowance of Rs. 1,000.00;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to provide the Samurdhi assistance and Public assistance together with the aforesaid allowance of Rs. 1,000.00 instead of cutting off the Samurdhi assistance due to the payment of the aforesaid allowance ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3035/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Transport,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the date on which the Gampaha Railway Station was constructed;
 - (ii) the number of times it has been renovated by now, since the date on which it was constructed; and
 - (iii) the date on which it was renovated last ?
- (b) Will he inform this House with regard to the Gampaha Railway Station—
 - (i) the number of passengers travelling towards Kandy and Colombo from the aforesaid Railway Station per day;
 - (ii) the gross daily income;
 - (iii) the monthly income;
 - (iv) the monthly proceeds from the season tickets;
 - (v) the gross monthly income from parcels; and
 - (vi) the number of ticket counters available ?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) the number of official railway quarters constructed at Gampaha; and
 - (ii) whether the construction work of the aforesaid quarters has been completed?
- (d) If not, why ?

3102/'12

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the extent of land in the Mahaweli areas in the Anuradhapura District that was subject to crop damage due to the drought in the year 2012 ;
 - (ii) the number of owners of agricultural lands who were paid compensation, out of the owners aforesaid lands ;
 - (iii) the total amount of money paid to them as compensation ;
 - (iv) the extent of paddy land that was provided with seed paddy and the quantity of seed paddy provided for the damaged paddy lands separately, as per each division ;
 - (v) the amount of money paid per acre as a relief for hiring tractor, in relation to crop damages ; and
 - (vi) the amount of money spent for that?

- (b) Will he state—
- (i) the number of farmer organizations in the Mahaweli H zone in the Anuradhapura district ;
 - (ii) the number of farmer organizations that have been given one hundred thousand rupees each out of the aforesaid farmer organizations ; and
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to provide that money in future for the farmer organizations who have not received money in that manner ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) the total amount of money provided to repair the wells in Mahaweli areas during the year 2012 ; and
 - (ii) the amount of money allocated per well?
- (d) If not, why ?

3139/'12

Hon. Abdul Haleem,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that —
- (i) the Udakukkhepa Seema Malaka constructed in 1994 by the institution called Harispattuwa Development Foundation on a site of historical interest located in the middle of the Mahaweli River at Waratenna, Haloluwa and offered to the Maha Sangha, is the venue where Upasampada rites of upcountry Amarapura Nikaya are performed;
 - (ii) the ground work required to remove the said sacred site and construct a private power plant on that location is being done by now; and
 - (iii) a large number of lay persons and clergy across the country connected to Amarapura Nikaya who have been greatly disheartened about the destruction of the said sacred site of historical interest, are getting ready to stage a protest against such action ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether measures will be taken to stop immediately the construction of the said private power plant that would cause the decline of upcountry Amarapura Nikaya; and
 - (ii) whether necessary arrangements will be made for the rites of the said Nikaya to be performed in historical and traditional Udakukkhepa Seema Malaka without interruption in future as well ?
- (c) If not, why?

Wednesday, December 05, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1521/'11

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Civil Aviation,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of professional pilot training academies in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the names of those academies;
 - (iii) the average cost of receiving a pilot license in Sri Lanka;
 - (iv) the number of pilots required for Sri Lanka; and
 - (v) the aftermath of the balance students who are trained but will not get opportunity to serve as a pilot in Sri Lanka
- (b) If not, why?

2963/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) there is a scarcity of officers for the posts of Public Health Inspector, Family Health Midwife, Laboratory Officer, Pharmacist, Family Health Instructor in Kalutara District;
 - (ii) services such as clinics, maternity and pregnancy clinics and dengue eradication projects in hospitals managed under the office of Regional Health Services Director of Kalutara and the Institute of Health in Kalutara, have been disrupted due to the aforesaid reason; and
 - (iii) a solution has not yet been given irrespective of the fact that the Ministry of Health has been informed regarding this matter ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the total number of vacancies for the aforesaid health service officers in the Kalutara District at present;
 - (ii) of the number of officers of the aforesaid posts, who are presently serving in the district mentioned above; and
 - (iii) whether steps will be taken to fill the relevant vacancies ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3036/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the name of the country which provided aid to implement the Yan Oya Irrigation Project;
 - (ii) the amount of money received as aid from the aforesaid country;
 - (iii) the amount spent for the aforesaid project;
 - (iv) the date of commencement of the aforesaid project along with the date on which its construction is scheduled to be completed;
 - (v) the number of families benefitted and the extent of paddy lands irrigated by this project ?
- (b) If not, why ?

