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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

EXTRAORDINARY

අංක 2423/18 – 2025 පෙබරවාරි මස 13 වැනි බ්‍රහස්පතින්දා – 2025.02.13

No. 2423/18 – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025

(Published by Authority)

PART IV (A) – PROVINCIAL COUNCILS

Provincial Councils Notifications

NOTIFICATION MADE UNDER ARTICLE 154 c AND SUB-SECTION 19(5) OF PROVINCIAL COUNCILS ACT, No. 42 OF 1987 READ WITH ARTICLE 154 f OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

AS per the powers vested in me under Article 154 c and Sub-section 19(5) of Provincial Councils Act, No. 42 of 1987 read with Article 154 f of the Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, I, Hanif Yusoof, the Governor of Western Province do announce that rules for formulation and implementation of development plans relevant to the Western Provincial Council Fund are hereby declared .

HANIF YUSOOF,
Governor,
Western Province.

At Governor's Office, Western Province,
Located in the Western Provincial Council Building,
Battaramulla.
07th of February , 2025.

1. These rules will be enforced to regulate the criteria relevant to formulation and implementation of development plans for certain financial year relevant to the Provincial Council Fund and to allocate provisions to repeal the rules relevant to formulation and implementation of development plans relevant to the Western Provincial Council Fund published by the *Extraordinary Gazette Paper* No. 2190/25 dated 25th August 2020 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and amended from time to time.



2. These rules shall be cited as Rules relating to Formulation and Implementation of Development Plans relevant to the Western Provincial Council Fund, No. 01 of 2025.
3. It is hereby ordered that each provincial ministry of the Western Province shall conform to the following stated criteria when annual development plan and the action plan under Provincial Development Financial Source of the Western Provincial Fund are formed for a financial year.
 - (1) At the time of forming the annual development plan relevant to the Western Provincial Council Fund, development proposals relevant to the Western province that accords to the National Policy Framework should be taken into consideration.
 - (2) Development plan should be formed to achieve the main thrust areas, sustainable development objectives and targets that have already been identified in the middle term sectarian framework.
 - (3) When development programs are implemented, in order to prevent project duplication, attention should be paid to form plans that fall directly within the subject area of the ministry. Herein, priority should be given to assign the project authority and the implementation authority to the relevant institution functioning under the relevant ministry.
 - (4) When implementing development projects, all the projects should be subjected to supervision of the relevant project authority.
 - (5) Attention should be paid to preservation of sustainability and productivity of projects.
 - (6) Whatever is mentioned in relation to implementation of training and capacity development programs under the subjects described under each sections from No. 4 to 29 mentioned below, except training programs conducted under the Expenditure Head I09 (Chief Secretary's Expenditure Head), the technical training programs relevant to each subject shall only be implemented .

For that, having prepared a detailed project report inclusive of an estimate, approval thereto should be obtained from the project authority. This procedure shall be followed up to Two Million Rupees and with regard to projects that exceed this value, measures should be taken according to instructions issued from time to time through circulars.
- (7) The following information should compulsorily be included into the project management database when projects are approved. These information should be included by the officer-in-charge of the subject under the recommendation of Assistant/ Deputy Director (Planning)- in-charge of the subject.
 - (i) Project name
 - (ii) Ministry allocating provisions
 - (iii) Financial source
 - (iv) Program
 - (v) Expenditure Head and its number that allocates provisions
 - (vi) Component
 - (vii) Subject
 - (viii) Sub-subject
 - (ix) Extensive activities
 - (x) Activities
 - (xi) Sustainable Development objectives
 - (xii) Project authority
 - (xiii) Implementation authority
 - (xiv) Sub implementation authority
 - (xv) Provision amount allocated to approve the project Rs.
 - (xvi) To which institution will the provision be allocated?

