



[Seventh Parliament -First Session]

No. 7 (9).]

ADDENDUM TO THE ORDER BOOK No. 7

OF

PARLIAMENT

Issued on Friday, February 22, 2013

Tuesday, March 05, 2013

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*

Sri Lanka Electricity (Amendment) Bill — Second Reading.

*

The Minister of Sports,— Regulations under the Sports Law,— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Sports under Section 41 read with Section 31 of the Sports Law No. 25 of 1973 and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 1793/3 of 15th January 2013, which were presented on 21.02.2013, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

* *Indicates Government Business*

Tuesday, April 09, 2013

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1894/11

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that eventhough construction of a green city and a green sports complex was started under the Makandura town development plan implemented by the Pannala Pradeshiya Sabha of Kurunegala District, its construction work has been stopped halfway at present?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the reasons for stopping the construction work; and
 - (ii) the institution or institutions which provided funds for the aforesaid construction; and
 - (iii) the amount of money allocated for that purpose?

(2)

(c) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether construction work of the green city and the green sports complex will be recommenced; and
- (ii) if so, the date on which it will be done ?

(d) If not, why?

1935/'11

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the supplier or suppliers of inferior quality petrol and other petroleum products to Sri Lanka during the period of May–July, 2011;
- (ii) as to how the Ministry is excluded from the scam of importing inferior petroleum products ;
- (iii) number of consumers affected by using sub-standard petrol;
- (iv) the names of the customers who made the complaints regarding the damages caused by the sub-standard petrol;
- (v) the amount compensated to each affected consumer separately;
- (vi) the number of filling stations of which machineries were affected by sub-standard petrol; and
- (vii) as to how those filling stations are compensated?

(b) Will he inform this House whether the concerned parties, who exposed this racket of inferior quality petrol to the public would be given a handsome bonus?

(c) If not, why?

2139/'11

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Mass Media and Information,—(2)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the date on which Mr. Prageeth Ekneligoda, Journalist went missing;
- (ii) whether he is alive;
- (iii) whether a statement to the effect that Mr. Prageeth Ekneligoda is alive, has been made by Mr. Mohan Pieris who appeared before the International Committee Against Torture on behalf of the government;

(3)

- (iv) if such a statement has been made, whether the country or the area where he is living will be mentioned; and
- (v) the measures that will be taken to repatriate him, if he has gone abroad?
- (b) If the statement made by Mr. Mohan Pieris before the aforesaid Committee was false, will he also state the measures that will be taken regarding the serious disgrace caused to the country through the release of such false information by a person who has held a distinguished post in a superior institution of the country?
- (c) If not, why?

2210/12

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities,—(3)

- (a) Is he aware that a pledge was made under the Janasevana Programme of “Mahinda Chinthana-Dinawamu Sri Lanka” manifesto that the full ownership of the two perch plot of land provided for construction of houses under the Urban Housing Scheme for low-income families, would be given to the current residents of such lands?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the number of families that have got the full ownership of two perch land by now, under the aforesaid programme ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2531/12

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

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the hospitals attached to the Medical faculties in Sri Lanka with Professor Units for clinical training;
 - (ii) separately, the number of Professors, Medical Specialists, Doctors reading for post graduate studies (Senior Registrars and Registrars) and Senior Medical Officers attached to each Professor Unit as at 31st March 2012; and
 - (iii) separately, the operating theatres available for the relevant activities in each Professor Unit?

(4)

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the date on which the Professor Unit of the Anuradhapura General Hospital assigned for clinical training of the Rajarata University, was opened ;
- (ii) the number of medical students who are undergoing training at that Professor Unit at present;
- (iii) whether sufficient doctors, operating theatres, wards and equipment and staff required to maintain them are available at the above mentioned unit for the purpose of providing training to the undergraduates who are undergoing training there; and
- (iv) if not, the time to be taken to fulfill those basic necessities ?

(c) If not, why?

2548/12

Hon. Sunil Handunnetti,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,—(3)

(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?

2831/12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he state —

- (i) whether there are any policies being implemented by the government to assist the widows in Sri Lanka to become economically stable;
- (ii) if so, the policies being implemented as such;
- (iii) whether there is any action being taken in order to assist those women in re-integrate with the society; and
- (iv) if so, the plan to be implemented in that regard?

(b) If not, why?

