



(Ninth Parliament - First Session)

No. 64.]

ORDER PAPER OF PARLIAMENT

FOR

Monday, April 05, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1.

758/2020

Hon. Amarakeerthi Athukorala,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of Tanks and Anicuts, coming under the Minor irrigations in Polonnaruwa district;
 - (ii) the areas where aforesaid Tanks and Anicuts are located;
 - (iii) the area where the most number of Tanks and Anicuts are located out of them; and
 - (iv) separately, the capacity of aforesaid Tanks and Anicuts?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of such Tanks and Anicuts in the district, renovated since 2015 to date;
 - (ii) the number of Tanks and Anicuts identified to be renovated;
 - (iii) the number of Tanks and Anicuts that were renovated in 2020; and
 - (iv) the names of aforesaid Tanks and Anicuts?
- (c) If not, why?

2.

643/2020

Hon. Nalin Bandara Jayamaha,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the reasons that contribute towards the delay in the construction activities of the Thalpitigala Reservoir Project;
 - (ii) the current progress of the Kumbukkan Oya Reservoir project, for which the foundation stone has been laid in the year 2015; and
 - (iii) the current progress of the Heda Oya Reservoir Project; of the Uva Province?
- (b) If not, why?

(2)

3.

614/2020

Hon. Ishak Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Irrigation,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the ancient Yodha Ela that carries water from Kala Wewa to Thisa Wewa is covered with aquatic plants like salvinia;
 - (ii) this situation impedes the flow of water along the canal; and
 - (iii) no solution has been provided up to now even though the relevant officers were made aware of this situation on several occasions?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether some action will be taken to remove the said aquatic plants before water is distributed for future cultivation activities; and
 - (ii) if so, of the date on which such action will be taken?
- (c) If not, why?

4.

853/2020

Hon. Ajith Rajapakse,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of persons in Sri Lanka who hold the Field Marshal position at present; and
 - (ii) separately, the names of the persons and their dates of retirement?
- (b) Will he also inform this House separately, the salaries and allowances paid, number of staff members assigned, number of official vehicles provided, official quarters and other grants given to each Field Marshal?
- (c) If not, why?

5.

847/2020

Hon. Waruna Liyanage,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of families affected due to natural disasters that occurred in Sri Lanka after the year 2016;
 - (ii) of them, the number of families that has been granted disaster compensation provided by the government;
 - (iii) the number of families which has not been paid compensation thus; and
 - (iv) the further period of time to be taken to pay disaster compensation for families who have not been granted disaster compensation?
- (b) If not, why?

(3)

6.

727/2020

Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that the appointment of Mr. Mohan Peiris, who was appointed Constitutionally by the President of the time as the Chief Justice on the date of 15th January 2013, was cancelled and nullified?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the person who cancelled and nullified Mr. Mohan Peiris's appointment as the Chief Justice?
- (c) If not, why?

7.

877/2020

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether the Attorney-General's advice was sought prior to issuing debt in excess of constitutional and legal limits in the year 2020;
 - (ii) if so, the actions taken on the basis of the Attorney-General's advice; and
 - (iii) whether the debt issued in excess of the constitutionally and legally stipulated borrowing limit in 2020 will be treated equally with all other debt issued by the Government of Sri Lanka in the event of default?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether the Attorney General's advice was sought on National Budget Circular No. 01/2020; and
 - (ii) if so, whether action was taken on the basis of Attorney-General's advice?
- (c) If not, why?

8.

230/2020

Hon. Mohomad Muzammil,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately, pertaining to each of the years during the period from 2015 to 2019, of—
 - (i) the quantity of timber imported into Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the money that has been incurred on that;

(4)

- (iii) the countries from which those timber were imported; and
- (iv) the companies which imported those timber?
- (b) Will he also inform this House of the total expenditure of importing timber into Sri Lanka during the period concerned?
- (c) If not, why?

9.

732/2020

Hon. K. P. S. Kumarasiri,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) nearly 305 million people around the world use PayPal Gateway as the E - Commerce websites are the easiest channels to sell goods to a foreign country;
 - (ii) aforesaid option can be used to sell Sri Lankan goods to foreign countries;
 - (iii) foreign exchange income channels related to sale of goods and services to foreign countries are rendered useless as the Central Bank of Sri Lanka has not made aforesaid option available in Sri Lanka;
 - (iv) Sri Lankan Companies that use the online systems to provide services, create PayPal accounts with foreign addresses; and
 - (v) a huge amount of income that should reach Sri Lanka has been diverted to foreign countries as commissions due to aforesaid reason?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether steps will be taken to remove existing barriers with regard to sale of goods and services to foreign countries by way of Online systems; and
 - (ii) if so, of aforesaid measures?
- (c) If not why?

10.

234/2020

Hon. Mohomad Muzammil,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately, pertaining to each of the years during the period from 2015 to 2019—
 - (i) the number of vehicles imported into Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) the money that has been incurred on that;
 - (iii) the countries from which those vehicles were imported; and
 - (iv) the companies which imported those vehicles?

(5)

- (b) Will he also inform this House the total expenditure of importing vehicles into Sri Lanka during the period concerned?
- (c) If not, why?

11.

857/2020

Hon. Jagath Kumara,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that the Samurdhi Movement, being the major movement in Sri Lanka to eradicate poverty, has rendered an immense service to eradicate poverty?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of Samurdhi Banks functioning in Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) of the amount of funds that have been deposited in the said Banks; and
 - (iii) of the amount of said funds separately on the basis of relevant accounts?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether he is aware that a substantial amount of funds which had been deposited in the Samurdhi Banks by the low income earners have been utilized to boost the image of the former government;
 - (ii) if so, the amount of funds which have been misused;
 - (iii) separately of the functions for which the said money has been utilized and the funds to which the said amounts of money belong;
 - (iv) of the persons who involved in the misappropriation of the said funds; and
 - (v) whether legal action would be taken against them?
- (d) If not, why?

12.

943/2020

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,— (1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the unemployment ratio in the Kandy District separately by each Divisional Secretary Division;
 - (ii) the solutions to be offered to said unemployment;
 - (iii) the targets expected to be achieved by offering the said solutions; and
 - (iv) the steps taken to achieve the said targets?
- (b) If not, why?

(6)

13.

939/2020

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) there exist volunteer welfare societies that are registered with the Department of Muslim Religious and Cultural Affairs; and
 - (ii) the aforesaid Department has sent letters to those registered welfare societies stating that the registration of those societies has been cancelled?
- (b) Will he inform this House of the basis of cancelling the registration of those welfare societies that had been officially registered with the aforesaid Department?
- (c) If not, why?

14.

33/2020

Hon. Hesha Withanage,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House the measures that have been taken by the government to conserve the Kooragala archeological site by now?
- (b) If not, why?

15.

721/2020

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that coins of historical value were found on 18.02.2020 while a foundation was being dug for the construction of a new house in Nanattan area in Mannar district?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the number of coins that were found at the aforesaid site;
 - (ii) of the era to which those coins belong;
 - (iii) of the administration that had existed at the time the aforesaid coins had been in use;
 - (iv) of the connection between the symbols of fish and sword inscribed on those coins and the administration that had existed at the time those coins had been in use; and
 - (v) whether action will be taken to include the facts related to the historical value of the aforesaid coins in the History syllabus?
- (c) If not, why?

(7)

16.

781/2020

Hon. K. Kader Masthan,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(3)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the types of vehicles received and purchased from different countries and institutions to the then Ministry of National Policies, Economic Affairs, Resettlement, Rehabilitation and Northern Province Development and Youth Affairs for rehabilitation and resettlement activities during the period from 2005 up to 2015 along with registered numbers of the aforesaid vehicles and the names of the government and non-governmental institutions for whose use they had been handed over, separately;
 - (ii) the present condition of those vehicles;
 - (iii) the institutions that use those vehicles at present; and
 - (iv) the Ministry and the relevant section of that Ministry that used the tractor bearing the registered number WP RB-2639, which is kept at Thaleimannar Police station presently?
- (b) Will he also inform this House, separately—
 - (i) The types of vehicles that were used in the Manik Farm Transition Camp during the period from 2009 up to 2012 along with their registered numbers; and
 - (ii) the name of the institution that use the aforesaid vehicles at present along with the place in which the vehicles are used?
- (c) If not, why?

17.

780/2020

Hon. K. Kader Masthan,— To ask the Prime Minister and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that houses were provided to homeless people under the housing project that was operative in Vavuniya district under the then Ministry of Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs?
- (b) Will he inform this House of—
 - (i) the number of beneficiaries that were identified in the year 2019 to be provided with houses from among the 42 Grama Niladhari Divisions in the Divisional Secretariat Division of Vavuniya;
 - (ii) the number of houses provided to each of the aforesaid Grama Niladhari Division up to now, separately; and
 - (iii) the names of the aforesaid beneficiaries of houses?

