

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

20th October 2015, at 09.30 a.m.

AGENDA

- I. Announcements by the Chairman**
- II. Presentation of Papers and Documents**
- III. Presentation of Committee Reports**
- IV. Petitions**
- V. Questions**

01. Question asked by Hon. Opposition Leader-Manju Sri Arangala on 06.10.2015 from the Hon. Minister of Health, Indigenous Medicine, Social Welfare, Probation and Child Care Services, Women's Affairs and Council Affairs. (Q/VI(1)/15/27)

- a) Do you accept that vehicles of Western Provincial Health Director's Office have been allotted to external persons out of Director's control?
- b) How many vehicles were allotted to outside thus?
- c) Would you mention the type of those vehicles and registered numbers?
- d) Had those vehicles been released together with drivers?
- e) Who bore the other expenses including driver wages, fuel, repair and service affairs?
 - (i) Was it the Department of Health?
 - (ii) If not by whom?
- f) How many vehicles among these have been returned? Would you mention the registered number of the vehicles returned thus and their returned dates?
- g) How many vehicles were unreturned? Would you mention their types and registered numbers?
- h) Who uses those unreturned vehicles?
 - (i) What action would be taken by you regarding such unreturned vehicles?

02. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 06.10.2015 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports, Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/VI(1)/15/29)

- a) Has a Teacher Performance Sheet been issued by the Provincial Education Office for teachers of Western Province?
- b) Have instructions been given to utilize the said Performance Sheet to grant teacher's salary increments?
- c) Have instructions been given not to allow salary increments to teachers who have not submitted the Teachers' Performance Sheet?
- d) Is the said Performance Sheet put into operation with the approval of representatives of Teachers' Associations?
- e) If so, would you present to the Council as to which Teachers' Trade Unions are those?
- f) Was the said performance Sheet distributed to every zone? If not, was it distributed for several selected Zones?

03. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 06.10.2015 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports, Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/VI(1)/15/30)

- a) Are you aware that WP/Kel/ Heenkenda Primary School was to be closed down due to lack of students?
- b) However, by intervention of villagers, do you know that this school was developed having combined it with the Heenkenda Maha Vidyalaya?
- c) Are you aware that, at present, the number of students in this school have gone up to 665 (Grades 1-5) students?
- d) Owing to the demand existing to this school at present, and owing to the increase in students' enrollment to this school, do you know that the approval of the Zonal Education Office has been received to increase the parallel classes from 03 to 04?
- e) Even so, are you aware that teachers, building facilities have not yet been provided in parallel to increasing the number of classes?
- f) Would teachers and classroom facilities will be provide to this school?
- g) If so, when would it be?

04. Question asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi on 06.10.2015 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports, Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/VI(1)/15/32)

- a) Do you agree with the programme of the country's National Government to allocate 6% for education from the Gross National Product?
- b) In compliance to that, is there a preparation for development of Western Provincial Schools?
- c) Separately, how much money to be paid by parents when enrolling students to Grade 01, Grade 06 and Advanced Level classes in year 2016?
- d) Are there any physical resources to be provided to schools by parents?
- e) In addition to that, if Principals happen to influence parents to provide grants by way of money or equipment, what action would be taken?
- f) If not, why is that?

05. Question asked by Hon. Member Susil Kindelpitiya on 06.10.2015 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports, Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/VI(1)/15/33)

- a) How much money was allocated for each sport from 01st of January 2015 to 01st of September 2015?
- b) How much was allocated for each sport?
- c) How was the allocation made as per districts?
- d) Separately, what were the names of sports clubs benefitted and how much was the money allocated to each such sports club?
- e) What were the types of materials purchased? In what quantities? From which institutions was such purchases made? How much was spent?
- f) Are you aware that corruption and irregularities did occur in the way the money was distributed when expenses were allocated for Western Provincial Sports Section?
- g) If so, what action would be taken regarding it?

06. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 06.10.2015 from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports, Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/VI(1)/15/34)

- a) (i) Do Pre-schools of Western Province come under your ministry's purview?
(ii) If so, under which provisions is that?
- b) (i) Are Directors assigned with the Pre-school subject function under the Provincial Ministry of Education as holders of positions?
(ii) Under which provisions is that?
(iii) Are you aware that the Chief Minister recently stated at a public meeting that such Directors exist?
- c) (i) At present, in how many state school buildings within the Province are the Pre-schools conducted?
(ii) Under which provisions is that?
(iii) Who decided to conduct Pre-schools within those schools?

07. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Janaka Deepal Weliwatta from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/15/37)

- a) Do you know that an auction on pawned gold jewelry of Homagama Multipurpose Cooperative Society was held on 30th and 31st August 2015 on the authority of the Chairman appointed by the Commissioner as per powers vested on him?
- b) What is the quantity of gold jewelry presented to be auctioned there?
- c) How much is the advance amount provided by the Society to pawners for the said gold jewelry?
- d) How much is the recoverable interest amounts and other expenses on the said gold jewelry?
- e) At what price a gold sovereign was sold at the said auction?
- f) What is the net loss or profit earned by the society by the said auction?
- g) Was it an auction where goods were auctioned separately as stocks?
- h) Who has given permission for such?

08. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Janaka Deepal Weliwatta from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/15/38)

- a) Are you aware that a gold jewelry auction was conducted by the Homagama Multipurpose Cooperative Society on 05th, 06th and 07th of September 2014?
- b) What is the quantity of gold jewelry forwarded for that auction?
- c) What is the advance amount provided by the Society to pawners for the said gold jewelry?
- d) How much is the recoverable interest amount and other expenses on said gold jewelry?
- e) At what price a gold sovereign was sold at the said auction?
- f) What is the net loss or profit earned by the society by the said auction?

09. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Janaka Deepal Weliwatta from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/15/39)

- a) How much gold jewelry has been auctioned in Western Provincial Cooperative Rural Banks and District Rural Banks in years 2014/ 2015? How much is that?
- b) At what price a gold sovereign has been sold by each society at the said auctions?
- c) Within that time period how many Cooperative Societies have sold them in stocks?
- d) What is the net profit or loss earned by each society at the said gold auctions?

10. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Salochana Gamage from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/15/40)

- a) When gold jewelry in Rural Banks is auctioned, which institutions function as the representative agencies?
- b) What is the bond and responsibility between Rural Banks and the representative agencies?
- c) What is the legal code covering it?
- d) Subsequent to presenting gold jewelry for auctioning, who owns the final decisive authority?

11. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Salochana Gamage from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development.
(Q/VI(1)/15/41)

- a) Is the Manual of Regulations for Cooperative Rural Banks used currently by the Cooperative Department, a legal document approved by the Western Province Provincial Council?
- b) Who has approved it and when?
- c) Are the aforementioned Manual of Regulations and the Rural Bank Manual of Regulations published by the Western Provincial Cooperative Department and being used currently, same documents?
- d) Has the aforementioned Rural Bank Manual of Regulations been compiled as per authority stated in Section 62 (2) (w) of Cooperative Statute No. 03 of 1998 of Western Provincial Council?
- e) Has the aforementioned Manual of Regulations been published by the Government gazette?
- f) Was the aforementioned Rural Bank Manual of Regulations, stated under No. 36(3) of Cooperative Statute No. 04 of 2011 of Western Provincial Council, adopted? When was it?
- g) Do you accept that utilizing this Manual of Regulations by you to impose punishments under that would cause the tasks done by you so far to be none-effect and inactive?

12. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahesh Almeida from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development.
(Q/VI(1)/15/42)

- a) Are you aware that a pedestrian was killed close to Hanwella town at around 4.30 p.m. on 25.09.2015 due to collision of a bus with a tipper vehicle?
- b) Do you know that this bus is one belonging to Road Passenger Transport Authority and was deployed in service in Avissawella – Colombo (Old Road)?
- c) Do you know that at the time of collision, the driver of the bus did not have a valid Driver's Licence?
- d) What were the legal actions taken by the Road Passenger Transport Authority against this driver and permit holder of the bus if the bus had been driven without a Route Permit?
- e) Would you inform this honourable Council as to the actions taken thus?
- f) If the bus had been deployed in service without a driver holding a valid Driver's Licence, would you take action to cancel the Route Permit of the bus?
- g) If not, why is that?

13. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahesh Almeida from Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development.
(Q/VI(1)/15/43)

- a) How are serving under the many Route Inspectors Western Provincial Road Passenger Transport Authority?
- b) What is the duty assigned to those officers and their responsibility?
- c) How many buses are examined by these officers per day?
- d) How many bus accidents of buses operating under Western Provincial Road Passenger Transport Authority did get reported within the past week?
- e) What legal action has been taken with regard to these accidents?
- f) During this period how many drivers were reported to have been engaged in driving buses without proper Driver's Licence?
- g) What action had been taken regarding such drivers that have been reported about?
- h) Would you inform this honourable Council as to the actions taken thus?
- i) If not, why is that?