3103/'12

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Lands and Land Development,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of plots of land occupied by people in the Anuradhapura Municipal Council area;
 - (ii) separately, the number of free hold plots of land, leased plots of land and illegally occupied plots of land out of the above plots of land ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the steps taken to grant freehold deeds to the above mentioned recipients of leased lands; and
 - (ii) whether there is a programme to expedite such activities ?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether an eviction of unauthorized occupants in the Anuradhapura Municipal Council area will be carried out;
 - (ii) if not, whether their residence in those places will be legalized;
 - (iii) whether assessment or any other tax is levied from those unauthorized occupants; and
 - (iv) whether their ownership is verified in providing electricity and other amenities ?
- (d) If not, why?

Thursday, December 06, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2036/'11

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Sports,—(3)

- (a) Will he state separately—
 - (i) the amount of money spent annually by Sri Lanka Cricket for sending its officers abroad from the year 2008 up to now ;
 - (ii) the amount of money spent on each of the occasions when officers were sent abroad in each of the aforesaid years ; and
 - (iii) the number of days spent abroad by the officers on each of those occasions?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the positive or negative results gained by the game of cricket as an outcome of the aforesaid foreign trips made by the officers ;
 - (ii) separately, of the amounts of money spent on travelling, accommodation and other expenses of each of the officers who went abroad ;
 - (iii) whether tour itineraries relevant to the trips made by the aforesaid officers will be submitted ; and
 - (iv) separately, of the monthly salaries and other allowances of the aforesaid officers?
- (c) If not, why?

2211/'12

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that a pledge was made under the Jana Sevana Programme of “Mahinda Chinthana-Dinavamum Sri Lanka” manifesto that the housing loans and the interest relevant to housing schemes constructed under various names such as Diyawara, Diyawara Visiri, Jana Udana and Gam Udana would be written off and freehold ownership of those houses would be granted to their residents ?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the number of families who have been granted freehold ownership of the houses under each of the aforesaid housing schemes separately ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2964/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) permanent principals have not been appointed so far to 57 schools in the Nikaweratiya Education Zone; and
 - (ii) the duties of the office of the principal of the aforesaid schools are being covered by acting principals at present ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of schools situated in Nikaweratiya Education Zone;
 - (ii) the reasons for not taking steps so far to employ principals required for the aforesaid schools;
 - (iii) whether action will be taken to fill the vacancies for principals in the aforesaid schools speedily ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3037/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Environment,—(1)

- (a) Will he state —
 - (i) the area of the Bundala National Park;
 - (ii) the number of bird species inhabiting that park;
 - (iii) whether it has been named a biosphere reserve;
 - (iv) whether it has been decided to start a project to cage birds by netting a 15 acre area within the said park;
 - (v) if such project is to be launched using that park, the date of starting the said project;
 - (vi) the estimated cost of netting a 15 acre area within that park ?
- (b) Is he aware that a tourist hotel named Jeew's Hide Out has been built on the forest land approximately 2.2 hectares (4-5 acres) in extent, located on the eastern boundary of Minneriya National Park ?
- (c) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the date on which the said hotel was constructed;
 - (ii) of the name of the owner of that hotel;
 - (iii) whether written permission of the Department of Wildlife Conservation has been granted for the construction;
 - (iv) the date on which permission was granted for construction;
 - (v) whether the letter granting permission for construction will be submitted ?
- (d) If not, why ?

Friday, December 07, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1523/'11

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Petroleum Industries,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House whether the Sapugaskanda Oil Refinery is going to be expanded?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) as to when the Sapugaskanda Oil Refinery was first commissioned; and
 - (ii) the capacity of the Refinery at the time it was commissioned and now separately?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether there are any other Oil Refineries being built in the country;
 - (ii) if so, the names of those new refineries; and
 - (iii) whether any of them is being financed by the Government ?
- (d) If not, why?

1652/'11

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the non-academic staff who have been serving at schools in Moneragala and Badulla Districts for several years, have not been confirmed in service up to now;
 - (ii) these personnel who have been recruited in the years 2005 and 2008, have been serving up to now for meagre daily wages; and
 - (iii) they are facing economic difficulties as a result ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the reasons for not confirming this group of non-academic workers in service despite the interviews have been held for confirming them;
 - (ii) whether measures will be taken to overcome those problems and absorb them into the permanent cadre; and
 - (iii) if so, the time frame required for that?
- (c) If not, why?