2849/12

Hon. Wasantha Aluwihare,— To ask the Minister of Co-operatives and Internal Trade,—(3)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether tenders were called through a paper advertisement published on 19th December 2011 to lease out a two-storey building that belongs to the Nuwara Eliya Multipurpose Co-operative Society;
- (ii) if so, the values of the bids that have been submitted; and
- (iii) the facts that are taken into consideration and given priority when tenders are called according to the accepted tender procedure ?

(b) Will he admit that—

- (i) bids with the values of Rs. 320,000/- and Rs. 355,000/- had been submitted to obtain the lease of the aforesaid building;
- (ii) the aforesaid building has been given to a person who has not even submitted a tender application;
- (iii) an irregularity has taken place when the aforesaid building was leased out; and
- (iv) as a result of the aforesaid building being given in an irregular manner the applicants have been caused an injustice and the relevant Co-operative Society has incurred a loss?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) the reason for not giving the building for the highest bid;
- (ii) the amount of money charged by the Co-operative Society from the person who have been given the building at present;
- (iii) whether action will be taken to conduct a proper investigation into the aforesaid irregularity and cause justice to the tenderers; and
- (iv) if so, the period of time that will be taken for that ?

(d) If not, why ?

2907/12

Hon. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately of the number of supplementary estimates presented under each ministry from the year 2010 up to 31 December 2011 and their financial value ?

- (b) Will he state—
- (i) whether supplementary allocations made from the budgetary support services and emergency liabilities project under the Head of Expenditure No.240 of the Department of National Budget have been presented in Parliament from the year 2010 up to 31 December 2011; and
 - (ii) if so, the number of such supplementary allocations ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House separately in respect of each supplementary allocation made during the above period—
- (i) the date on which provisions were made;
 - (ii) the value of each provision;
 - (iii) the number of the Head of Expenditure under which supplementary provisions were obtained;
 - (iv) ministry/department unit of expenditure; and
 - (v) the reason for the allocation of provision ?
- (d) Will he also state the reasons that prompted the seeking of provisions through the supplementary allocations made under the Head of Expenditure No. 240 instead of presenting supplementary estimates ?
- (e) If not, why ?

3172/12

Hon. E. Saravanapavan,— To ask the Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) of the number of Grama Niladhari Divisions coming under the Marudankeni Divisional Secretariat Division;
 - (ii) of the number of Grama Niladharis serving in those Divisions; and
 - (iii) whether speedy action will be taken to fill the Grama Niladhari vacancies exist in these areas where resettlement activities are under way ?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
- (i) of the number of Grama Niladhari vacancies exist in 15 Divisional Secretariat Divisions of the Jaffna Administrative District; and
 - (ii) separately, of the number of Grama Niladhari Divisions which do not have a permanent Grama Niladharis and are currently under acting Grama Niladharis in each of the Divisional Secretariat Division in Jaffna District at present ?
- (c) If not, why?

3200/12

Hon. P. Harrison,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of milk bars established by the North-Central Provincial Council in Anuradhapura District;
 - (ii) the locations where the aforesaid milk bars have been established;
 - (iii) the money spent on one such milk bar;
 - (iv) whether photographs of other people in addition to those of cattle are exhibited in the aforesaid milk bars; and
 - (v) if so, of whom those photographs are ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of the aforesaid milk bars which have been opened for the use of the public by now;
 - (ii) the number of milk bars that have been closed down without making any use;
 - (iii) the number of staff that has been recruited for the maintenance of these milk bars;
 - (iv) from which basis the aforesaid staff appointments have been made, out of the bases of permanent, temporary and on service requirement; and
 - (v) the institutions that provide milk for these milk bars ?
- (c) If not, why?

2143/11

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

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the names of the private sector people who gave the funds to the government to finance the Commonwealth Games in Hambantota ; and
 - (ii) the number and the names of the persons brought here to solicit their support to hold the aforesaid Games in Sri Lanka?

(b) Will he inform this House of—

- (i) the number of persons went overseas to solicit their support to Sri Lanka ;
- (ii) the names of them ; and
- (iii) the total cost incurred?

(c) Will he also state—

- (i) the number of persons went to St. Kitts in November 2011 ;
- (ii) the names of the persons went ;
- (iii) the total cost for the return trip ;
- (iv) the cost of the charter flight mentioned ; and
- (v) as to how Sri Lanka lost the hosting of Commonwealth Games after being so confident of winning?

(d) If not, why?