14. Question to be asked by Hon. Opposition Leader-Manju Sri Arangala from the Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology.
(Q/VI(1)/15/44)

- a) Do you know that Mr. V.D.T. Aruna Kumara of No. 64, Aatigala, Hanwella has functioned as a contractor of construction and repairing activities of WP/CO/ Gunasinghe Vidyalaya?
- b) Do you accept that this person repaired Grade 01 Classes of the said school in year 2014 at a cost of Rs. 150,000/- and office building at a cost of Rs. 500,000/-?
- c) Do you know that the said constructions had been subjected to supervision of Engineers of Colombo Divisional Secretariat and Department of Education and payments got approved thus?
- d) Do you know that the money had been credited to the School Development Society to make the said payment?
- e) Do you know that eventhough the said money has been allotted, a sum of Rs. 346,668/- and retention money of Rs. 65,000/- had not been paid to Mr. Aruna Kumara, the contractor?
- f) Do you know that the contractor had paid a 5% commission from the approved construction amount to the School Development Society?
- g) Would action be taken to pay the money to the contractor which has been allotted to the School Development Society for his payment?
- h) What action would be taken against the Principal and responsible persons who have defaulted payments thus?

15. The question to be asked by Hon. Member Harishchandra de Costa from 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)/15/45)

- a) Having obtained the Development Licence of Urban Development Authority and Residential Construction Licence of Kesbewa Urban Council, when the house was constructed by Mr. Jayantha Kumara and his daughter residing at 332/12, Samodayapura, Pellanwaththa, Pannipitiya, do you know that the officers of Kesbewa Urban Council, leveling false charges on 01.04.2015 had prohibited the said constructions and persisted the said prohibition unjustly for more than 06 months on a revenge intention?
- b) What actions have been taken with regard to the complaint No. CU 14997 made to the Western Provincial Local Government Commissioner's Department?

VI. Motions for Leave of Absence

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

VIII. Personal Explanations

IX. Council Affairs (I)

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

"Today, Public Affairs shall take precedence"

Council Affairs (II)

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

"Proceedings shall take place considering whatsoever obstruction shall not be caused by provisions stated in the Rule Nos. 57 (1), 57(4) and 57(5) for affairs under the subject of Public Affairs in today's Agenda."

X. Private Members' Affairs

1. Hon. Member Rodney Frazer:

“The political and social mission accomplished by the Councilors representing Pradeshiya Sabha, Urban Councils and Municipal Councils is immense. The service rendered by these Councilors who represent the primary level of Sri Lankan political hierarchy is greatly important.

Certain Councilors engage their entire lives in this social mission. Majority of Councilors do not even have a proper income. Since they have to engage in social activities full time, it has become difficult for them to engage in an occupation.

A Councilor of Local Government receives a meager allowance which is not sufficient at all. It is not sufficient enough even for their day to day subsistence. Having taken these matters into consideration, this Western Province Provincial Council intends that this Provincial Council should mediate to upgrade these Councilors' (who engage full time in social activities) living conditions by increasing their monthly allowance.” (M/vi (01)/14/11)

2. Hon. Member Aruna Deepal:

“In relation to the subjects assigned to Provincial Councils, even though a number of statutes had been adopted and implemented by the Provincial Council, the awareness about the said statutes among professionals and public lie at a minimum level. One reason observed is that the non-circulation of the adopted statutes among the public. Therefore, Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that opportunity shall be provided to public to buy all the statutes adopted by the Western Provincial Council by printing them, whereas a separate sales center should be established to allow people to buy the said statutes and other public documents published by the Provincial Council.” (M/vi (01)/14/12)

XI. Public Affairs

01. 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 (W.P.):

Financial Statement – Amendment – 2015 Western Province Provincial Council

“As the Financial Statement for year 2015, adopted by the Provincial Council of Western Province has to be amended to comply with the subjects assigned to Hon. Ministers of the new Board of Ministers; sworn in/ taken oaths having appointed by Hon. Governor of Western Province on 14.09.2015, the ‘Financial Statement – Amendment- 2015’ presented on behalf of such, shall be adopted.”

02. 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 (W.P.) :

**Appropriation (Amended) Statute relevant to the
Financial Statement – Amendment – 2015**

"The Appropriation (Amended) Statute No. of 2015 to amend the the Appropriation Statute No. 06 of 2014 to comply with the Financial Statement – Amendment – 2015 for year 2015, shall be adopted."

XII. Adjournment of the Council

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Secretary,
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07.10.2015
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