(8)

- (c) Will he also inform this House of—
- (i) the basis on which houses are allocated to each Grama Niladhari Division;
 - (ii) the factors that were used as a basis when allocating houses to the original inhabitants of Kallikulum Grama Niladhari Division and to those that were settled there later;
 - (iii) the steps that will be taken to solve the problems that have arisen when allocating the aforesaid houses; and
 - (iv) the date on which houses will be provided to the persons who have not received houses yet?
- (d) If not, why?

18.

940/2020

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

- (a) Will he inform this House—
- (i) whether steps have been taken by the Ministry to implement a programme to build houses for low income families covering all Grama Niladhari Divisions;
 - (ii) if so, the names of the Grama Niladhari Divisions in which the aforesaid programme will be implemented;
 - (iii) whether the aforesaid programme will be implemented for the families living in rental houses as well; and
 - (iv) if so, the measures that will be taken by the Ministry in that regard?
- (b) If not, why not?

19.

607/2020

Hon. Gayantha Karunatileka,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(2)

- (a) Will she inform this House—
- (i) of the number of persons who receive the Senior Citizens' allowance;
 - (ii) of the number of persons who had applied for the allowance and in the waiting list;
 - (iii) whether measures have been taken to increase the Senior Citizens' monthly allowance from Rs. 2000/- to Rs. 2500/- according to the National Policy framework "Vistas of Prosperity";

(9)

- (iv) if so, the date on which the increased allowance will be provided;
 - (v) whether a programme is in place to provide loans at concessionary rates for Senior Citizens who engage in foreign pilgrimage; and
 - (vi) if so, the institutions that co-ordinate the process?
- (b) If not, why?

20.

726/2020

Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(2)

- (a) Will she inform this House—
- (i) the total amount of money spent by the government for the construction anew of the Laggala Divisional Hospital located in the Pallegama Divisional Secretariat Division in Laggala in Matale district;
 - (ii) the number of patients who can receive residential treatment in that hospital;
 - (iii) the number of doctors approved for the hospital;
 - (iv) the number of doctors serving in the hospital as of now;
 - (v) the nursing staff approved for the hospital;
 - (vi) the nursing staff serving in the hospital as of now; and
 - (vii) the types of clinics being conducted in the hospital at present?
- (b) If not, why?

21.

565/2020

Hon. Shantha Bandara,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Will she admit that a tremendous service is rendered by the Kurunegala Teaching Hospital?
- (b) Will she inform this House—
- (i) the number of wards in that hospital; and
 - (ii) the number of beds in that hospital?
- (c) Will she also inform this House—
- (i) whether the Kurunegala hospital possesses necessary facilities to provide an adequate service to the patients who come to get treatments; and
 - (ii) if not, the steps that will be taken to improve those shortcomings?
- (d) If not, why?

22.

598/2020

Hon. Sivagnanam Shritharan,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Is she aware that the Welane Regional Hospital is located in the Welane Divisional Secretariat Division of Jaffna district?
- (b) Will she admit that people residing in the said area immensely suffer due to not permanently appointing a doctor to the aforesaid hospital?
- (c) Will she inform this House—
 - (i) the approved cadre of the said hospital;
 - (ii) the reasons for not hitherto appointing a permanent doctor to the aforesaid hospital; and
 - (iii) the date on which the current cadre vacancies of the Welane Regional Hospital will be filled with a view to providing an optimum service to the people?
- (d) If not, why?

23.

638/2020

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Health,—(1)

- (a) Is she aware that—
 - (i) the number of doctors who are serving at the hospitals in the Batticaloa district at present is about ten percent lower than the required number; and
 - (ii) there also exists a shortage of specialist doctors at the hospitals in the Batticaloa district?
- (b) Will she inform this House of the steps that will be taken by the Ministry to fill the vacancies for doctors existing at the aforesaid hospitals?
- (c) If not, why?

24.

839/2020

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala,— To ask the Minister of Labour,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House Separately, as per the countries where they are employed—
 - (i) the number Sri Lankan migrant employees, infected with Covid 19;
 - (ii) the number of Sri Lankan migrant employees, got cured after the infection;
 - (iii) the number of Sri Lankan migrant employees, died due to the infection; and
 - (iv) the number of Sri Lankan migrant employees, returned to Sri Lanka by reason of Covid -19?