- (xvii) Institution to which payments will be made relevant to the project
- (xviii) Phased project :Yes/ No
- (xix) If it is a phased project in implementation stage, the following information needs to be completed.
 - (a) Total estimate amount: Rs.
 - (b) If the project has been contracted to the total estimated amount, the estimated amount: Rs.
 - (c) Provisions further needed to complete the project wholly: Rs.
 - (d) Nos. of sub-projects already implemented to complete the work of the project
 - (e) The project has already been used/ not used
- (8) (i) When planning for new construction projects that spans for several years, the total approximate estimation of the project and the work-load expected to be completed in each year should be forwarded. Likewise, how funds will be allocated to the projects in future years should be stated clearly.
- (ii) Also, without proper planning as to how total provisions for the project shall be raised, projects that are expected to be completed within a year should not be initiated.
- (9) When submitting proposals to renovate or construct a property, the ownership of the land shall belong to a Government or Semi-government institution. Similarly, prior to allocating provisions for construction and renovation of buildings, satisfaction should be established with regard to clear utilization of such property in future. Moreover, a clear process as to how such construction be maintained in future needs to be formed.
- (10) In addition to the tasks stated for relevant sections, when submitting project proposals relating to timely requirements and special occasions, a justification report along with a recommendation of the relevant Provincial Secretary to the Ministry or Authority in charge of Operations should be forwarded to the Chief Secretary. The Chief Secretary should give his approval to implement the said project where he is satisfied regarding the said justification report.
- (11) Based on the justification and recommendation of the Authority in charge of Operations, provisions can be allocated for development and construction of Government registered public buildings where Provincial services are provided.
- (12) The Secretary to the relevant ministry should take measures to approve projects with a value range of Rupees 10 Million to Rupees 15 Million, subsequent to obtaining recommendation from the Deputy Chief Secretary (Planning).
- (13) Prior to implementing projects valued Rupees 15 Million or exceeding that amount, approval should be obtained after presenting them to the Planning Committee.
- (14) The Secretary to the provincial ministry enjoys the power to directly approve projects of which total estimate value less than Rupees 10 Million.
- (15) If projects with total estimation value over Rupees 10 Million are implemented under phased project, prior approval of the Planning Committee should be obtained.
- (16) Projects exceeding Rupees 50 Million in value (except purchasing equipment for provincial hospitals), a Risk Management Committee which is unique to each project should be appointed by the Chief Secretary. The said established committee should closely supervise the relevant project and provide necessary guidance to the project authority and operational authority to ensure completion of the project in the expected standard and on due time.
- (17) For annual plans prepared under the subjects of each ministry, activities relating to climate change minimization and adaptation to climate change activities should be included.

4. When identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Local Government and Provincial Administration, the following criteria should be conformed to.
 - (1) Development and maintenance of rural public roads in local government authority areas and, other development affairs such as small bridges and culverts located in such roads.
 - (2) Regulation and maintenance of community halls, weekly fairs, drinkable water supplies, library services, crematoriums, cemeteries; development and maintenance of local government services such as maternity clinics, pre- schools, playgrounds and gardens.
 - (3) Raising awareness in people to properly maintain health and sanitary conditions within the local government authority area, management of waste, development and maintenance of public lavatories, drainage systems and canal ways.
 - (4) Providing facilities necessary to maintain the system of local authorities efficiently and properly.
 - (5) Providing water and electricity facilities for community halls and public buildings situated in the lands belonging to the government and local authorities after considering their ability to pay bills.
 - (6) Supplying the required machinery to improve the efficiency of Local authorities' service providing, and, operating maintenance units.
 - (7) Providing facilities and equipment required for disaster management to government institutions and local government institutions.
 - (8) Providing equipment subjected to a maximum of One Hundred Thousand Rupees (Rs.100,000/-) on recommendation of the Community Development Officer to Community Boards (Praja Mandala) which lack sufficient equipment and which have been registered formally in local government authorities and maintained actively for more than two years.
5. Proposals under the subject of Environmental Affairs should be identified and approved conforming to the criteria mentioned below.
 - (1) Creation of ecological gardens including urban bowers, forests and herb gardens on specially identified requirements in state lands of the province and development of such gardens. Provisions can be allocated in this regard subject to a maximum of Rupees Five Million. When exceeding this limit, approval must be obtained under General Matters 3(X) of these rules.
 - (2) Creating green-strips alongside the provincial council roads.
 - (3) Establishing joint operations to conduct programs to safeguard environment development by involving government, non-government and private institutions
 - (4) Conserving aquatic ecosystems such as water sources, streams and brooks, tanks and ponds, coastal lines and lagoons and conducting programs to clean and improve them.
 - (5) Conducting programs to celebrate the Environment Day.
 - (6) Implementation of projects connected to national level environmental programs.
 - (7) Conducting awareness raising programs relating to conservation of flora and fauna species that are endangered and threatened with extinction.

