COUNCIL MEETING OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

04th November 2014, 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. Announcem	ents by the	e Chairman
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- **II. Presentation of Papers**
- **III.** Presentation of Committee Reports
- **IV. Petitions**
- V. Questions

01. Question asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi on 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Minister of Roads, Housing and Construction, Water Supplies and Drainage, Social Welfare and Urban and Estate Infrastructure Facilities. (O/vi(01)/14/03)

- a) Do you accept the fact that when a number of provincial roads are developed, there are places released for development of roads from one's own land extent by the people living beside roads without obtaining compensation?
- b) Do you accept the fact that even though the road was widened on such places, the electricity posts and telephone posts remain in the same places as they used to be ?
- c) Do you accept that remaining of these posts within the space limit used as road is dangerous?
- d) What action would be taken to change the said dangerous situation?
- e) If not, why is that? What measures were taken?
- 02. Question asked by Hon. Member Nalinda Jayatissa on 21.10.2014 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(1)/14/43)
 - a) How many huts for lanterns were constructed for "Poson Udanaya 2014" organized by the Kalutara Pradeshiya Sabha?

- b) Were tenders called from private institutions for construction of those huts? For how many huts was that?
- c) What is the institution that secured the said tender? What is the price amount presented by that institution for constructing 40 huts?
- d) How many 15×15 feet huts were constructed by that institution? What is the total amount paid on behalf of that?
- e) How many 10×10 feet huts were constructed by that institution? What is the total amount paid on behalf of that?

03. Question asked by Hon. Member Nalinda Jayatissa on 21.10.2014 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(1)/14/44)

- a) Was a Poson Zone held by Kalutara Pradeshiya Sabha from 12th to 15th June 2014 at Gallassa area of Nagoda, Kalutara?
- b) What is the total amount spent for that zone? From that amount how much was spent by the Pradeshiya Sabha?
- c) When were the payments relevant to the pandol built by the Pradeshiya Sabha, loudspeakers of Poson Zone, stage constructions, electric lightings and lantern creations paid? To which institutions? Under which voucher numbers?
- d) Who has accepted those cheques from the Pradeshiya Sabha? What is the post held by that person in Pradeshiya Sabha currently?
- e) When was the approval of Pradeshiya Sabha obtained to make payments for each of these items?
- f) Has the Chairman of Pradeshiya Sabha breached financial rules and Sabha rules in relation to these payments?
- g) If such breach has been committed, what action would be taken with regard to that?

04. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi 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(1)/14/46)

- a) How many Provincial Council schools are there in the Colombo Education Zone?
- b) What is the total number of students in these schools in Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 who are unable to write or read letters?
- c) Would you provide a report by schools and grades in relation to students who are unable to read and write?

- d) If not why is that?
- 05. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi 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(1)/14/47)
 - a) How many Provincial Council schools are there in the Gampaha Education Zone?
 - b) What is the total number of students in these schools in Grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 who are unable to write or read letters?
 - c) Would you provide a report by schools and grades in relation to students who are unable to read and write?
 - d) If not why is that?

06. Question to be asked by Hon. Member U. George Perera 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(1)/14/48)

- a) Could you state separately about the projects for which Provincial Council provisions received by a member of Western Provincial Council can be allocated/ cannot be allocated? If so, what are those projects?
- b) Has members been assigned with power to deploy Provincial Council funds according to personal preference due to whatsoever reason?
- c) Have you received complaints that Provincial Council provisions have been allocated according to personal preference of Provincial Council members?
- d) If you have received such complaints, can you present them to this Council?
- e) If you have received complaints or subsequent to receiving complaints, what action would be taken regarding such? Can you present them separately to this Council?
- f) If not, why is that ?

07. Question to be asked by Hon. Chief Opposition Whip Harshana Rajakaruna from the Hon. Minister of Health, Indigenous Medicine, Probation and Child Care Services and Council Affairs. (Q/VI(1)/14/49)

 a) (i) At the inspection raid carried out at the Negombo District Hospital on 14.10.2014 by the Opposition Members of Western Provincial Council, it was found out that Echo machine of that hospital has become defunct? Are aware about that?

- (ii) What action has been taken to restore it to proper condition?
- b) (i) As the new storey building constructed within the hospital has not been constructed according to proper standards, are you aware that inpatients as well as the staff face inconveniences on rainy days?
 - (ii) Would you take suitable action regarding the unsafe condition of the building which is used by more than 5000 people per day?
- c) (i) Are you aware that the freezer of the mortuary has become defunct?
 - (ii) What action has been taken to restore it to proper condition?
- d) Would you provide a solution to the damage caused to Negombo lagoon and environment by discharging waste water to overflow in an irregular drainage system ?
- e) Would you take action to provide a store room constructed according to prescribed standards to store the medicine that are stored in the temporary store rooms?
- f) Would you take action to provide sufficient staff immediately as proper service is not rendered to patients due to insufficient staff?
- g) If not, why is that?

08. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Jagath Withana 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(1)/14/50)

- a) Why the examination/ investigation under Sections 46(1) and 47(1) of the Cooperative Statute regarding the Kalutara Mathugama Multi Purpose Cooperative Society that has been requested by the date of 02.07.2014 by Commissioner of Cooperative Development with a copy for your reference, isn't conducted?
- b) Why isn't action being taken to recover the amount of Rs. 2,881,316.26 revealed by the investigation conducted on 23.05.2012 under No. @@/m/@o/3/14 by the Commissioner of Cooperative Development?
- c) Why isn't an investigation held with regard to the society's Chairman's/ Deputy Chairman's purchasing external to the tender procedure, of valuable property belonging to the society under the names of relatives and friends and sub-leasing them subsequently to external parties?
- d) Are you aware that around Two Hundred Thousand Rupees have been illegally obtained by the Director Board and the Officers of the Mathugama Cooperative Society after demolishing and selling the rock situated at the Galmaththa land belonging to the Mathugama Cooperative Society?

- e) Why isn't an investigation carried out about the damage caused while demolishing the rock, to a building belonging to the Society that has been built without tie beams?
- f) Why isn't the control of this cooperative society which is connected to such corruptive activities be subjected under the control of the Commissioner?

09. Question to be asked by Hon. Leader of the Opposition Manju Sri Arangala 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(1)/14/51)

- a) Has the Principal of Olaboduwa Sumangala Maha Vidyalaya in Horana Education Zone satisfied qualifications for the said post? If so, would you mention those qualifications?
- b) Do you accept the fact that this Principal, based on his arbitrary decisions has breached the provisions of National Teacher Transfer Policy, Departmental Circulars and Establishment Code by transferring teachers of the school?
- c) Are you aware that 17 excess teachers who are partial to him have been retained in the school?
- d) Would you hold an investigation with regard to the irregularities occurred while spending school's money?
- e) Are you aware that various irregularities pertaining to school control such as; deploying teachers to teach other subjects other than what they were appointed for, releasing teachers who are partial to the Principal from duties, deploying primary teachers to teach in higher grades and deploying new teachers to supervise senior teachers ?
- f) Would you take proper action against this person who calls himself as a Chairman of a Teachers' Association and oppresses teachers even having surpassed Zonal Education Directors?
- g) Would you take proper measures with regard to inconveniences caused to teachers and hindering of children's education due to politicization of the education field? If not why is that?

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(1)/14/52)

- a) Would mention to this honourable council as to the meetings conducted at Zonal level under your patronage by calling up Zonal Educational Directors, Principals and representatives from Sri Lanka Independent Teachers' Association?
- b) Is it a truth that certain influencing had taken place at the said meetings in relation to the promotion of Sri Lanka Independent Teachers' Association through the enrolment of members to the said association?

c) Are you aware that a strong resistance and disgust is there among teachers against the forceful enrolment of teachers of their schools by principals as members to the Sri Lanka Independent Teachers' Association?

11. 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(1)/14/53)

- a) (i) What is the policy on recruiting teachers to our province under the interprovincial transfers?
 - (ii) Has teachers who have obtained transfer recommendations from other provinces been recruited to this province in this year(2014)?
 - (iii) If such recruitment has been made, how many was that?
 - (iv) What is the basis of recruiting teachers in that manner?
 - (v) What are the teacher categories recruited thus? How many for each category?
- b) (i) On which basis do the teachers engaged in Provincial school service are released to National School Service?
 - (ii) What is the number of teachers according to each category who were released to National School service within this year?
 - (iii) Does the methodology adopted when releasing teachers engaged in Provincial School service to National School Service is put into practice transparently and systematically?
 - VI. Motions for Leave of Absence
 - VII. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of the Ministers
 - **VIII.** Personal Explanations
 - IX. Private Members' Affairs

1. Hon. Member Sunil Watagala:

Online Lottery programme has been implemented from the first week of April 2014, and its headquarters is located at Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02. Furthermore, it has been planned to establish 3000 such centers throughout the country. This is a gamble played in the guise of a lottery for which the young generation of our country is getting addicted speedily. The grave dangers posed by this are; sports like Lotto and Jackpot being contained in it and being able to

interact with this programme from homes itself. As it is the utmost responsibility and duty of this Provincial Council to rescue the people of Western Province from such a menace, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that all the responsible people and institutions shall take care not to support movements like these. (M/vi (01)/14/06)

2. Hon. Member M. Rose Fernando:

Although the Government has taken measures to redefine certain jurisdictions located within the Western Province and to assign new jurisdictions also to assign duties accordingly, due to not taking measures therein according to proper methods, people have to face grave difficulties as well as a waste of large amount of money takes place. When there is a closer court for the people, police officers and other public officials, they have to travel to a distant court wasting fuel for vehicles. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that subsequent to subjecting all these facts under proper supervision, redefining process of the Court jurisdictions within Sri Lanka shall be carried out systematically through a committee comprising officers with proper experience. (M/vi (01)/14/07)

X. Adjournment of the Council

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

23.10.2014 Council Secretariat, Western Province Provincial Council, 5th Floor, Wing 'B', Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla.