

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

22nd January 2019, 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 to be asked by Hon. Member Sunil Watagala from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/ VI(1)/19/01)

- a) Was a popular newspaper advertisement published by the Secretary of the Western Provincial Public Service Commission to recruit graduate teachers to the Western Province? When was it?
- b) What are the minimum qualifications of Arts Graduates to be recruited as per the said advertisement?
- c) (I) Has the person named M.K.L. Jayasooriya residing at No. 329/1, “Sisira”, Pahala Imbulgoda, Imbulgoda applied for a teaching appointment?
(II) How many marks did he obtain from the written examination?
- d) (I) How many were awarded with teaching appointments on 02.01.2019?
(II) Can the reason be explained for not awarding an appointment for the marks obtained by M.K.L. Jayasooriya at the said examination?
- e) Has appointments been awarded for the marks level of 88?

02. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/ VI(1)/19/02)

- a) Would you inform to this Council as to the objective of establishing the Western Provincial Sports Institution?
- b) Would you inform to this Council as to how much money was allocated for the said institution in year 2018? How many projects were implemented in year 2018 having spent the said allocated provisions?
- c) Would you inform to this Council whether money has been allocated to the said institution for projects in addition to the above said provisions? If so, in which manner?
- d) If not why is that?

03. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/ VI(1)/19/03)

- a) How many Sports Trainers are attached to the Western Provincial Ministry of Sports?
- b) Would you inform to this Council whether Sports Trainer vacancies exist presently? And, if there are any vacancies, who is covering them?
- c) When sufficient number of Sports Trainers are available for a duty that can be covered easily, do you accept the fact that the authorities have taken action to obtain the service of a retired officer unnecessarily?
- d) Would you inform to this Council whether you accept the fact that the salaries paid currently to the said officer is a misuse of public money? If such a situation prevails, what action will be taken regarding that?
- e) If not, why is that?

04. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Mahinda Jayasinghe from Hon. Minister of Education, Cultural and Arts Affairs, Sports and Youth Affairs and Information Technology. (Q/ VI(1)/19/04)

- a) Would you explain to this Council how many permanent Sports Trainers are there in the Western Provincial Ministry of Sports? how much money has been allocated in year 2018 for their training programmes? and what are those programmes?
- b) Do you know that an effort has been taken contrary to the formal procedure of recruiting Sports Officers, to complete the Sports Trainer post of the Sports Ministry through external applicants?
- c) Would you inform as to who has taken that effort? Do you accept that it is not legal to include qualifications required to appoint Sports Officers as Sports Trainers within a

short period of time such as 5 years into the recruitment procedure, contrary to the instructions in the recruitment procedure?

- d) Would you inform to this Council what action has been taken by you to remove the salary anomalies of Trainers who do not take action to be recruited as Sports Trainers?
- e) If not, why is that?

05. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Rose Fernando from Hon. Minister of Provincial Roads, Transport, Cooperative and Trade, Housing and Constructions, Estate Infrastructure Facilities, Industries and Rural Development. (Q/ VI(1)/19/05)

- a) Would you present to this Council the names and addresses of the Directors of Kehelella Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited in Divulapitiya Divisional Secretariat of Western Province?
- b) Has a person called Warnakula Adithya Sembukuttige Nadun Lahiru Primal Janz of No. 144/1, Kochchikade Road, Halpe, Katana obtained a loan in year 2008 and 2010 from this cooperative society?
- c) Due to the said person's defaulting of loan repayment, do you know that the property kept as security had been auctioned and loan has been recovered?
- d) Do you know that the said property valued as Rs. 2,165,600/- has been purchased at a cost of Rs. 1,300,000/- after placing a bid of Rupees Nine Hundred Thousand by a Cooperative Director of the same Cooperative Society named M.M. Stephen Paris who participated in the said auction to which no other external person participated?
- e) Would you present before this Council all the accounts and documents relevant to the said transaction?
- f) Would you take legal action regarding cooperative officers exploiting people in this manner?
- g) If not, why is that?

06. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi 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, Water Supply and Drainage and Tourism Affairs.