6. Following criteria should be followed in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Electricity and Energy.
 - (1) Extending and modernizing the electrical wiring system utilized for general use, transferring single-phase electricity into three-phase electricity and shifting electrical poles.
 - (2) On the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary, providing only the electricity connection from the National Grid to low income-earning households that comprise school-attending children or persons with special needs.
 - (3) Introduction of alternative energy sources where necessary, development and connection to the National Grid.
 - (4) Providing only the electricity connection to institutions facilitating public services owned by local government authorities or entrusted to local government authorities and community halls located on government lands that have proper system to pay the monthly electricity bill.
7. In identifying and approving proposals under the subject of water supplies and drainage, the following criteria should be followed.
 - (1) Taking measures to provide suitable drinking water facilities to the community.
 - (2) Provision of water facilities under community water projects that consists minimum of 25 beneficiary families.
 - (3) Construction and development of public wells used for drinking water as well as for other purposes.
 - (4) Identifying the viability of water sources and testing water quality.
 - (5) On the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary, providing only the water connection to low income-earning households that have no alternative methods to obtain water but have the capability to pay bills.
8. In identifying and approving the proposals under tourism promotion the following criteria should be followed.
 - (1) Improving the infrastructure facilities of the places of tourist attraction in the province.
 - (2) Carrying out promotional activities related to places of tourist attractions and tourism industry.
 - (3) Raising awareness for promotion of jobs related to tourism sector.
 - (4) Conduct training programs in order to provide quality services related to the tourism sector.
 - (5) Implementation of programs to coincide the celebration of International Tourism Day.
 - (6) Conduct training programs to improve the quality of the goods and services at tourist destinations and sales promotion.
 - (7) Providing required infrastructure for sustainable community based development projects.
9. The following criteria shall be followed in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Health and Indigenous Medicine.
 - (1) Construction or renovation of hospitals, offices of Medical Officer of Health, Primary Medical Treatment Units, pharmaceutical stores, quarters, clinical buildings, internal access roads, sewage systems and other infrastructure related to the health sector.

- (2) Provision of equipment and machinery necessary for the proper and timely running of public health services in government health institutions, purchasing spare parts required by compulsory bio medical equipment.
 - (3) Implementation of training programs and awareness programs to strengthen and improve the quality of disease prevention and curative services and producing health education material
 - (4) Conducting programs to improve the nutrition level and sanitary conditions of pregnant women , children under 5 years of age and school children in low income families.
 - (5) Introducing modern technology and equipment required to strengthen disease prevention and curative services and providing technical training.
10. The following criteria shall be conformed to in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Health and Indigenous Medicine.
- (1) Implementation of projects presented for construction of infrastructure facilities or renovation affairs relating to Ayurvedic hospitals, Ayurvedic Central Dispensaries, Clinical Centers, One Day Treatment Centers, Ayurvedic Special Treatment Centers, Ayurvedic *Panchakarma* Centers, Official Quarters, Internal Access Ways, Sewage Systems and other such relating to the field of Ayurveda.
 - (2) Providing equipment and machinery required to maintain proper health services in all Ayurvedic treatment institutions, also, to maintain medicine production activities in medicine production houses.
 - (3) Implementation of technical training programs, community awareness programs and productivity programs necessary for strengthening disease prevention and treatment services and to increase quality. Conducting programs to improve nutrition status of pregnant women, children below 5 years of age and school children of low income earning families.
 - (4) Implementation of programs to preserve and development of traditional medical practices.
 - (5) Taking measures to develop herbal medicine gardens and medicine production.
11. Following criteria shall be followed in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Probation and Child Care Services.
- (1) Implementation of special programs to ensure welfare of children under probation care (Leadership/Sports).
 - (2) Implementation of programs necessary for the development of knowledge and skills inclusive of vocational training required by children when they are sent to society after probation care.
 - (3) Taking necessary measures to prevent children getting under probation care. (awareness raising in community and children, providing vocational training for children who require them)
 - (4) Development of infrastructure facilities in buildings belonging to the Probation Department and registered Children's Homes.
 - (5) Implementation of technical training programs and awareness programs required to improve the quality and efficiency of staff that should be made aware of the protection and care of orphaned, abandoned, helpless and abused children. (Inclusive of attitude development)
 - (6) Providing a government contribution of up to a maximum Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) to provide self-employment equipment to parents, guardians of children from low income earning families (By purchasing the machines or equipment required by the beneficiary through the department, according to prescribed

procurement methods, these aid should be provided without providing them financially)