2966/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) irrespective of the fact that approximately a sum of 60 million rupees has to be allocated per year to provide distress loans to the employees of all the departments and institutions under the Ministry of Health, only a sum of 5 million rupees has been allocated for this purpose even by now;
 - (ii) all the officers in the health sector have to remain on the waiting list for a long time to obtain the distress loan for which they are entitled to due to the aforesaid reason ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of health service employees remaining on the waiting list at present to obtain the distress loan;
 - (ii) of the outstanding amount to be allocated to provide the aforesaid distress loans;
 - (iii) whether steps will be taken to provide the distress loans immediately for those who have applied ?
- (c) If not, why ?

3038/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that fishermen have died as a result of the capsizing of boats caught in gale force winds while trying to enter the Moratuwa - Modara Fishery Harbour that was restored after the Tsunami disaster in 2004?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of fishermen who have died in the aforesaid manner, after the constructions at Modara Fishery Harbour, Moratuwa, up to now;
 - (ii) whether compensation has been paid for the fishermen who died;
 - (iii) if so, the amount that has been paid up to now; and
 - (iv) the compensation paid to the family of a fisherman who died?
- (c) Will he state the reasons for the occurrence of a condition where fishing boats that set sail from Modara Fishery Harbour, Moratuwa, in the off-season cannot enter it when returning from sea ?
- (d) If not, why ?

Saturday, December 08, 2012

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2065/'11

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Management,—(2)

- (a) Will he state the amount of money allocated for the renovation of Mahakandarawa tank in Anuradhapura?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the aforesaid renovation work has been assigned according to the accepted tender procedure ;
 - (ii) if so, the names and addresses of the tenderers who submitted tenders ;
 - (iii) the name and the address of the company to which the tender was awarded ; and
 - (iv) the names of the Board of Directors of that company?
- (c) Will he state—
 - (i) whether the Presidential Investigation Unit has found that certain irregularities have taken place when carrying out the renovation work of Mahakanadarawa tank ;
 - (ii) if so, the names of the officers against whom allegations were leveled on the above findings ;
 - (iii) the posts held by them at that time ;
 - (iv) the actions taken against them ;
 - (v) if no action has been taken, their present place of work ; and
 - (vi) the posts held by them at present?
- (d) If not, why ?

2212/'12

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that a pledge was made under the Jana Sevana programme of the “Mahinda Chinthana-Dinawamu Sri Lanka” manifesto that freehold ownership of the houses in urban multi-storey housing schemes would be granted to their residents ?

- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) the year in which the granting of freehold ownership to residents of urban multi-storey housing schemes commenced; and
 - (ii) the number of families who have been granted freehold ownership of houses in multi storey housing schemes by now ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2967/'12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Petroleum Industries,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
- (i) fuel has been purchased again during the first 8 months of the year 2012 from a fuel company called 'Vimol' which had been blacklisted in the year 2010 for supplying substandard fuel;
 - (ii) a large number of vehicles including 1000 private buses, 50 SLTB buses and 10 locomotives have stalled as a result of using substandard fuel obtained from the above company;
 - (iii) the SLTB alone incurred a loss of about Rs. one million per day as a result ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
- (i) as to who granted permission to purchase fuel from the above blacklisted company ;
 - (ii) of the amount of diesel purchased from the above company;
 - (iii) whether the quality of fuel is tested in purchasing fuel from a company ?
- (c) Will he state whether measures will be taken to —
- (i) pay compensation to owners whose vehicles sustained mechanical defects as a result of using substandard diesel purchased from the above company ;
 - (ii) initiate legal action against the company which supplied substandard diesel ?
- (d) If not, why ?

3039/'12

Hon. (Mrs.) Rosy Senanayake,— To ask the Minister of Agrarian Services and Wildlife,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the extent of land belonging to the Maduru Oya National Park;
 - (ii) the varieties of valuable trees found there; and
 - (iii) whether alternatives to pines cultivation as a means of protection for the water catchment area of this Forest Park have been identified ?
- (b) Is he aware that —
 - (i) timber felling rackets and illegal hunting are committed within the Madura Oya Forest Park; and
 - (ii) and elephant has been killed and its tusks have been sawn off and taken away recently ?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) the value of the pair of tusks so removed;
 - (ii) whether the racketeers involved in this act have been arrested ; and
 - (iii) the steps that have been taken to prevent the timber racket and illegal hunting that are taking place in the Maduru Oya Forest Park ?
- (d) If not, why ?