2148/11

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(2)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) separately, of the number of employees recruited to the National Lotteries Board in each of the years during the period from the year 2005 to date;
- (ii) of the approved cadre of the aforesaid institution;
- (iii) of the shortage or the excess of the staff existing at the aforesaid institution;
- (iv) of the reasons if recruitments have been made exceeding the approved cadre; and
- (v) of the name and designation of the person in authority who granted approval for the recruitment of excess staff ?

(b) If not, why?

2223/12

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 “සැමට නිවසක් - හිතට සෙවණක්” programme of Mahinda Chinthana - A vision for the future manifesto that an initial capital of Rs. 5 billion would be allocated by the forthcoming budget to construct 20 flats comprising of 40,000 housing units in Colombo and suburbs with a view to solving the housing problems of the slum dwellers in the Colombo city ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the year in which Rs. 5 billion was allocated by the budget in accordance with the above pledge;
- (ii) of the number of flats of which the construction work has been started by now using the above mentioned allocations;
- (iii) the number of flats of which the construction work has been completed by now; and
- (iv) the number of families that have been settled in the flats of which the construction work has been completed by now?

(c) If not, why?

2980/12

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

(a) Is he aware that—

- (i) an urgent recruitment of a group of nearly 400 substitute labourers have been made by the Railway Department without issuing any public notification or calling for applications; and
- (ii) recruiting more substitute labourers to the Department of Railway which already has a substantial cadre would make the aforesaid Department an institution that incurs further losses?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the procedure followed when recruiting additional cadre for the Department of Railway in the aforesaid manner;
- (ii) of the officer under whose supervision that such a large number of employees were attached to the Department; and
- (iii) whether a formal inquiry will be held regarding the officers involved in the recruitment of the aforesaid staff?

(c) If not, why?

Tuesday, April 23, 2013

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

2315/12

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Labour and Labour Relations,—(2)

- (a) Will he admit that —
 - (i) the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Act of 1958 was amended on the 18th of January 2012; and
 - (ii) the amendment was done so as to utilize the money in EPF for buying a land and construction of a building ?
- (b) Will he state—
 - (i) the total cost estimated for the aforesaid building;
 - (ii) the estimated cost per square foot of the building;
 - (iii) the names of the tenderers bided for construction of that building and the bid value of each tenderer separately; and
 - (iv) the person responsible for projecting the requirement of that building to be 35 floors?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) as to why the EPF is wasted on building constructions; and
 - (ii) the reason for not using state funds for the above purpose?
- (d) If not, why?

2459/12

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) a textile school has been conducted, affiliated to Sri Lanka Rahula Vidyalaya of Kandy which was founded by Colonel Henry Steel Olcott in 1890;
 - (ii) after the aforesaid school was taken over by the government in 1962, the person named E. Kekulawala who served at that textile school was asked to vacate the school premises by the letter of the Director of Education of Central Province bearing No. CP/PAC/293 and dated 26/07/1965;
 - (iii) the person named Kekulawala did not abide by the letter and after her, a person named M.J. Mendis also has become an unauthorized occupant of that place; and
 - (iv) up to now he has failed to vacate the school premises, as per the order given in the ruling dated 08.03.1988 made for Case No. 75269 filed against him by the Director of Education of Central Province ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether he admits that the presence of an unauthorized occupant within the school premises is a great hindrance for administration of the school; and
- (ii) if so, whether measures will be taken to remove him in compliance with the court ruling or by other legal procedures ?

(c) If not, why?

2508/12

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of tanks belonging to Welioya Project implemented under Mahaweli “L” zone in Wanni District ;
- (ii) the names of the aforesaid tanks ;
- (iii) separately, the acreage of paddy fields cultivated with the waters of each of the tanks;
- (iv) separately, the Grama Niladhari Divisions in which the paddy lands cultivated under each of the tanks are situated ; and
- (v) the number of relevant farming families?

(b) Will he admit that—

- (i) the farmers carrying out cultivations under the Welioya Project have been compelled to limit their cultivation to only one season as sufficient water is not received ; and
- (ii) they are facing grave difficulties as a result?

(c) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the courses of action taken to solve the issue that has arisen due to scarcity of irrigated water in the Welioya Project ; and
- (ii) of the period of time it would take to put these courses of action in to effect?

(d) If not, why ?