(11)

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) separately, as per the country they are employed, the number of Sri Lankan migrant employees who lost their jobs due to Covid-19, by now;
- (ii) the measures that have been taken to provide them with relief;
- (iii) the measures that have been taken to provide relief to the families that financially inconvenienced since the foreign employees, affected by Covid-19 were unable to support their families financially; and
- (iv) separately, the amount of allocations made to the embassies of the respective countries for the welfare of the Sri Lankan employees who got affected with Covid - 19 pandemic?

(c) If not, why?

25.

863/2020

Hon. Manusha Nanayakkara,— To ask the Minister of Labour,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) of the number of Sri Lankan migrant workers who came to Sri Lanka from 01.01.2020 to 10.10.2020;
- (ii) of the countries from which they came;
- (iii) of the number of Sri Lankan migrant workers who have registered themselves to come to Sri Lanka so far; and
- (iv) of the countries in which they had been employed?

(b) Will he also inform the House—

- (i) of the procedure to be adopted in bringing Sri Lankan migrant workers to Sri Lanka;
- (ii) of the procedure to be followed in quarantining the migrant workers who arrive in Sri Lanka;
- (iii) whether Avant Guard has been assigned the coordination of quarantining such workers;
- (iv) if so, the methodology that has been adopted for that;
- (v) of the amount charged by Avant Guard for quarantining each worker; and
- (vi) of the number of workers who have been sent for quarantining through Avant Guard so far?

(c) If not, why?

26.

861/2020

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) acquiring of lands in the villages of Pallimunei and Parappankandal situated in the Mannar Divisional Secretariat Division and in Wankalei situated in the Nanattan Divisional Secretariat Division by the Department of Wildlife Conservation has caused people in the said areas immense difficulties;
 - (ii) the Director General of Wildlife had visited the said villages in year 2019 and had pledged to solve the issue; and
 - (iii) however, the land issue of the people in the aforesaid villages is yet to be addressed ?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether measures will be taken to solve the issue;
 - (ii) if so, the time that will take; and
 - (iii) the date on which, the programme to address the issue will commence?
- (c) If not, why?

27.

862/2020

Hon. Charles Nirmalanathan,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation,—(2)

- (a) Is he aware that—
 - (i) the Department of Wildlife Conservation is obstructing the renovation of tanks and clearing of lands owned by farmers in the districts of Vavuniya, Mulaitivu and Mannar Districts;
 - (ii) whereas two years have passed after a request was made in writing from the Director General of Forest Conservation to allocate the 20 acre land situated near Kayakkuli village of Musali Divisional Secretariat, to resettle the people who had come to Sri Lanka from India, as per the decision of the Mannar District Development Coordinating Committee and the request is yet to be fulfilled?
- (b) If so, will he inform this House whether measures will be taken to allocate the said land for the aforesaid purpose?
- (c) If not, why?

28.

639/2020

Hon. Rauff Hakeem,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the basic requirements to be met in order to declare a certain area as a Forest Reserve through a Gazette Notification as per the Forest Conservation Ordinance; and
 - (ii) the number of forests hitherto declared as Forest Reserves under the Forest Conservation Ordinance?
- (b) Will he also inform this House separately, on district and divisional secretariat division basis, all the details about the dates on which each of the aforesaid forest been declared as a forest reserve, about the land extent of each such forest and about the relevant maps?
- (c) If not, why?

29.

654/2020

Hon. (Dr.) Harsha de Silva,— To ask the Minister of Wildlife & Forest Conservation,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House whether the government has taken a decision on granting permission for chena cultivation in the lands owned by the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Department of Forest Conservation under the approval of the relevant District Secretary?
- (b) Will he also inform this House, in hectares—
 - (i) if so, the extent of land, covered from the decision, that are owned by the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Department of Forest Conservation;
 - (ii) the extent of land that has been granted permission for chena cultivation out of the aforesaid extent of land; and
 - (iii) the extent of residual lands that will be cleared due to this decision?
- (c) If not, why?

30.

729/2020

Hon. Premitha Bandara Tennakoon,— To ask the Minister of Transport,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that it has been planned to construct a railway line from Kurunegala to Dambulla via Galewela Divisional Secretariat Division?

(14)

- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the amount of provisions allocated for that project;
 - (ii) the date on which the said project will be commenced; and
 - (iii) the date on which the work of the project expected to be completed?
- (c) If not, why?

31.