(Q/VI(1)/19/06)

- a) When allocating ministerial provisions and other provisions for development affairs in addition to the Criteria Based Grants, are measures taken to obtain proposals through Hon. members?
- b) Is there a formal procedure followed in this regard?

- c) Do you accept that posts of the Provincial Council members, ministers and Office Bearers terminate subsequent to next April?
- d) Accordingly, when provisions are deployed, would you accept that there would be a tendency to deploy money targeting oncoming elections rather than deploying money with a focus on development?
- e) Do you accept the fact that the documents tabled in the Council on 08th January 2019 are evidence to this fact?
- f) What is your opinion in this regard as the Minister in charge of finance affairs and what action will be taken by you in that regard?

07. Question to be asked by Hon. Member Lakshman Nipuna Arachchi 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, Water Supply and Drainage and Tourism Affairs.

(Q/VI(1)/19/07)

- a) In the documents tabled at the Council on 08th January 2019, do you know there are documents that address the Hon. Governor by Hon. Chairman, Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Minister of Health and request allocation of provisions from the Hon. Governor?
- b) As stated therein, a request has been made to allocate provisions belonging to the Provincial Road Development Authority for road development affairs?
- c) Do you accept that according to the said letters, there is an indication that the previous Hon. Governor too has consented orally to provide monetary provisions?
- d) When there is a Minister in charge of Provincial Road Development, in which manner will the Hon. Governor provide its provisions?
- e) Do you accept that the said letters state, contesting in the oncoming election as the reason for the above said provision-requests for developmental affairs?
- f) What is the meaning of this fact seen as a mutation at face value?

VII. Personal Explanations

VIII. Statements on Breach of Privileges

IX. Announcements of the Ministries / Statements of

the Ministers/ Replies to Breach of Privileges

X. Council Meetings

To be presented by the Hon. Minister of Council Affairs

Motion:

“Whatever is mentioned in Rules of Procedure Rule No. 14(2)(a), this Provincial Council decides that 18.02.2019 Monday as a day on which the Provincial Council meeting will be held”

XI. Council Affairs

To be presented by the Hon. Leader of the House

Motion:

“According to the agreement reached at the Business Advisory Committee meetings of 23.10.2018, 19.12.2018 and 09.01.2019 without considering the provisions of Rules of Procedure rule Nos. 39(4) and 53(3), the Provincial Council agrees to proceed considering the order of the tasks included under the subject of Private Members’ Affairs under No. XII of today’s (22.01.2019) Agenda as task No. 02 and 01”

XII. Private Members’ Affairs

The order of tasks under the subject of Private Members’ Affairs may change according to the motion under No. XI - Council Affairs of the Agenda.

01. Hon. Yasapala Koralage – Deputy Chairman

“It is a fact known by everybody that the children studying in schools of rural areas of Western Province are severely affected by travelling difficulties. Owing to that reason, a school van culture has emerged. Therefore, this Western Province Provincial Council is in the opinion that it is suitable to provide a bicycle to school children above Grade 8 considering the economic difficulties and to alleviate the travelling difficulty of school children with a view to generate a healthy young generation for which opportunity should be allowed to allocate provisions from the criteria Based Grants allocated to Hon. Members subjected to a certain percentage.” (M/VI(1)/18/07)

02. Hon. Member Ajantha Niroshan Padukka

“Micro finance credit is operated by institutions of the private sector in very intriguing manner in the Western Province and throughout the island.

Group loans and private loans are recovered under a 40% annual interest rate. It is a gravely unjust exploitation. As the current monitoring of the Central Bank on this credit practice is not sufficient, this Western Province Provincial Council requests from the Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Sri Lanka to pay firm attention to this matter and immediately formulate rules and regulations to regularize these credit practices”

(M/VI(1)/18/08)

XIII. Adjournment of the Council

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

10.01.2019
Council Secretariat,
Western Province Provincial Council,
11th Floor,
Western Provincial Council Office Complex New Building,
No. 204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha
Sri Jayawardhanapura,
Battaramulla.