2539/12

Hon. Anura Dissanayaka,— To ask the Minister of Civil Aviation,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately of—
 - (i) the number of foreign tours made by each member of the Board of Directors and the Chairman of the Sri Lankan Airlines from the year 2009 up to now;
 - (ii) the countries visited in each of the aforesaid tours and the objectives and the outcome of each of them; and
 - (iii) the amounts of money spent on each of the persons who took part in each of those tours ?
- (b) If not, why?

2637/12

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Disaster Management,—(1)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of tsunami information towers installed in the sea around Sri Lanka to obtain information in the event of a tsunami and the amount of money spent for their installation; and
 - (ii) the date of installation, the institution that retrieve information from them and the time taken to effect Sri Lanka after the relevant institution becoming aware of an oncoming tsunami through the said towers ?
- (b) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether information was obtained through our tsunami towers to the effect that the tsunami situation that occurred in Sumatra on or around 11.04.2012 could affect Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) if not, the way in which the relevant information was obtained to make people aware of the said tsunami situation; and
 - (iii) as per (b) (ii) above, if information was received through other means, the purpose of setting up tsunami towers to obtain information on tsunami by Sri Lanka ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2830/12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(2)

- (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 ?

2981/12

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the Bulathsinhala hospital does not have an adequate number of nurses, health management assistances, medical laboratory technicians, specialist doctors, sanitary labourers, clerks and ambulances; and
 - (ii) the patients have become utterly helpless due to the aforesaid shortages ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of patients who come to the Bulathsinhala hospital per day to obtain treatments;
- (ii) whether a report will be submitted regarding the aforesaid shortcomings ; and
- (iii) whether action will be taken to address all shortcomings in the aforesaid hospital to uplift the health standard of the people in the Bulathsinhala area ?

(c) If not, why ?

3136/12

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether the period from 30th April to 30th May 2012 was celebrated as “War Heroes’ Month” (“Ranaviru Month”);
- (ii) whether “War Heroes Flags” (“Ranaviru Flags”) were designed in association with the said “War Heroes’ Month”;
- (iii) if so, the expenditure incurred in designing the said War Heroes’ Flags;
- (iv) the amount of income derived from the sale of the War Heroes Flags; and
- (v) the amount of money that was spent to make the War Heroes’ Fund (“Ranaviru Fund”) money tills?

(b) If not, why ?

3196/12

Hon. Ranjan Ramanayake,— To ask the Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare,— (1)

(a) Is he aware—

- (i) that a large number of Sri Lankan females and males who have gone to Saudi Arabia as house maids and for other jobs after getting registered in the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau, stay in the “Olaya” detention camp and under the “Jeda Bridge” at present, undergoing immense suffering; and
- (ii) that various factors such as not receiving proper working places, violence and not paying salaries as per the relevant agreement have contributed for that ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether action will be taken to bring the aforesaid group of Sri Lankans to the country immediately ; and
- (ii) whether action will be taken to implement a practical programme which can be executed immediately to uplift the protection, welfare and economy of their families ?

(c) If not, why ?

3201/'12

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

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the number of seed farms coming under the Department of Agriculture;
- (ii) separately, the number of farms conducting research on paddy, other types of grain and other matters out of those farms; and
- (iii) separately, the number of hectares of land belonging to each farm ?

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) the new varieties of crops which were discovered through research conducted between 2005 to 2012 by the Mahailluppallama Field Crop Research and Development Institute;
- (ii) the number of crops which have been introduced to farmers out of those new crops;
- (iii) separately, the new types of paddy which have been introduced by the Bathalagoda Agri Research Institute and other Agri Research Institutes up to now as per each of the institute;
- (iv) the number of varieties of Basmathi rice which have been discovered in Sri Lanka;
- (v) the names of those types of Basmathi rice and the names of the institutions which discovered them;
- (vi) whether there are places from which the seeds of new types of rice, grains, fruits and vegetables that have been discovered up to now, can be purchased; and
- (vii) the names of those places ?

(c) If not, why?

3208/12

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha De Silva,— To ask the Minister of Co-operatives and Internal Trade,— (1)

(a) Is he aware—

- (i) that there is a place called Tripoly trade centre, Maradana which was initiated by the Ministry of Policy Planning and Implementation in the year 1994;
- (ii) that the Tripoly trade center building has been constructed using private funds of 21 representatives selected from a group of over 350 traders who ran purchasing centers which were spread island-wide; and
- (iii) that those traders have been rendered helpless as they are unable to continue their businesses due to the military activities which are being conducted in the area surrounding the aforesaid trade center ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the names of the current custodians of the aforesaid trade center;
- (ii) of the reasons for continuing to keep the access roads to the aforesaid trade center closed during a period in which even the high security zones are kept open;
- (iii) whether the aforesaid center will be given to its owners to continue their business activities;
- (iv) if not, whether any other alternatives will be provided; and
- (v) as to what the alternative will be, if an alternative will be provided ?