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR WHICH NO DATES HAVE BEEN FIXED

P. 168/'12

Hon.(Dr.) Harsha De Silva

Hon. Ajith P. Perera

Hon. Niroshan Perera,— Select Committee of Parliament to inquire and report on the statement made by the Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of International Monetary Co-operation in Parliament with regard to the investments made by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in Greek Bonds,—

Whereas around 2010 several Euro zone economies fell into crises as a result of the global financial crisis compounded by irresponsible domestic economic management;

And whereas Greece was one of the worst affected countries with its growth

rate falling well below estimates, fiscal imbalances building up with expenditure outstripping tax revenues by a large margin, debt beginning to spiral out of control and the credibility of official statistics falling to almost zero particularly upon the revelation that the Greek government had consistently mislead the European Union with fictitious budget deficit figures;

And whereas by the first quarter of 2010 the ability of the Greek government to meet its debt obligations had come into serious question driving fears of a possible sovereign default;

And whereas rating agencies began downgrading Greek debt to 'junk' status and with its private credit to Greece virtually dried up;

And whereas in April 2010 the Greek government requested and obtained a EURO 110 billion bail-out package jointly funded by the Euro zone countries and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) conditional upon implementing a tough austerity package with the hope of putting a stop to the deteriorating economy;

And whereas the Greek government was unable to carry through the tough fiscal conditions, given no flexibility on the monetary side, the measures implemented were sufficient to push people to the streets to riot;

And whereas the Greek economy continued to falter and the confidence in Greek debt fell dramatically leading to heightened expectations of sovereign default;

And whereas in March 2011 Moody's further downgraded Greek debt deep into 'junk' territory with a speculative and high risk rating along with a negative outlook;

And whereas with this development, investors quickly began dismissing Greek bonds as 'worthless paper' and its yields began to rise with imminent default as the Euro zone IMF bail-out was stuck with the Greek government unable to implement the austerity package to meet disbursement conditions;

And whereas in this background the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in early April 2011 had purportedly invested EURO 22 million on Greek bonds at the risk of great loss;

And whereas on July 17th, 2012 this was raised in Parliament after the press revealed that there had been a large loss to the Central Bank of Sri Lanka due to selling some of its Greek bonds at a loss;

And whereas the Minister of International Monetary Co-operation was asked if it was true and if so the details of the investments and an explanation as to why such an investment was made, and in particular, without the consent of the Monetary Board;

And whereas the Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of International Monetary Co-operation, replying to the question stated that in fact the Central Bank had invested in Greek bonds in early April;

And whereas in justifying the investments the Hon. Minister stated that *"The decision (to invest in Greek bonds) was influenced by the fact that at that time (April 5th, 2011) there was a robust framework in place for crisis management in Europe supported by a Financial Stability Package."*;

And whereas the Hon. Minister further stated that *"So, there was this big fund that the global monetary authorities created to save Greece at that point of time. Therefore, the risk was considered to be reasonably low and tolerable in the circumstances..."*;

And whereas it is noted that the above statement by the Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of International Monetary Co-operation, is incorrect;

And whereas the risk in Greek bonds was reasonably high and default was imminent;

And whereas at the time of the said investments in Greek bonds the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) had no arrangement with that country;

And whereas even if Greece were to have obtained a bail-out from the EFSF that would not have been to the benefit of Sri Lanka as the temporary EFSF that was being converted in to the permanent European Stability Mechanism (ESM) with 'preferred creditor' status second only to the International Monetary Fund (IMF);

And whereas 'preferred creditor' status meant that at payment in order of preference investment made by the ESM would have preference over all other parties except the IMF;

And whereas the investments by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka were in serious peril of being defaulted;

And whereas the Hon. Minister mislead the House by implying that the funds invested by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka were safe when in fact they were in great danger;

And whereas soon after the reckless investment by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in Greek bonds, the Greek government faltered again and its debt rating was downgraded to the lowest in the world;

And whereas by October 2011 Greece went into a controlled default with creditors agreeing to a more than 50 percent write off on their debt;

Andwhereas the Central Bank of Sri Lanka also had 53.5 percent of the principal of its remaining (after selling at a deep discount) Greek bonds wiped out at a great loss to the country;

Andwhereas the Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of International Monetary Co-operation, in his statement on July 17th, 2012 by not disclosing the truth and justifying the investment where the *"risk was considered to be reasonably low and tolerable"* purportedly due to *"a big fund that the global monetary authorities created to save Greece at that point of time "* has deliberately misled the House.

This Parliament resolves that a Select Committee of Parliament be appointed to:

- (a) determine whether and to what extent the Hon. (Dr.) Sarath Amunugama, Minister of International Monetary Co-operation has misled this House with regard to the investments of EURO 22 million on Greek bonds by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka; and
 - (b) recommend to this House what action should be taken in the circumstances.
2.
 - (a) That the Committee and its Chairman shall be nominated by Mr. Speaker; and
 - (b) That 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.