

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

On 08th January 2013, at 09.30 a.m.

**at the Council Chamber of the Provincial Council Building Complex of the Western
Province at No. 204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Sri Jayawardhanapura,
Battaramulla**

AGENDA

I. Announcements by the Chairman

II. Presentation of Papers

III. Presentation of Committee Reports

IV. Petitions

V. Questions

01. Question raised by Hon. Member Niroshan Padukka on 06.11.2012, for a reply to be given by the Hon. Minister of Transport, Sports and Youth Affairs, Cultural Affairs and Arts Affairs, Cooperative Development, Food Supplies and Distribution Affairs and Rural Development: (Q/v(01)/12/26)

- a) The official tenure of the Cooperative Society Limited of Bokundara, Piliyandala, terminated on 21.05.2010 and as the Commissioner has been unable to hold an election within the last two years, what action would be taken by you with regard to that?
- b) According to Section 60 (35) "a", Public Service Officials should be appointed to the Director Board, according to that, what are the public service positions held by the Commissioner-appointed former Chairman Mr. Nandalal Jayasundara and Mr. A.A. D. Sunil? Within which time periods?
- c) The aforementioned directors are businessmen of the town and do you know that appointing them is illegal? If so, what action would be taken with regard these officers?
- d) Minister Gamini Lokuge and Chief Minister of the Province have informed to hold an investigation regarding allegations made against the Director Board of this Cooperative Society, what action was taken with regard to that?
- e) Subsequent to appointing the three experienced public official by you, when would an election be held again?

02. Question to be raised by the Hon. Member S.A.D. Jagath Kumara for a reply to be given by the Hon. Minister of Transport, Sports and Youth Affairs, Cultural Affairs and Arts Affairs, Cooperative Development, Food Supplies and Distribution Affairs and Rural Development: (Q/v(01)/ 12/28)

- a) Subsequent to the appointment of the new director board of the Cooperative Society of Battaramulla, how many times has the Chairman gone abroad ?
- b) What are the countries he flew to?
- c) How much was spent for that? By which institutions?
- d) Would you mention separately about them?
- e) Are you aware that proper maintenance and management of sales centers belonging to the cooperative society have been difficult subsequent to the appointment of the new director board and Chairman?
- f) Do you know that after the appointment of this director board, several sales centers belonging to the cooperative society have been closed down?
- g) Similarly, are you aware that several sales centers (divisions) have been let out on rent? If so, which sales divisions are they?
- h) Has permission been obtained from the Department of Cooperatives for such renting out? If not, what measures would be taken about it?
- i) Are you aware that a shortage of goods worth 05 Hundred Thousand Rupees has occurred at Cooperative café of Malabe, which belongs to this cooperative society? If you are aware, what action would be taken regarding it?

03. Question to be raised by the Hon. Member S.A.D. Jagath Kumara for a reply to be given by the Hon. Minister of Transport, Sports and Youth Affairs, Cultural Affairs and Arts Affairs, Cooperative Development, Food Supplies and Distribution Affairs and Rural Development: (Q/v(01)/ 12/29)

- a) Are you aware that the allowances approved by Cooperative Commission are not paid to heavy/light weight vehicle drivers and Store Laboureres of Multi-purpose Cooperative Society of Battaramulla?
- b) When this cooperative society has decided to pay to all the permanent employees employed in cooperative societies of the Western Province a Special Allowance of 15% from the monthly basic salary from May of 2012 as per Cooperative Commission circulars No. 5/2012, do you accept that by refraining to pay that allowance, injustice has been meted out to employees?
- c) Do you know that this cooperative society illegally does not pay the gratuity money to employees who are resigning and retiring from service?

- d) Do you know employees who have not been granted with gratuity? If so, would you name them separately?
- e) Consequent to the appointment of this director board, how many employees have been removed from service or have resigned from service? Would you name them separately? How many new employees have been recruited? Have they satisfied basic qualifications?
- f) What action would be taken with regard to recruitment of unqualified employees?

04. Question to be raised by the Hon. Member S.A.D. Jagath Kumara for a reply to be given by the Hon. Minister of Transport, Sports and Youth Affairs, Cultural Affairs and Arts Affairs, Cooperative Development, Food Supplies and Distribution Affairs and Rural Development: (Q/v(01)/12/30)

- a) Are you aware that the Chairman; Nishantha Udawatta of Multi-purpose Cooperative Society of Battaramulla has scolded, threatened and chased out a female Investigation Officer of the same cooperative society?
- b) Do you know that already the activities of this cooperative society take place without the supervision of Cooperative Officers? If you are aware, what actions would be taken regarding that?
- c) Are you aware that among the new directors of this cooperative society, there are directors who have neglected payment of loans of the committee?
- d) Due to single and illegal decisions of the cooperative Chairman ; Nishantha Udawatte, do you know that the cooperative society is deteriorating day by day? If so, what action will be taken for that?
- e) How much is the loan draft due from this cooperative society to the People's Bank? Did the overdraft go down or rise up after the appointment of the new director board? If so, how much?
- f) Would you mention separately about the total loan amounts due from this society to other institutions?
- g) After appointment of the new director board, how many loans have been obtained? Would you mention separately from which institutions were that?

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 M.M.M. Amjad :

“Schools of the Western Province are complete to a greater extent in physical and human resources at present. Today, maintaining a proper teacher balance, having minimized the teacher shortage, is at a satisfactory level within all the schools of the Western Provincial Education sector. Similarly, the provisions allocated for physical development remains at a satisfactory level.

However, a programme needs to be launched to improve the educational mentality of children of economically disabled families living in the present-day society, because, due to the economic pressures existing in those families, there are instances where school attending tendency of those children go down. We have seen many occasions where these children face difficulties within society when they do not have proper attire and books as the other children. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the view that a special project should be implemented having allocated certain provisions under the Ministry of Education of the Western Province in a bid to restore the mental condition of such children and by providing them with qualitative education, to prevent them from leaving schools”

(M/v(01)12/14)

02. Hon. Member M.M.M. Amjad :

“At present, roads belonging to the Local Government Authorities are facing massive development processes. Rural roads are being developed under projects like “Maga Neguma”, “Gama Neguma” and “Provincial Specific Development”.

Nevertheless, today, the priority given for the repairing and maintenance activities of Local Government roads have come to a minimum level. Due to complete neglect of certain road maintenance activities, we have seen instances where those roads have faced erosion and fallen into severe dilapidated states.

Therefore, this honourable Council intends that a Supervision Unit should be established by the Ministry of Local Government of the Western Province to establish daily maintenance units for roads of all the Local Government Authorities in order to safeguard those roads at a minimum cost and to evaluate the efficiency of relevant Local Government Authorities in relation to those activities.”

(M/v(01)12/15)

X. Adjournment of the Council

K.H.D.K. Samarakoon
Secretary,
Western Province Provincial Council

Council Secretariat (W.P.),
Western Province Provincial Council,
Independence Square,
Colombo 07.