(c) If not, why ?

2318/12

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

(a) Will he state for the year 2011—

- (i) the amount spent by the Ministry of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities on the construction of houses ;
- (ii) the number of houses built up; and
- (iii) the locations where those houses have been constructed?

(b) Will he also state for the year 2012—

- (i) the amount of money allocated for housing; and
- (ii) the amount that has been spent on the same to date; and
- (iii) the locations of newly constructed houses ?

(c) If not, why?

2509/'12

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House of—

- (i) the number of pre-schools conducted in the Sampathnuwara Divisional Secretariat Division in the Northern Province ; and
- (ii) the villages in which the aforesaid pre-schools are conducted?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) whether he admits that there are a number of shortages of physical resources in the aforesaid pre-schools ;
- (ii) the measures taken to alleviate the aforesaid shortages ; and
- (iii) the period of time that will be taken to overcome the aforesaid shortages?

(c) If not, why ?

2638/'12

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the functions performed by the Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka;
- (ii) the number of employees working in the aforesaid bureau ; and
- (iii) the place in which it is located ?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) whether a computer software set has been purchased for the aforesaid bureau or arrangements have been made to purchase such a computer software set;
- (ii) if so, the amount that was spent or that will be spent for it;
- (iii) the name of the country from which the aforesaid software set was purchased or is expected to be purchased;
- (iv) whether the aforesaid purchase has been made as per the accepted procedures of the government or arrangements have been made to purchase it in that manner; and
- (v) the objective of purchasing the aforesaid software set ?

(c) If not, why?

2982/12

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

- (a) Is he aware that —
 - (i) a stable salary scale which can meet the cost of living has not been formulated for teachers in order to safeguard their professional dignity; and
 - (ii) a proper methodology has not yet been prepared to grant the interim salary proposal with salary arrears, as agreed to by the Ministry of Education ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the reason for failing to grant the aforesaid interim salary proposal with salary arrears up to now;
 - (ii) of the total amount of salary arrears due for teachers as per the aforesaid salary proposal;
 - (iii) whether steps will be taken to grant the other requests made by the Teachers-Principals Association in addition to the salary problem; and
 - (iv) of the period of time that will be taken to formulate a fixed salary scheme for teachers and principals and pay their salaries based on it ?
- (c) If not, why?

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1601/11

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddha Sasana and Religious Affairs,— (3)

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) the number of cases withdrawn by the Attorney General from 2004/01/01 to date after they were indicted;
 - (ii) the names of the cases and persons indicted and the dates on which those indictments were served; and
 - (iii) the reasons for serving indictments and withdrawing them thereafter ?

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) the cost incurred by the Attorney General's Department for withdrawals of indictments ; and
- (ii) the names of the lawyers who appeared on behalf of the Attorney General's Department for the same ?

(c) If not, why?

1829/11

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(3)

(a) Will he admit that—

- (i) there are many teachers who are actually frustrated as a result of not receiving transfers after the completion of the difficult area service period in the government schools administered by the Morawaka, Kotapola and Pasgoda Divisional Education Offices belonging to the Deniyaya Education Office of the Matara District ; and
- (ii) the quality of teaching of these teachers could decline on account of this reason?

(b) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the minimum qualifications need to be fulfilled for transfers as per the decisions of the teacher transfer boards ;
- (ii) of the number of teachers who have sought transfers by now, after the completion of their difficult service period at the above educational zones ;
- (iii) whether a programme has been drawn up for granting them transfers ;
- (iv) what that programme is ; and
- (v) if transfers are given accordingly , the date for same?

(c) If not, why?

2511/12

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) the names of the villages in the Sampathnuwara Divisional Secretariat Division to which purified pipe-borne drinking water is supplied ;
- (ii) the names of the villages in the aforesaid Divisional Secretariat Division to which purified pipe-borne drinking water is not supplied ;
- (iii) whether action will be taken to supply purified drinking water to the villages mentioned above ; and
- (iv) if so, the period of time within which purified drinking water will be supplied to those villages?

