

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

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

on 17th June 2014, 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 Ajantha Niroshan Padukka on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/01)

- a) According to the G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination results of year 2013 of the schools in the three districts of the Western Province, which are controlled under the Western Province, what are the places secured by those districts in the island ranking in terms of examination results?
- b) What is the number of students who sat for the Ordinary Level Examination in year 2013 under the Western Provincial Council?
- c) What is the number of students who failed in the Mathematic subject of the schools controlled under the Provincial Council?
- d) What is the number of students who failed in the English subject of the schools controlled under the Provincial Council?
- e) Are you satisfied about those results?
- f) If not, why is that? What measures were taken?

02. Question asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipunaarachchi on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/02)

- a) (i) Was action taken to recruit graduate teachers?
- (ii) On which basis was the selection made?
- (iii) How many persons were recruited as teachers?
- (iv) For which subjects?
- b) (i) What is the situation of teacher vacancies in the Province according to each subject?
- (ii) Will action be taken to recruit graduates for those subjects?
- (iii) What would be the method of recruitment?
- (iv) Would you mention the time period for the taking of necessary action?
- c) If not, why is that?

03. Question asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipunaarachchi on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/04)

- a) Would you inform this Council as to;
 - (i) What affairs do belong to the subject of local government roads,
 - (ii) Whether there is a work plan according to those affairs,
 - (iii) What tasks are relevant to the plan?
- b) Do you agree with the fact that many roads belonging to the local government authorities are not in satisfactory situation in terms of road development?
- c) If you accept it what action would be taken?
- d) If not, why is that?

04. Question asked by Hon. Member George Perera on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/05)

- a) Are the Advisory Committee meetings of your ministry held on each month? Or once in three months? If not, would you state the periods?

- b) How are the Members' Structural Committees of Zonal and Divisional levels of the three districts held? Would you present that programme?
- c) Would you invite the Members of the Opposition for those Members' Structural Committees?
- d) Are Principals' meetings of schools of Zonal and Divisional level held? Can you mention that period?
- e) Are meetings conducted for Teacher Instructors of Zones and Divisions? In what manner are they held?

05. Question asked by Hon. Member Ashoka Dayarathne on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/06)

- a) How many Special Education Units are there in the schools of Gampaha district that are controlled under the Western Provincial Council?
- b) What is the maximum number of students that can be contained in one class?
- c) How many students are handed over to one teacher?
- d) Are separate provisions allocated by the Western Provincial Council for Special Education Units?
- e) Are special trainings provided to teachers of Special Education Units?
- f) Are you satisfied about the current functioning of the Special Education Units maintained in schools?
- g) What is your agreement with regard to the implementation of new projects for the psychological development of children?

06. Question asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/07)

- a) Do you accept the fact that the stamp duty for deeds written and certified by Notary Publics of the Western Province shall be paid as per the Western Province Finance Statute No. 06 of 1990 and its amendments?
- b) Is there proper authority contained in the Western Province Finance Statute for assessing of lands included in deeds written and certified by Notary Publics? If it does include thus, in which sections?
- c) Has authority assigned by the aforesaid statute to assess certain amount of money by exceeding the considerations included in deeds by Notary Publics?

- d) Are there one or several assessment units in the Western Provincial Department of Revenue? What are those Assessors' names and their qualifications with regard to assessment of immovable property?
- e) If there are proper qualifications to assess immovable property thus, what are the criteria used for assessing the immovable property?
- f) What is the methodology followed at present by the Department of Revenue of the Western Province to determine the Stamp Duty payable on value?
- g) After how many years of adopting the Western Provincial Finance Statute No. 06 of 1990 was this methodology was put into practice? In which year was it implemented first?

07. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/08)

- a) What is the number of schools belonging to the Western Provincial Council by Zonal level?
- b) According to each school category how many schools are there under each category?
- c) How many Principal vacancies are there according to each school category?
- d) According to each school category, how many schools are there which have Acting Principals?
- e) How many appointees are there within the Province who have been appointed to the Principals' grades but are not functioning as principals?
- f) For how many schools have the Principals been appointed external to the proper procedure?
- g) What is the hindrance that is there to properly and transparently call applications and through interviews, to select and appoint qualified Principals to schools according to school categories?
- h) If there is no hindrance, why action is not taken accordingly?

08. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipunaarachchi from the Hon. Minister of Transport, Sports and Youth Affairs, Women's Affairs, Food Supplies and Distribution, Cooperative Development, Domestic Economic Promotion, Fisheries, Rural Development, Tourism, Investment Promotion Coordination and Animal Production and Development. (Q/vi(01)/14/10)

- a) What is the number of Multipurpose Cooperative Societies by each district that functioned under the subject of Western Province Cooperatives as at 31.12.2004?
- b) What is the number of Multipurpose Cooperative Societies by each district that functioned under the subject of Western Province Cooperatives as at 31.12.2013?
- c) How many divisions Functioned under the Multipurpose Cooperative Societies of Western Province as at 31.12.2004?

- d) How many divisions Functioned under the Multipurpose Cooperative Societies of Western Province as at 31.12.2013?
- e) According to the above questioning, how many Multipurpose Cooperative Societies got their divisions increased in number?
- f) According to the above questioning, how many Multipurpose Cooperative Societies got their divisions decreased in number?
- g) If not, why is that?

09. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/11)

- a) Were a large number of files belonging to Colombo Municipal Council burnt down at the Borella Cemetery on 17th August 2013?
- b) Was permission of the Mayor/ Deputy Mayor/ General Meeting/ Establishment Committee obtained for the said burning or at least were those persons or institutions informed about it?
- c) Do you accept that that following mentioned legal provisions have been contravened by that burning down?
 - (i) Provisions 16 (1)(a), 16 (1)(h) of the National Archives Act
 - (ii) Provisions of clauses 9.6 and 9.8 of Chapter XXVIII of Part I of the Establishment Code
 - (iii) Section 172 of the Municipal Council Ordinance
- d) To which order among 301 orders in provisions 16 (1) (a), 16 (1) (h) of the National Archives Act do those files belong to?
- e) Do you accept that it is compulsory to keep a record of sub numbers?
- f) Are you aware that in the record presented regarding burnt down files, in the files from No. 54 to 126, only a dash has been written instead of sub numbers?
- g) What is the current progress of the investigating committee appointed in relation to the above crisis?

10. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/12)

- a) Are you aware that subsequent to the Sinhala-Tamil New Year of April, Boral soil has been brought to the Alwiswaththa Sagara Playground (Pradeshiya Sabha Playground) belonging to

Wattala Pradeshiya Sabha by Tipper Trucks and has been unloaded in heaps at several places of the ground?

- b) As that soil has not been leveled for more than 40 days, do you accept that the space available for playing is constricted?
- c) If so, would you take measures to level the said soil and enable the playground to be used for playing?
- d) From which day onwards would such action be taken?

11. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/13)

- a) Are you aware that the St John Fish Market once located within the Colombo Municipal Council was shifted to Peliyagoda?
- b) How many traders were engaged in business when it was shifted?
- c) When the New Fish Market Complex of Peliyagoda was opened how many stalls were provided to the trading community?
- d) How many fish stalls allocated like that have now been closed down?
- e) Do you agree that such closure has occurred as a result of low sales?
- f) Is there a plan to shift the Manning Vegetable Market to Peliyagoda ?
- g) If that happens, do you know that the reality is that low sales would close down stalls as said in above (d) and (e)?
- h) If so, why is not a good alternative place proposed for the vegetable trade?

12. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Ajantha Niroshan Padukka from the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Agrarian Development, Minor Irrigation, Industry, Environmental Affairs and Cultural and Arts Affairs. (Q/vi(01)/14/14)

- a) How much money was spent until now for the Kesbewa Lake related project? How much was allocated?
- b) When was the foundation stone placed?
- c) How much would be required to complete the whole project?
- d) How long will it take to finish it?
- e) Which institution is engaged in that project?

f) What is the reason for the delay in project conclusion?

13. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Ajantha Niroshan Padukka from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/15)

- a) What action was taken by you so far with regard to the motion of prohibiting fee-charging for private vehicle parks which were adopted unanimously in the Fifth Provincial Council?
- b) What action was taken to discontinue charging fees by private hospitals and other institutions that charge fees at present?
- c) What is the reason for the inability to formulate a statute with regard to this matter?
- d) What is the programme commenced by the Provincial Commissioner of Local Government in collaboration with the Urban Development Authority? What is the present situation?

14. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe from the Hon. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning, Law and Order, Land, Education, Local Government and Provincial Administration, Manpower and Employment, Engineering Services and Information . (Q/vi(01)/14/16)

- a) (i) Are you aware that the administrative activities of Colombo Ashoka Vidyalaya have become chaotic due to the reason of the newly appointed Principal to the school has not been selected through proper application-calling and interviews which resulted in a conflict between him and the teacher staff?

(ii) Do you accept the fact that you forcefully called a meeting on 19.05.2014 after official working hours and threatened the teachers who did not participate in it would be transferred?

(iii) Do you know that Owing to this reason, around 30 teachers who refused to further remain in the school have been transferred from the school by now?
- b) Do you accept that those teachers were experienced teachers who engaged in teaching G.C.E. O/L, A/L and scholarship classes and the teachers appointed to the school to replace the said teachers are inexperienced or new appointees?
- c) Due to the malicious transfer of around 30 teachers in a bid to protect an unqualified Principal, as the students who are in the verge of examinations have been gripped by uncertain fear and mental strain, do you accept the total responsibility for the collapse of children's education and the administration of the school?

VI. Motions for Leave of Absence

VII. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of the Ministers

VIII. Personal Explanations

IX. Council Affairs

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

“Today Public Affairs shall take precedence”

X. Private Members’ Affairs

1. Hon. Member Ajantha Niroshan Padukka

“Western Province Solid Waste Management Authority, for the past seven years, has been incapable of successfully implementing the control, collection, disposal of garbage and solid waste of Western Province as well as production of electricity and compost manure as by-products of the said process.

Within this period, the requirement for implementing this process, which is a major and essential process of the province, in more effective and efficient manner, has been felt by the whole province.

Therefore, to strengthen more the town development process carried out by the Urban Development Authority at present, this Provincial Council is in the opinion that in collaboration with the Urban Development Authority of the Central Government which has strong finances and technology to implement such projects; short term and long term plans limited to certain time frame should be planned and implemented.”

(M/vi (01)/14/01)

2. Hon. Member Mahesh Almeida

At present we see the children of school attending age of the Western Province are afflicted by various diseases and suffering in large numbers. The main reason affecting this situation is bad health habits and abnormalities in behavior systems. As a result, children get afflicted by non-contagious diseases commonly and largely.

Similarly, children are commonly affected by deadly Dengue fever and it has become evident that our lack of interest to keep the environment clean has caused this situation. Considering all these situations, as a step towards saving the children from these diseases and suffering, this Council proposes that having established Health Societies in schools by Western Provincial Education Ministry and Health Ministry in collaboration, to mediate through a legal framework for matters like raising awareness in children, providing medicine and instructions on illnesses and cleaning the environment.”

(M/vi (01)/14/02)

XI. Public Affairs

01. The statute presented by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Agrarian Development, Minor Irrigation, Industry, Environmental Affairs and Cultural and Arts Affairs (W.P.)

“Minor Irrigation Statute of the Western Province No. ... of 2013”

(First Reading)

A statute for the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of minor irrigation work including planning, designing, implementation of all minor irrigation work in the Western Province other than irrigation schemes relating to rivers running through more than one province or interprovincial irrigation and land development schemes.

The provisions of this statute are inconsistent with the Irrigation Ordinance (Chapter 453).

XII. Adjournment of the Council

K.H.D.K. Samarakoon

Secretary,

Western Province Provincial Council

03.06.2014
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