

**COUNCIL MEETING OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE
PROVINCIAL COUNCIL**

21st August 2018, at 09.30 a.m.

AGENDA

I. Announcements by the Chairman

II. Motion for Leave of Absence

III. Presentation of Papers

IV. Presentation of Committee Reports

V. Petitions

VI. Questions/ Interim Questions

01. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 07.08.2018 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Engineering Services, Law and Order, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Economic Promotion, Electricity and Energy, Environmental Affairs, Water Supplies and Drainage and Tourism Affairs. (Q/VI(1)/18/38)

- a) Would you inform to the Council as to how much money was allocated to newly constructed First Bridge in the road running from Horape to Heenkenda in Wattala Divisional Secretariat which was constructed by the money of Wattala Pradeshiya?
- b) Would you inform the Council as to the length of the side wall as per the plan of the said bridge and in which length it was constructed?
- c) Do you know that the bridge and the sides have cracked by now, even before a lapse of one year of constructing the said bridge?
- d) As pot holes have been created on the sides of the said bridge at present, do you know that problematic situation arises when travelling on it?
- e) What action would be taken against the persons who constructed the said bridge for failing to complete the said project successfully?
- f) If not, why is that?

02. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 07.08.2018 from the Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/39)

- a) Do you accept that an irregular drain system has been constructed in the road leading to Walpola from Kurusa Junction of Thewatte, Ragama in Ja-ela Divisional Secretariat?
- b) Do you accept that the said drains overflow during a minor rain even causing severe difficulties to the people living around?
- c) Would an inquiry be held regarding irregular construction of the drains in the said road?
- d) Would you inform to this Council as to the action be taken against relevant persons if any irregularity has taken place. ?
- e) Would you explain to the Council as to the action would be taken by you to construct the said drain, which inconvenience the people of the said area, in proper manner?
- f) If not, why is that?

03. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 07.08.2018 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology at the time of Council Adjournment. (Q/VI(1)/18/41)

- a) Would you inform the Council whether teachers' salaries and promotions have commenced to be given by the Western Provincial Council according to circulars?
- b) Although several years have passed since the issuance of the circular, would you explain to the Council why teachers promotions and due salaries still get delayed?
- c) Though it has been informed what teachers' grades were promoted, why doesn't the salary stated therein or due money is not received?
- d) Would you explain to the Council whether the Western Provincial Council has deployed the money allocated for teachers' salaries in other projects?
- e) After giving the promotions and salaries were made accordingly, would you explain to the Council the reason why teachers don't get the salary they received up to now?
- f) Would you inform to the Council what action would be taken by you to solve this problem?
- g) If not, why is that?

04. Question asked by Hon. Member Rose Fernando on 07.08.2018 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Engineering Services, Law and Order, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Economic Promotion, Electricity and Energy, Environmental Affairs, Water Supplies and Drainage and Tourism Affairs. (Q/VI(1)/18/42)

- a) Do you know that a building on concrete pillars, partially covering the Kekkagas Canal, has been constructed in Kindigoda village in Katana Divisional Secretariat ?
- b) Do you know that a feud has arisen among villagers as this place holds musical shows at night for young people and persuade them to use drug-tablets?
- c) Has this building been constructed on any approval from Katunayake- Seeduwa Urban Council or any accredited authority?
- d) Would you take action to demolish and remove this building if it has been built without legal approval and partially covering a public canal?
- e) If not, why is that?

05. Question asked by Hon. Member Rose Fernando on 07.08.2018 from the Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/43)

- a) Would you present separately and on yearly basis the 5% commission obtained during the last 5 years (from 2012 to 2017) in relation to the projects carried out in Rural Development Society of Udangawa Grama Niladhari division?
- b) Would you present to this Council the budget documents of five years up to year 2017 of the aforesaid Rural Development Society in this Grama Niladhari Division?
- c) Has an amount of Rupees 500,000/- been collected to purchase a land for the said Rural Development Society?
- d) Hasn't the purchasing of the said land taken place up to now?
- e) Who has retained the said money?
- f) How much is the 5% commission collected up to now on behalf of projects carried out in year 2018 by the said Rural Development Society?

06. Question raised at the time of Council Adjournment on 07.08.2018 by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi to be asked from the Hon. Minister of Health, Indigenous Medicine, Social Welfare, Probation and Child Care Services, Women's Affairs and Council Affairs.

(Q/VI(1)/18/ADG - 03)

- a) Have applications being called for the positions of Medical Officers in charge, Medical Superintendants and Hospital Directors in Ayurvedic Hospitals of the Provincial Council?
- b) Would you accept the fact that, only the medical officers serving in Ayurvedic Hospitals of Western Province can apply for the said positions?
- c) Would you accept the fact that the medical officers serving in Local Government Authorities of Western Province cannot apply for the said positions ?
- d) Would you accept the fact that the medical officers serving in Local Government Authorities of Western Province face injustice as a result?
- e) Would you take necessary measures to rectify this situation?
- f) If not, why is that?

07. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Sirikamal Felician de Silva from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology.

(Q/VI(1)/18/44)

- a) How many Provincial Council Schools of Western Provincial Council have been closed down from year 2006 to 2014?
- b) Would you identify them district-wise and Zonal-wise?
- c) If so, what are they?
- d) Have schools belonging to this Provincial Council been closed down from year 2015 to up to date (2018)? What are they?
- e) Could the specific reasons that led to the close down of these schools be explained? If so, on which reason was it?
- f) Are there schools in this province threatened with closing down in future? If there are any, could you explain the actions that can be taken regarding it? What is it?

08. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala from Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development.

(Q/VI(1)/18/106)

- a) (I) Are you aware that funds worth Rs. 59 Crore of East Hewagam Koralya (Hanwella) Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd. has been invested in a Private Finance Institution? If not why is that?

- (II) Has a problem relating to recovery of the interest and initial amount for the above money come up?
 - (III) Has the pre-written approval been obtained from the Cooperative Development Registrar, to invest this money?
 - (IV) If no such written approval has been obtained, what action would be taken by you, regarding that matter?
- b) (I) Has a proper search been made about the deployment of funds of this Multipurpose Cooperative Society (Hanwella) from 14.05.2018 onwards?
 - (II) Have matters got revealed in annual auditing about investment of these funds?
 - (III) Similarly, have matters got revealed in Monthly Progress Review Committee for Financial Regulation or in F 28 Monthly Operational Review Committee?

09. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala from Hon. Minister Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/46)

- a) Do you know that the officers of East Hewagam Koralaya (Hanwella) Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd. have functioned contrary to Section 41 of the Western Provincial Cooperative Societies Statute ?
- b) If so, what future action would be taken regarding them?
- c) When was the Regional Committee Election of the relevant Society conducted for the final time?
- d) Do you therefore accept that the holding of election has been delayed by several years?
- e) Do you accept that action has not been taken as per Section 60 of the Cooperative Societies Statute even when such delay has occurred?

10. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Nandana Pathmakumara from Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation, Fisheries, Animal Production and Health and Agrarian Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/47)

- a) (I) How many Ornamental Fish Cultivators' Societies are there in Kalutara district?
- (II) What are the names of those societies?

- (III) Have these societies registered under the Ministry of Fisheries?
- b) (I) Has the Western Provincial Ministry of Fisheries provided aid in year 2017 for cultivation of ornamental fish in Kalutara district?
 - (II) How much is it?
 - (III) What are the criteria followed when providing these funds?
 - (IV) Have these funds been provided to Cooperative Societies?
 - (V) If so, what are the names of these societies and aid amounts?

11. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Nandana Pathmakumara from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/VI(1)/18/48)

- a) (I) Are there Provincial Schools in Kalutara district with less than 100 students?
 - (II) How many are they?
- b) (I) How many are they at Zonal Education level?
 - (II) Would you present the names of these schools and number of students separately?
 - (III) Has your ministry searched for the reasons for declining number of students in those schools?
 - (IV) What action has been taken with regard to that?

VII. Personal Explanations

VIII. Statements on Breach of Privileges

IX. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of

the Ministers/ Replies of Breach of Privileges

X. Private Members' Affairs

01. Hon. Member Sunil Watagala :

“When human lives including the total environment faced destruction by the collapse of the garbage dumps such as Bloemendhal, Meethotamulla and Karadiyana, the responsible authorities exaggeratedly stated that permanent solutions would be searched for them and action will be taken to prevent such mishaps. They said that Meethotamulla and Bloemendhal garbage dumps will be turned into urban parks. However, the said garbage dumps remain as they were. There is no long term programme. When the Kelani River overflows annually, the people inundated will be consoled temporarily by distributing among them some dry rations or a packet of rice. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council proposes that long term solutions should be presented by the ministries in charge of each such destruction.

(M/VI/(1)/18/04)

02. Hon. Member Upali Kodikara :

“The number of schools for students with special needs which have been established at Zonal Education level in Western Province is around 182 and the number of students with special needs who receive education in such schools is 3713.

Although there is a student-aid system based on the results of Grade 5 Scholarship Examination is there for normal students of Government schools, also Mahapola Scholarship Programme for undergraduates; there is no student-aid system to provide for students with special needs.

Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that some allowance or aid amount should be provided to students with special needs who are studying in schools for students with special needs in Western Province to encourage such children in their education.”

(M/VI/(1)/18/05)

XI. Adjournment of the Council

K.H.D.K. Samarakoon

Secretary,

Western Province Provincial Council

08.08.2018
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