(b) If not, why ?

2698/12

Hon. Dayasiri Jayasekara,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the date on which the BTI bacterium was imported to this country from Cuba for the purpose of controlling dengue;
- (ii) of the amount of the aforesaid bacterium imported to this country;
- (iii) of the total amount of money that was spent on the aforesaid purpose; and
- (iv) of the manner in which the aforesaid amount of money was spent ?

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) of the names of the persons who recommended that the BTI bacterium is suitable for the purpose of controlling dengue in Sri Lanka;
- (ii) of the amount of the aforesaid bacterium that has been used of for controlling dengue in this country; and
- (iii) of the progress that has been achieved up to now by the use of the aforesaid bacterium for controlling dengue ?

(c) If not, why ?

2870/12

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Higher Education,—(2)

- (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?

2984/12

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the Muslims of the Northern Province, displaced owing to the war, have returned to their original villages as they were promised of necessary registration and infrastructure facilities;
 - (ii) no step has been taken so far to provide nearly 32,000 such families with necessary registration, infrastructure and educational facilities; and
 - (iii) matters relevant this issue have been raised at nearly 1400 rounds of discussion held by now ?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the number of displaced Muslims who have returned to their original villages in the year 2012;
- (ii) out of those returnees, the number that has been registered by now;
- (iii) the reason for not effecting the necessary registration and not providing infrastructure facilities despite the required financial allocations being provided by Non-government Organizations for the purpose of resettling the displaced Muslims; and
- (iv) whether arrangements will be made to register them and provide them with the necessary facilities before a foreign country intervenes to solve this problem?

(c) If not, why?

3137/12

Hon. Ajith P. Perera,— To ask the Minister of Rehabilitation and Prison Reforms,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the names of the prisoners who were sentenced to death and released by a presidential pardon as per the Article 34 of the Constitution during the period from the year 2005 to 01.06.2012;
- (ii) of the period of time that each of the aforesaid prisoner had “served the death sentence”; and
- (iii) of the date on which each of the aforesaid prisoner was released?

(b) Will he state—

- (i) the names of the persons who were convicted of homicide;
- (ii) the names of the persons who were convicted for heroin trafficking or keeping heroin in their possession; and
- (iii) the names of the prisoners and the offences committed by them who do not belong to the either of the aforesaid two categories if there are any;

among the prisoners who were given presidential pardon by the incumbent President as per the Article 34 of the Constitution?

(c) If not, why?

3173/12

Hon. (Mrs.) Anoma Gamage,— To ask the Minister of Child Development and Women's Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House of the number of cases of abuse committed against women and children in Sri Lanka in each year from 2009 up to now, separately ?
- (b) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the aforesaid crimes have increased rapidly into an uncontrollable level;
 - (ii) the Sri Lanka Police show a sluggish interest in bringing the relevant criminals to book;
 - (iii) the accused of most of the aforesaid child and women abuse cases are politicians who have connections with the government; and
 - (iv) enough action is not taken against them due to that reason ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the steps that have been taken for the prevention of women and child abuses by the relevant Ministry, Department of Probation and Childcare Services and the Child Protection Authority;
 - (ii) whether action will be taken to seek the involvement of international organizations such as UNICEF and other non-government organizations operating in the country for the prevention of such crimes; and
 - (iii) if so, the activities carried out in regard to that ?
- (d) If not, why?

3202/12

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

- (a) Will he state separately —
 - (i) the quantities of B-onion, pumpkin, capsicum, snake-gourd, chillie, tomato, ridged-gourd, cucumber, long bean, papaw, green gram, bitter-gourd and peanut seeds imported annually when importing to Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the quantities of seeds imported out of each variety of imported seeds by the private sector and by the Department of Agriculture; and
 - (iii) the price of one kilo of each variety of seed mentioned above?

(b) Will he also state—

- (i) separately, the quantity of seeds produced locally from each variety of crop;
- (ii) whether the aforesaid quantities are sufficient to fulfill the local seed requirement; and
- (iii) the price at which seeds could be provided to the farmers if the aforesaid seeds are produced in the local farms ?

(c) If not, why ?

2322/12

Hon. Ravi Karunanayake,— To ask the Minister of Local Government and Provincial Councils,—(2)

(a) Will he state separately—

- (i) the total funds allocated to all nine Provincial Councils in the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 ; and
- (ii) the Ministries of each Provincial Council that the funds allocated for, in the aforesaid years ?

(b) Will he also state for the years 2010,2011 and 2012 separately—

- (i) the amount of money spent out of the government allocations by each Provincial Council ;
- (ii) the value of expenses made out of the money generated from the Provincial Council itself;
- (iii) the amount of money obtained by the each Provincial Council as government grants and revenue sharing; and
- (iv) as to how the deficit in budgetary requirement of each Provincial Council is met?

(c) Will he inform this House whether the revenue collection method in Provincial Councils has been improved after the arrogation of powers in Central Government to the said Councils?

(b) If, not why?

2445/12

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage,—(1)

(a) Will he state—

- (i) whether a plan has been made by the Water Supply and Drainage Board to construct a salinity barrier in the Bandattara area of the Nilwala River;
- (ii) the objectives expected to be achieved by the construction of this salinity barrier;
- (iii) if such a barrier is to be constructed, the amount of money estimated to be spent on it;
- (iv) whether such funds are sought from local or foreign sources;
- (v) the institution/institutions that provide funds for the construction of the aforesaid barrier and the amount given by each institution separately; and
- (vi) whether farmers in the Bandattara area complain that crops grown in a large extent of agricultural lands will be affected as a result of the construction of this salinity barrier ?

(b) If not, why?

2512/12

Hon. Sajith Premadasa,— To ask the Minister of Ports and Highways,—(1)

- (a) Will he state the total amount of money spent on road development activities in Sampathnuwara Divisional Secretariat Division in the Northern Province in the years 2010, 2011 and 2012?
- (b) Is he aware that the road system in the rural areas of the aforesaid Divisional Secretariat Division is in a state of complete dilapidation at present?
- (c) Will he also state—
 - (i) whether action will be taken to provide the total amount of money required for repairing the aforesaid roads ; and
 - (ii) the period of time that will be taken for repairing the aforementioned roads which are in a dilapidated condition?
- (d) If not, why ?

2699/12

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

- (a) Will he state—
 - (i) separately, the amount of palm oil imported annually during the period from the year 2005 to 2012;
 - (ii) the manner in which the import tax imposed on a kilogramme of palm oil was revised during the aforesaid period;
 - (iii) the reasons for the aforesaid revision of the import taxes on palm oil; and
 - (iv) separately, the retail prices of a kilo of palm oil and coconut oil in the local market at present ?
- (b) Is he aware that —
 - (i) the coconut oil production of Sri Lanka has decreased due to adopting a lenient tax policy on importing palm oil; and
 - (ii) the coconut cultivators do not get a fair price for their products due to the decrease in the coconut oil production ?
- (c) If not, why ?

2985/12

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

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) about 1500 self employed traders who engaged in trading on pavements around Pettah-Fort area have not yet received alternative business locations; and
 - (ii) the traders who engaged in mobile trading using vehicles provided by the “Dimo Batta Project” implemented under the “Divineguma” project for the self-employed traders, face severe difficulties at different occasions due to the action taken by the Traffic Police and Police OICs ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of pavement traders to whom alternative locations have been provided by now;
 - (ii) the number of traders to whom “Dimo Batta” vehicles have been provided under Divineguma Programme;
 - (iii) whether necessary arrangements will be made to enable them to engage in their trade activities without any hindrance ?
- (c) If not, why?

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

- (a) Will he state —
 - (i) the number of institutions which have been awarded licenses to import pesticides into Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) separately, the quantity of pesticides (insecticides, weedicide, fungicides) which have been imported during the period of time between 2005 to 2012 by each of those institutions; and
 - (iii) the number of institutions which have been banned out of those institutions by now?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether there is a methodology to check the quality of pesticides before they are imported;
 - (ii) if so, of the aforesaid methodology;
 - (iii) whether there are pesticides which contain arsonic and other harmful substances to man and animals among the imported agro-chemicals;
 - (iv) if so, of the institutions which conduct tests to check the prevalence of those harmful substances;
 - (v) whether the support of the government medical college or the laboratories of the Department of Health is obtained to conduct those tests;
 - (vi) if so, of the names of the aforesaid institutions; and
 - (vii) whether the pesticides are recommended to be used in cultivations after quality certificates are obtained from the above mentioned institutions ?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) of the manner in which the Department of Agriculture is involved in matters related to agro-chemicals; and
 - (ii) of the programme implemented by the Department of Agriculture to educate the farmers regarding the use of agro-chemicals ?
- (d) If not, why ?