

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

06th March 2018, at 09.30 a.m.

AGENDA

I. Announcements by the Chairman

II. Presentation of Papers

III. Presentation of Committee Reports

IV. Petitions

V. Questions

01. Question asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi on 20.02.2018 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs. (Q/VI(1)/18/02)

- a) What are the projects that have commenced work as constructions under the 'Nearest School is the Best School' project in schools of Western Province?
- b) In relation to those projects, would you provide a report showing the progress relevant to each school?
- c) According to the total number of projects how many are the projects that have their work finished?
- d) How much is its progress as a percentage?
- e) Would you present facts to this honorable Council as to the number of projects that have halted on the way without completing work and the reasons for it?

02. Question asked by Hon. Member Rose Fernando on 20.02.2018 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)/18/03)

- a) Do you know that the institution named 'Kuma Stickers' has erected many billboards within the Katunayake- Seeduwa Urban Council Area of Authority?
- b) How many square feet has the said institution reserved for billboards within the Katunayake –Seeduwa Urban Council area of authority?
- c) Has the said square feet area allocated for billboards been allocated under a tender procedure or through any other procedure?

- d) How much is the time period allocated for these billboards?
- e) Separately by years, how much is the amount of money paid to the Katunayake – Seeduwa Urban Council by this institution from the year this institution commenced advertising via billboards up to year 2018?
- f) Would you mention separately as to the procedure by which the said institution was allowed to fix billboards for each such year and the square feet area?
- g) If the contract reached with the said institution has lapsed by now, would you take action to remove those billboards?
- h) If not, why is that?

03. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Susil Kindelpitiya from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs. (Q/VI(1)/18/04)

- a) Do you know that there is no English Teacher for around an year in Cathedral Boys' School of Kotahena and officers have been notified, even media reports have been published about the matter?
- b) Can you submit to this Council about the steps taken to eliminate this English Teacher shortage? If not, why is that?
- c) Has it been reported that a primary class Teacher of this school has been approved with No-pay Maternity Leave up to 30.03.2018?
- d) On what reason has she has been temporarily attached to Gunasekera Primary School in Jayawardhanapura Zone of Western Province from 14.02.2018 to 06.04.2018?
- e) Do you think it fair to attach Teachers from a school with teacher shortage and less facilities without providing a successor? What immediate action would be taken to solve this problem?

04. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Susil Kindelpitiya from the Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Infra structure Facilities, Industry and Rural Development (Q/VI(1)/18/05)

- a) How many bus passenger shelters were constructed within the last two years by the Transport Authority under ministerial provisions?
- b) How much money was allocated to that?
- c) Could you table a list containing the names of Members who requested for bus passenger shelters and places where they were constructed?
- d) Who was the contractor of these constructions?
- e) What is the methodology used to select the contractor?

- f) How much has been paid to the contractor by now?
- g) How many constructions are remaining to be constructed under the amount allocated?

VI. Motions for leave of absence

**VII. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of
the Ministers**

VIII. Personal Explanations

IX. Private Members' Affairs

01. Hon. Member Mahesh Almeida:

According to the results of the Local Government Elections held for the first time under a new election system introduced as a mixed system comprising 60% from the First-Passed-the-Post system and 40% from the Proportional Representation, and the way how the representatives have been elected to Local Government Institutions within a multi party system, establishing a stable governance has become practically difficult. A matter revealed by the emergence of such difficulties on percentages for the Local Government Election is that under a Provincial Council Election held under this system in future, if the percentage between the First-Passed-the-Post system and Proportional Representation be 50% as it has been proposed already, severe instability will have to be faced when establishing governance in Provincial Councils. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council requests from the Government to comprise the percentage of First-Passed-the-Post system and Proportional Representation as 70% to 30% when the provincial council election system is formulated.

[M/(R 107)/VI(1)/18/01]

[Connected to affairs of
Council meeting held on
20.02.2018]

02. Hon. Member Rose Fernando :

“Political parties of both Right Wing and Left Wing of this country strongly discussed that the Constitution of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka shall be changed and serious demonstrations occurred in the country requesting to annul the Office of Executive Presidency. Under this situation, during the previous election campaigns promises were

made to form a Constitution suitable to the country and to assign to Parliament the unlimited powers enjoyed by the Executive Presidency's Office. Even though none of the previous Presidents who promised to annul the Executive Presidency accomplished those promises, current President taking action to annul the 18th Amendment to the Constitution that allowed reigning in power extensively, was some positive feature. At this juncture, when a meaningful dialogue is going on to establish a new Constitution by collaborating all the parties as current President and Prime Minister promised to the public, this Western Province Provincial Council proposes to the government; by discarding narrow political attitudes, all the people should be brought together to form a Constitution suitable to the country.”

(M/vi(1)/17/10)

03. Hon. Member Rose Fernando :

“Though we boast of Sri Lanka as a country exceeding 2500 years of history, if we, as contemporary political leaders do not take action to create a developed country for the future generation to dignifiedly appreciate a history, it would be a kind of defaulting of our responsibility. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council proposes to the government that a program should be formed and implemented where all the people's representatives should take leadership to carry this country towards a speedy development by integrating ethnic, religious and social powers of this country and harmoniously taking up one path under a national policy to build up a strong economy having maximally deployed the national wealth, power and all our skills and abilities, also, by identifying beforehand the natural disasters as well as problems that may arise in future.”

(M/vi(1)/17/11)

X. Adjournment of the Council

K.H.D.K. Samarakoon

Secretary,

Western Province Provincial Council

21.02.2018
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