770/2020

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that the semi government schools in Colombo district are deviating from its objectives by not enrolling the underprivileged children in near by area?
- (b) If so, will he state in respect of the semi government schools in Colombo district—
 - (i) the names;
 - (ii) schools categorized as religious and non-religious;
 - (iii) the number of students admitted by ethnicity and religion;
 - (iv) the number of classes approved to conduct English prioritized bilingual language from grade one; and
 - (v) the quota allocated for the underprivileged children in near by areas of each school?
- (c) Will he inform this House, with regard to aforesaid schools—
 - (i) whether the permission to conduct English medium classes from grade one to five was given;
 - (ii) the reason why the general guidelines for admission to grade one cannot be adopted;
 - (iii) whether the government is satisfied with the current admission process, transparency and performance; and
 - (iv) whether the government will take actions to streamline the teaching and management practices?
- (d) If not, why?

32.

773/2020

Hon. K. Sujith Sanjaya Perera,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of international schools functioning in Sri Lanka at present; and

- (ii) the courses of action taken by the Ministry to regulate those schools in terms of establishing, recruiting teachers, for charging fees and other affairs of international schools?

(b) If not, why?

33.

489/2020

Hon. Thushara Indunil Amarasena,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House, separately—

- (i) the number of National Schools located in each of the Divisional Secretariat Divisions in Kurunegala district; and
- (ii) the names of those National Schools?

(b) Will he also inform this House of the steps that will be taken by the Ministry to increase the number of National Schools in the Divisional Secretariat Divisions of the district that have minimum numbers of National Schools?

(c) If not, why?

34.

772/2020

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

(a) Is he aware that admission to the grade one of the national schools in Colombo Municipal region has become a competition for underprivileged urban children?

(b) If so, will he state in respect of the national schools within the Colombo Municipality of the—

- (i) names;
- (ii) names of schools categorized as religious and non-religious;
- (iii) number of schools by language of study and number of classes allotted for Sinhala and Tamil medium;
- (iv) number of students in Tamil medium classes from grade 1 to 5 in the tri-lingual national schools; and
- (v) number of students admitted to each school by language of study, ethnicity and religion?

(c) Will he also state whether the government—

- (i) is satisfied with the current process of admission for grade one; and
- (ii) accommodates more students from various ethnic, religious and social backgrounds by allocating special quota for the students of the parents living in the proximity to the schools for generations?

(d) If not, why?

35.

774/2020

Hon. Kins Nelson,— To ask the Minister of Education,— (2)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of schools experiencing shortage of teachers and those lacking drinking water facilities, laboratories, libraries and sports facilities out of the schools belonging to both the Central Government and the Provincial Council situated within the Polonnaruwa District, separately in respect of each Divisional Secretariat Division; and
 - (ii) the names and addresses of such schools?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) whether the Government will take steps to develop schools within this district which have the above-mentioned deficiencies; and
 - (ii) if so, how long it will take to adopt such steps?
- (c) If not, why?

36.

882/2020

Hon. (Dr.) (Ms.) Harini Amarasuriya,—To ask the Minister of Education,—(2)

- (a) Will he inform this House separately the total amount of money spent on state universities and non - state universities in the year 2019;
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the total value of the world bank loan taken for higher education under the Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development Operation (AHEAD) Project;
 - (ii) the percentage of the government expenditure spent on higher education through world bank loans;
 - (iii) the percentage of the loans allocated to the Private Higher Education Institutes accredited by the University Grants Commission; and
 - (iv) the number of the employees of the state higher education sector attached to the Ministry of Education to work under the said project on secondment basis?
- (c) If not, why?

Hon. Imran Maharoof,— To ask the Minister Education,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the names of the Education zones in which there is an excess of teachers out of the Education zones in the Eastern Province;
 - (ii) the number of such excess teachers in relation to each subject, separately;
 - (iii) the names of the Education zones in which there is a shortage of teachers out of the Education zones in the Eastern province; and
 - (iv) the number of such teachers in short supply in relation to each subject, separately?
- (b) Will he also inform this House whether the Ministry would take expeditious measures to effect the Teacher Balance in the Eastern province as the Eastern province does not function at present and the administration of the provincial council functions directly under the purview of the Governor?
- (c) If not, why?

Hon. Chandima Weerakkody,— To ask the Minister of Trade,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that there is some problematic situation as the rural bank that is operated by Habaraduwa Multi Purposes Cooperative Society Ltd., has not paid back the money deposited at the bank to the depositors?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the amount of money that has been defrauded from this bank;
 - (ii) the amount of money that has been paid back to its depositors;
 - (iii) the amount of money that remains further to be paid to the depositors; and
 - (iv) the date on which the remaining amounts will be paid back to the depositors?
- (c) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the names of the chairpersons and members of the boards of directors of the aforesaid bank during the periods when the scam was committed; and
 - (ii) the legal action that has been taken against those chairpersons and board members?
- (d) If not, why?

