

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

09th October 2018, at 09.30 a.m.

AGENDA

I. Announcements by the Chairman

II. Motion for Leave of Absence

III. Presentation of Papers

IV. Presentation of Committee Reports

V. Petitions

VI. Questions/ Interim Questions

01. Question asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala on 18.09.2018 from Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/54)

- a) Are you aware that the route permit of buses which terminated operating for a period of one year should be obtained back to the Road Passenger Transport Authority?
- b) Would you table how many such identified buses were there in 2017 and up to now in this year?
- c) Can the above said identified number of buses be presented to the Council by way of a document consisting categorization from road to road?
- d) What is the procedure to be followed for the permits identified thus?
- e) If route permits have been sold out external to the said procedure, would an investigation be carried out regarding that?

02. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasingha on 18.09.2018 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)/18/56)

- a) Do you know that the land with 4 ½ Acres extent called “Kaththota Land” located in Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha area of authority, when its plan (plan No. 6473G) was forwarded for approval on 11.04.2012 for the purpose of dividing and selling; the then Chairman of the Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha applied 08 conditions and had informed in

writing 'only if the said conditions are adhered to, the approval for dividing the land could be given to relevant persons' ?

- b) Do you know that the said land has been divided and sold at present without adhering to said conditions?
- c) Would you inform to the Council on which basis did the Chairman of Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha acted in year 2014 to divide and sell the relevant land?
- d) Would you inform to the Council as to what action will be taken by you against the relevant Chairman who divided and sold the said land without adhering to any of the conditions?
- e) If not, why is that?

03. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasingha on 18.09.2018 from Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/57)

- a) Would you inform to the Council as to how long it will take to implement the recommendations given by the inquiry held on 07.08.2018 by the Audit Section of the Ministry of Transport about the *modus operandi* of the Administrative Officer (Operations), Mr. B.N.S. Karunachandra of Colombo Office No. 01 of Western Provincial Road Passenger Transport Authority?
- b) Would you inform to the Council as to what action will be taken by you regarding the 08 recommendations given against the said officer by the Audit Section?
- c) Would you inform to the Council about what action will be taken against the said officer's *modus operandi*?
- d) If not, why is that?

04. Question asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe on 18.09.2018 from Hon. Minister of Roads, Transport, Cooperative Development and Trade, Housing and Construction, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. . (Q/VI(1)/18/58)

- a) Would you inform to this Council as to how many employees have been recruited as per management circulars to Western Provincial Road Passenger Transport Authority from 01.05.2012, up-to-date?
- b) Would you inform to this Council as to how many employees have been recruited external to the said circulars?
- c) Do you accept that the employees recruited external to the said circulars, have been promoted?

- d) Would you inform to this Council about action will be taken by you against the persons who recruited employees external to the circular?
- e) If not, why is that?

05. Question asked by Hon. Member Sarath Pathirana on 18.09.2018 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)/18/59)

- a) Do you know that Carpet layering machines were provided to Local Government Authorities of Western Province during the previous era?
- b) What are the Local Government Authorities which were provided with said machines?
- c) What is the total amount borne in that regard?
- d) Would you explain to this honorable Council as to from which fund of which ministry had the said money was spent?
- e) What is the current situation of these machines provided to Kaduwela Municipal Council?
- f) Do you accept that a misuse of money has taken place through this failed project?

06. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Nandana Pathmakumara from Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Land, Irrigation, Fisheries, Animal Production and Health and Agrarian Development. (Q/VI(1)/18/62)

- a) How many hand tractors, machinery and equipment were distributed to agricultural societies by your ministry?
- b) What are the names of those agricultural societies?
- c) How much was spent totally for the distribution of these equipments?
- d) How much was spent on one agricultural society to provide these equipments?
- e) From which institution were these equipments purchased?
- f) Was a tender calling made for prices?
- g) What are those institutions?
- h) What are the prices presented by those institutions?
- i) Were these hand tractors, machinery and equipment recommended by a Technical Committee?
- j) What is the composition of that committee?

07. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology (Q/ VI(1)/18/63)

- a) What are the reasons to shift the Provincial Department of Education from its former place at Ananda Kumaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo to Ranmagapaya?
- b) Who owns the building at Greenpath in which the Department of Education was maintained?
- c) Will a rent be paid to maintain the Provincial Department of Education in Ranmagapaya? If so, how much is spent on that behalf?
- d) For which purpose would the premises at Greenpath, which remains closed at present, be used?

08. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Rose Fernando 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)/18/64)

- a) Are you aware that a part of the building in which the daily fair is held in Kochchikade, in Negombo Municipal Council area, has been demolished suddenly?
- b) Do you know, as a result, some of the traders who carried out daily sales have to engage in their businesses with difficulty, battered in the scorching sun?
- c) Has any institution allocated money to reconstruct this building in which the daily fair is conducted? If so;
 - (i) How much was allocated?
 - (ii) Has a building-plan been made
 - (iii) If such construction is intended, when can it commence?
- d) Has a Municipal Council approval received at a meeting of the Council to demolish the afore-said building?
- e) If no responsible institution has given permission to demolish the above said building, on whose need was it demolished?
- f) Would you take action to prevent the difficulty encountered by public and daily traders owing to the demolishing of the aforesaid building?
- g) If not, why is that?

VII. Personal Explanations

VIII. Statements on Breach of Privileges

IX. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of the Ministers/ Replies of Breach of Privileges

X. Private Members' Affairs

01. Hon. Member Upali Kodikara :

“The number of schools for students with special needs which have been established at Zonal Education level in Western Province is around 182 and the number of students with special needs who receive education in such schools is 3713.

Although there is a student-aid system based on the results of Grade 5 Scholarship Examination is there for normal students of Government schools, also Mahapola Scholarship Programme for undergraduates; there is no student-aid system to provide for students with special needs.

Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that some allowance or aid amount should be provided to students with special needs who are studying in schools for students with special needs in Western Province to encourage such children in their education.”
(M/VI/(1)/18/05)

02. Hon. Yasapala Koralage – Deputy Chairman :

It should be mentioned that the public have been greatly pressurized owing to the education policy in practice at present. There is a method to gradually reduce the number of students per classroom from 45 to 35. Presently, 07 children per class have been cut off. The education authorities do not understand that a conflict in society has arisen due to not starting at least one new class in schools to house the students cut-off from a class. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that immediate attention to this matter should be paid and a number of new classrooms proportionate to house the afore-said numbers of students (who were cut off from each parallel class of a school) should be started in every Education Division.
(M/VI/(1)/18/06)

XI. Adjournment of the Council

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

19.09.2018
Council Secretariat (W.P.),
Western Province Provincial Council,
5th Floor, Wing ‘B’,
Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla.