

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

On 18th 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. 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 03.06.2014 from the Hon. Minister of Roads, Housing and Construction, Water Supplies and Drainage, Social Welfare and Urban and Estate Infrastructure Facilities.

(Q/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 Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi on 04.11.2014 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)/14/46)

- 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?

03. Question asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi on 04.11.2014 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)/14/47)

- 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?

04. Question asked by Hon. Leader of the Opposition Manju Sri Arangala on 04.11.2014 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)/14/51)

- 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?

05. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 04.11.2014 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)/14/53)

- 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) Is the methodology adopted when releasing teachers engaged in Provincial School service to National School Service put into practice transparently and systematically?

06. Question taken time as per provisions of Rules of Procedure Rule No. 31 a (1)

- **Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe at the time of Council adjournment on 04.11.2014 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/ADJ/02)**

- a) (i) How much money has been provided by Western Provincial Ministry of Education to schools of Western Province for the colour-washing purposes of the schools?
- (ii) In what quantities has that money been provided to schools?
- (iii) Have you instructed to hold functions in schools by obtaining the participation of Members of Provincial Council to distribute the said money?
- (iv) Are you aware that as a result of those functions, the teaching-learning process of schools gets hindered?

- (v) Are you aware that in these days seminars for discussing the papers sent by the Examination Department are being discussed in schools on behalf of students facing the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination?
- (vi) Do you accept the fact that the aforesaid functions cause obstructions to these seminars?
- (vii) Do you accept the fact that the obstructions do occur to the school final term tests due to commence on 10th and 19th of November 2014 as a result of the aforesaid functions?

07. 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)/14/54)

- a) Are you aware that objections have arisen within school itself in relation to the Principal of Maharagama Vidyakara Balika Vidyalaya who was appointed to the said post recently?
- b) To which category does this school belong under the school categorization?
- c) When formal appointments are made to the vacant Principal Post in a school belonging to this category, a person in which services, in which grades can apply for that?
- d) What are the circulars that have made provisions for such appointment?
- e) Is there a formal procedure to be followed when selecting and appointing a person to a vacant Principal Post of a school?
- f) If so, what is that?
- g) Was this procedure followed in relation to Vidyakara Balika Vidyalaya of Maharagama?
- h) If so, would you present to this Council all the documents relevant to it, interview marking sheet and reports relevant to it?

08. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Anuruddha Lekamge 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)/14/55)

- a) How many international schools are located within the Western Province?
- b) Have all those schools obtained registration under Western Provincial Council?
- c) Have those schools been subjected to certain categorization as the Government schools are?
- d) Are those schools subjected to the education based rules and regulations of Western Provincial Council or Ministry of Education?

- e) Is there an inspection conducted by the Western Provincial Council with regard to qualifications of the Principal including the teaching staff of those schools?
- f) Is it the Provincial Council or the Ministry of Education that provides the approval required to commence teacher training schools?
- g) Which institution awards the teaching-certificate to teachers who obtained the training?
- h) Does the Provincial Council conduct an inspection with regard to fees charged by the said schools periodically and while enrolling students?
- i) Do rules like 'number of students per class' apply to those schools?
- j) Has an inspection team been appointed by the Provincial Council to inspect about the infrastructure facilities provided by the said schools for the children studying in those schools?

09. Question to be asked by Hon. Member K.D. Aruna Deepal 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)/14/56)**

- a) (i) How many students at zonal level studied in schools of Western Province in year 2013?
- (ii) How many left school (due to different reasons) from the student population of that year?
- (iii) Was certain study-based or inquiry-based measures taken to find out the reasons that compelled the children to leave schools in that way?
- (iv) If so, in the said study, have the reasons that compelled children to leave schools being identified? What are they?
- (v) What programme has been put into operation to provide solutions to the aforesaid reasons and to minimize school-drop-out rate, and, what is the progress of the said programme?
- b) (i) Have divisions or zones been identified as plentiful in terms of school-drop-out?
- (ii) In addition to the common reasons affecting the said situation, have other special situations been identified?
- (iii) If so, would you mention as to what those situations are?
- (iv) If not, why is that?

10. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Mujibur Rahuman 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)/14/57)

- a) Under the Department of Provincial Registrar of Companies of the Western Province, have institutions been registered as tuition classes, private schools and international schools ?
- b) If so, how many?
- c) What are the names and addresses of those institutions?
- d) Can the institutions that have been registered as educational assisting institutions function as normal schools while presenting children for national examinations and teaching the national curriculum ?
- e) Do you know that these institutions function as private schools?
- f) Do you know that under the Act No. 08 of 1961 and Assisted Schools and Training Colleges (Special Provisions Amendment) Act, No. 05 of 1960, private schools cannot be initiated?
- g) If so, what action would be taken with regard to the institutions maintained thus?
- h) Do you accept the fact that based on the lack of a formal system for enrollment of children of Western Province and irregularities existing among schools, the helpless children become prey to such institutions?

**11. Question to be asked by Hon. Leader of the Opposition- Manju Sri Arangala from
the Hon. Minister of Health, Indigenous Medicine, Probation and Child Care
Services and Council Affairs.** (Q/VI(1)/14/58)

- a) (i) Are you aware that an X-Ray machine has been purchased for the use of Ayurvedic Hospital of Meegoda?
 - (ii) How much was spent on its behalf?
 - (iii) When was it purchased?
 - (iv) Has this machine been taken for use presently?
 - (v) If not taken for use, why is that?
- b) (i) Was approval from the Atomic Energy Authority was obtained for this?
 - (ii) Were radiologists recruited to operate the machine?
 - (iii) If radiologists have not been recruited, what action would be taken with regard to that?
- c) (i) Are you aware that the room constructed to place the X-Ray machine had to be changed, as a result of it not being sufficient enough for that?

- (ii) Due to which reason did that happen?
- d) Would you mention the warranty period and the expiry date of the which were agreed upon when this machine was purchased?

VI. Motions for Leave of Absence

VII. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of the Ministers

VIII. Personal Explanations

IX. Council Meetings - I

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

“Whatever agreement reached at the Provincial Council Meeting held on 23.09.2014 or prior to that, without considering such, and having taken into consideration about the agreement reached at the Business Advisory Committee held on 05.11.2014, proceedings shall be taken considering 01st , 02nd ,03rd and 04th of December 2014 as days allocated for the ‘debate on Financial Statement of Year 2015 and matters related thereto’ while considering that 05th of December as a date on which the Provincial Council meeting will not be held”.

Council Meetings - II

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

“No impediment whatsoever shall occur from the periods specified in Rule No. 50(5) of Rules of Procedure in relation to the debate on the Financial Statement of year 2015 and matters related thereto.”

Council Meetings - III

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

“Subsequent to the dispersal of this Council today (18.11.2014), it shall assemble again on 01st of December 2014 at 9.00 a.m.”

X. Council Affairs

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

“For the affairs of the Council of this day (18.11.2014), proceedings shall be taken considering today as a date allocated for Public Affairs.”

XI. Private Members' Affairs

XII. Public Affairs

- 01. To be presented by Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga - 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 (W.P.)**

“The Financial Statement for year 2015 shall be adopted”

(Presentation of the Financial Statement to the Council)

- 02. To be presented by Hon. Prasanna Ranatunga - 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 (W.P.)**

“The Appropriation Statute relevant to the Financial Statement of year 2015 shall be adopted”

(Presentation of the Appropriation Statute to the Council)

XIII. Adjournment of the Council

K.H.D.K. Samarakoon
Secretary,

Western Province Provincial Council

05.11.2014
Council Secretariat,
Western Province Provincial Council,
5th Floor, Wing 'B',
Sethsiripaya,
Battaramulla.