39.

855/2020

Hon. Nalin Fernando,— To ask the Minister of Trade,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) of the gross value of consumer goods stocks of Lanka Sathosa Limited by 31st of August 2020;
 - (ii) separately, the monthly income recorded from 01st of January 2020 to 31st of August 2020; and
 - (iii) of the total amount due by suppliers as of 31st of August 2020?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the value of expired consumer goods in Lanka Sathosa Limited by 31st of August 2020; and
 - (ii) of the measures taken by the institution regarding the said goods?
- (c) If not, why ?

40.

635/2020

Hon. Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam,— To ask the Minister of Water Supply,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that people living in the villages of Palukaamam, Veerachchenai, Mayapuram and Wannu Nagar in Batticaloa district are faced with a severe shortage of drinking water?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of families living in the aforesaid villages who are faced with the problem of shortage of drinking water;
 - (ii) the total distance along which pipelines have to be laid in order to provide drinking water to the people living in those villages; and
 - (iii) whether immediate steps will be taken to solve the problem of shortage of drinking water in those villages?
- (c) If not, why?

41.

838/2020

Hon. J. C. Alawathuwala,— To ask the Minister of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he admit that—
 - (i) the pension payments of all the public sector pensioners have not been reasonably increased as per the Public Administration Circular 14/2019;
 - (ii) the pensioners are in despair owing to the above reason;

- (iii) all the public sector pensioners including the officers of the three armed forces and the police who retired prior to 01.01.2016 have been seriously discriminated as their pensions have been formulated based on the salary under two stages as at 01.01.2017 as per the public Administration Circular 14/2019, in spite of the fact that the pensions were to be formulated based on the last salary, which increases over five stages as the Public Administration Circular 03/2016; and
- (iv) justice could have been meted out to the public sector pensioners who retired prior to 01.01.2020, had their pension anomaly been rectified by computing the pension payment based on the last salary which was to be increased over five stages as per the Public Administration Circular 03/2016?
- (b) Will he inform this House whether steps will be taken to mete out justice to the pensioners of the public sector by implementing the Public Administration Circular 03/2016 expeditiously?
- (c) If not, why?

42.

603/2020

Hon. Ishak Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that nearly 2 kilometer stretch of the Asirigama road from Kagollewa junction to Katukeliyawa junction in the 308 Grama Niladhari Division in the Madyama Nuwara Gampalatha Divisional Secretariat Division in the Anuradhapura district, is in a very dilapidated condition?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether steps will be taken to repair this stretch of the road; and
 - (ii) if so, what those steps are?
- (c) If not, why?

43.

878/2020

Hon. Eran Wickramaratne,— To ask the Minister of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) whether there has been systematic appointment of members of the civil branch to the military branch or vice versa of the Government of Sri Lanka since the division of the civil and military branches of the government in the early 19th century;
 - (ii) whether any serving members of the armed forces have been appointed to civil positions since 17.11.2019;

- (iii) if so, the name of each of them;
- (iv) separately the rationale for appointing them for the civil positions;
- (v) whether this change of policy of appointing serving members of the armed forces to civil positions was discussed in the Cabinet of Ministers;
- (vi) whether no capable officers to perform the duties of the civil positions that are available in SLAS, SLPS, Medical Service, Sri Lanka Customs, SLICTS' etc.; and
- (vii) if so, whether there is any use of continued existence of aforesaid Services?

(b) If not, why?

44.

611/2020

Hon. Samanpriya Herath,— To ask the Minister of Lands,—(1)

(a) Is he aware that —

- (i) there was a fertile coconut land with an extent of around 85 acres known as “Mahanugalanda Watta” in Kuliypitiya area in the Kurunegala District;
- (ii) it belonged to the Department of Trustee;
- (iii) it was governed by a trust; and
- (iv) this land has been given to a company known as Western Auto Mobile to start a factory to manufacture to Volks Wagon cars?

(b) Will he inform this House the basis on which this land has been given to the above mentioned company and the period for which it has been given?

(c) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) the number of coconut trees that were cut down and removed from this land; and
- (ii) the basis on which those coconut trees have been sold?

(d) If not why?

45.

777/2020

Hon. Ashok Abeysinghe,— To ask the Minister of Lands,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the number of families with no land titles residing within the Divisional Secretariat Divisions of Kurunegala district;
- (ii) whether methodologies have been formulated to grant deeds to those families; and
- (iii) if so, what those methodologies are?

(b) If not, why?

46.

771/2020

Hon. Mujibur Rahuman,— To ask the Minister of Public Security,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that hundreds of individuals have been arrested and detained in respect of the Easter Sunday attack, since 21.04.2019?
- (b) If so, will he inform this House separately in respect of the period from 21.04.2019 to 16.11.2019 and the period from 17.11.2019 to date of the number of individuals—
 - (i) taken into custody for inquiry;
 - (ii) detained by extending the detention order; and
 - (iii) produced in the court with charge sheet?
- (c) Will he state—
 - (i) the names of the individuals who have been released and granted bail or acquitted;
 - (ii) whether the government is satisfied with the current investigation process; and
 - (iii) whether the government take necessary action to release the individuals detained for minor charges and produce the suspects in the court who are under extended detention orders?
- (d) If not, why?

47.

140/2020

Hon. Chaminda Wijesiri, — To ask the Minister of Public Security,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that a programme to give jobs to members of low-income families is in operation under the manifesto “Vision Towards Prosperity”?
- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of jobs that have been given under this programme;
 - (ii) the names of the recipients of the jobs concerned; and
 - (iii) what measures will be taken by the Ministry to expand this programme further?
- (c) If not, why?

48.

593/2020

Hon. S. M. M. Muszhaaraff,— To ask the Minister of Ports and Shipping,—(1)

- (a) Is he aware that the coast along the Oluvil area will be subjected to massive coastal erosion after the construction of the Oluvil Harbour?

(22)

- (b) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the measures that have been taken with regard to the aforesaid coastal erosion;
 - (ii) the reasons for taking temporary measures such as depositing sand along the beach to prevent this situation;
 - (iii) whether permanent measures will be taken in future to prevent coastal erosion in this area; and
 - (iv) if so, the date on which such measures will be taken?
- (c) Is he also aware that the Ports Authority has not awarded alternative lands to those who have lost their lands due to the construction of the aforesaid harbour?
- (d) If so, will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the date on which alternative lands will be awarded to those who have lost their lands;
 - (ii) the date on which compensation will be paid to those persons;
 - (iii) the manner in which the mistake that was made by awarding 20 perches to each person when awarding alternative lands will be corrected; and
 - (iv) the manner in which the promise that was given to set aside lands for public purposes in the Oluvil Qatar Housing Scheme constructed by the Ports Authority will be fulfilled?
- (e) If not, why?

49.

648/2020

Hon. Mayantha Dissanayake,— To ask the Minister of Tourism,—(1)

- (a) Will he inform this House—
 - (i) the number of tourists who visited Sri Lanka from 2015 to 2018;
 - (ii) that number in relation to each country, separately; and
 - (iii) the amount of foreign exchange earned by Sri Lanka from those tourists in each of the above years, separately?
- (b) Will he also inform this House—
 - (i) the number of Tourist Resorts run by the Tourism Promotion Bureau of Sri Lanka;
 - (ii) their locations; and
 - (iii) the number of employees attached to those Tourist Resorts?

(23)

(c) Will he further inform this House—

- (i) whether new Tourist Resorts have been started by the Tourism Promotion Bureau of Sri Lanka in the country; and
- (ii) if so, what their names are?

If not, why?

50.

321/2020

Hon. Buddhika Pathirana,— To ask the Minister of Youth & Sports,—(1)

(a) Will he inform this House—

- (i) the amount of money allocated to develop table tennis in Sri Lanka in 2019;
- (ii) the amount, out of that amount, that has been allocated for government schools; and
- (iii) the amount, out of the amount allocated in above (i), to develop table tennis skills among school dropouts?

(b) Will he also inform this House—

- (i) whether steps have been taken to prepare plans to train school children to get international victories in table tennis; and
- (ii) if so, what those steps are?

(c) Will he further inform this House—

- (i) whether the government is involved in administration and development activities of the Sri Lanka Table Tennis Association and other affiliated organizations; and
- (ii) if so, the nature of the government's involvement?

(d) If not, why?

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Notice of Motions

1.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Sittings of the Parliament,— That notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Order 8 of the Parliament and the motion agreed to by Parliament on 06th October 2020, the hours of Sitting of Parliament on this day shall be 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.. At 4.00 p.m. Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the Parliament without question put.

2.

The Leader of the House of Parliament,— Business of the Parliament,— That the proceedings on Questions for Oral Answers appearing on the Order Paper be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the Standing Orders 27 and 35 of the Parliament.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

*1.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Select Committee of Parliament to identify appropriate reforms of the election laws and the electoral system and to recommend necessary amendments,—

Whereas, it has become necessary to identify appropriate reforms of the election laws and the electoral system; and to propose the amendments necessary to effect the desired reforms,

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

- (a) identify appropriate changes in the election laws and the electoral system; and
 - (b) recommend necessary amendments.
2. (a) That the Chair and Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Speaker;
- (b) that notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 101 of Parliament, the Committee shall consist of fifteen (15) Members; and
 - (c) that the Committee shall report to Parliament within six months of its first sitting or such extended period as Parliament may grant.
3. That the Committee shall have the power to —
- (a) fix its quorum;
 - (b) summon any person to appear before it, to require any person to procure any document or record, to procure and receive all such evidence, written or oral, as the Committee may think it necessary for the fullest consideration of the matters referred to above;
 - (c) obtain the services of specialists and experts in the relevant fields to assist the Committee; and
 - (d) make interim reports from time to time and sit notwithstanding any adjournment of Parliament.

*2.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.1),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 as amended by the Acts, Nos. 48 of 1985 and 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1), 6 and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2199/20 of 29th October 2020, which were presented on 12.02.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*3.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.2),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1), 6 and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2206/5 of 14th December 2020, which were presented on 09.03.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*4.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Regulations under the Imports and Exports (Control) Act (No.3),— That the Regulations made by the Minister of Finance under Section 20 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, No. 1 of 1969 amended by Acts, No. 48 of 1985 and No. 28 of 1987 read with Sections 4(1), 6 and 14 of the aforesaid Act and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2207/15 of 24th December 2020, which were presented on 09.03.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*5.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No. 1),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 relating to Shangri-la Hotels Lanka (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2206/18 of 18th December 2020, which was presented on 23.02.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*6.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Order under the Strategic Development Projects Act (No. 2),— That the Order made by the Minister of Finance under Section 3(4) of the Strategic Development Projects Act, No. 14 of 2008 relating to Sinolanka Hotels & Spa (Private) Limited and published in the Gazette Extraordinary No. 2206/19 of 18th December 2020, which was presented on 23.02.2021, be approved.

(Cabinet approval signified.)

*7.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Buddhasasana, Religious & Cultural Affairs and Minister of Urban Development & Housing,— Revision of Salary and Allowances of the Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption,— Whereas provisions have been made under Section 16(1) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994, to appoint a Director-General to the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption for assisting the functions carrying out by the Commission and to pay a salary as determined by the Parliament to the person who holds that post;

And whereas, the salary and allowances of the post previously held by Mrs. A. A. P. Dilrukshi Dias Wickramasinghe, President's Counsel who was appointed to the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption in the year 2015 and Mr. Sarath Jayamanna, President's Counsel who was appointed to the same post in the year 2016, are higher than the salaries and allowances received after their appointment as Director-General, action has been taken to revise the salaries and allowances to be paid to those officers as per the Cabinet Decision No. අමප/16/0947/702/040 dated 14.06.2016;

And whereas, as per the Cabinet Decision No. අමප/20/0443/201/012 and dated 19.02.2020 with regard to the Cabinet Memorandum dated 18.02.2020 submitted by the President to the Cabinet of Ministers, Mr. W. K. Damith Wijeratne who served as a High Court Judge, has been appointed to the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption with effect from 21.01.2020;

And whereas, the salary payable to Mr. W. K. Damith Wijeratne after his appointment to the present post is being quite lower than the salary and allowances of the previous post;

And whereas he has been appointed to the post of Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, while considering his educational background and professionalism, following the requirement of the government, approval has been granted by the Cabinet decision dated 19.02.2020 to pay him the salary and allowances relating to his previous post as High Court Judge, being personal to him, from 30.01.2020, according to the prior precedents:—

- (a) to pay the monthly salary and all allowances entitled to the post of High Court Judge in the same manner, from 30.01.2020; and
- (b) not to pay relevant allowances, if he uses the official residence and official vehicle in respect of the current post;

Accordingly, that this Parliament resolves that the aforesaid monthly salary and allowances be paid to Mr. W. K. Damith Wijeratne, Director-General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, and shall be charged on the Consolidated Fund, in terms of Section 16(2) of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption Act, No. 19 of 1994.

*8.

General Sir John Kotelawala National Defence University Bill— Second Reading.
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*9.

Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill —Second Reading.
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*10.

Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*11.

National Minimum Wage of Workers (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
(Cabinet approval signified.)

*12.

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

* *Indicates Government Business.*