12. The following criteria should be followed in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Social Welfare.
- (1) Provisions can be allocated to take necessary measures for the welfare, spiritual development, economic development and social development of senior citizens and persons deprived of social privileges due to sickness, old age, disability or orphan hood.
 - (2) Equipment that can be used for public activities under a maximum amount of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs.200,000/-) can be provided to welfare and funeral-aid societies, rural elders' committees, divisional elders' boards of authorities, district and provincial elders' boards of authorities, which are important for social welfare and formally registered with the government.
 - i. Those equipment should be used for public welfare purposes and should be included in the inventory register of the relevant institution.
 - ii. In distributing above equipment, measures should be taken to act as per recommendations of the Divisional Secretary or officer authorized to summon the board of authority.
 - iii. Subsequent to being eligible by certain party to obtain goods under above criteria, they become ineligible to obtain other provisions under this until a lapse of three years.
 - (3) According to the instructions issued by the Elders Secretariat, as a preliminary step towards implementation of projects geared at economic generation, Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000/-) can be provided to elders' homes and elders' boards of authorities that have been established.
 - i. Prior to issuing these provisions, a project report should be forwarded to the Provincial Department of Social Services and get it approved.
 - ii. Priority will be, given to economic generation projects which can be implemented. continuously at least for 3 years and on the success of the project, provisions, as appropriate, can be allocated for the oncoming years after the first grant.
 - (4) Provisions may be allocated to provide equipment necessary for the welfare of residents living in Elders' Homes permanently registered in Western Provincial Social Services Department or Elders' Secretariat, or, Disabled Persons' Homes or Rehabilitation Centers permanently registered in Western Provincial Social Services Department or Elders' Secretariat.
 - (5) Provisions may be allocated under a maximum limit of Rupees Six Hundred Thousand (Rs.600,000/-) for new construction work or renovation affairs of Elders' Homes permanently registered in Western Provincial Social Services Department or Elders' Secretariat, or, Disabled Persons' Homes or Rehabilitation Centers permanently registered in Western Provincial Social Services Department or Elders' Secretariat.
 - (i) Provisions in this regard should be provided as per estimates of the Technical Officers and recommendations of Divisional Secretary subjected to the condition that a contribution of 10% of the estimate be borne by the relevant institution. (This minimum beneficiary contribution will be applicable to institutions that do not belong to Provincial Council)
 - (ii) Provisions will only be allocated once for one task of an institution and after a lapse of 2 years, provisions can be provided to another task external to the one already completed.
 - (6) Provisions can be allocated to organize various programs for residents of Elders' Homes, Disabled Persons' Homes or Rehabilitation Centers to improve their physical and mental health .

- (7) Provisions can be allocated to organize and implement various programs for uplifting the physical , mental, economical and social statuses of senior citizens' community with special needs and community that live in the normal society requiring assistance.
 - (8) Provisions can be allocated for implementation of various programs for development of physical facilities, providing equipment required for welfare, development of mental and physical development of Elder citizens' welfare centers, Guidance Centers for Children with Special Needs, Elders' Day Care Centers and Schools for Children with Special Needs that do not come under Assisted Schools.
 - (9) Provisions can be allocated to strengthe in the community who can be made to contribute to the work force and who require assistance and to provide financial and material facilities to the community identified through the said activities.
 - (10) Provisions can be allocated to provide technical training that is needed to improve quality status and efficiency of the staff of all the residential institutions and day care centers maintained under permanent registration under Western Provincial Social Services Department, National Secretariat for Elders or Secretariat for Disabled Persons and to organize various programs for the mental development of such staff.
 - (11) Subsequent to obtaining a confirmation from the Ministry of Education that duplication would not occur for the schools categorized under Assisted Schools, which provide education to children with special needs, provisions can b allocated to provide equipment required for children's education.
 - (12) Based on the recommendation of the Social Services Officer of the relevant division and Divisional Secretary, measures can be taken to provide a maximum allocation of Rupees Three Hundred Thousand (Rs.300,000/-) to low income earning houses where disabled persons, maternal-centered families and recipients of sickness aid provided by the department are living, to be paid in three installments to the beneficiary for the purpose of developing the facilities required by them.
 - (13) For school attending children with special needs in low income, special educational equipment or special equipment that makes their daily life easier can be provided on Medical Officer's recommendation and approval of the Provincial Director.
 - (14) In residential institutions where elders, persons with special needs are residing in, if it is expected to implement a self employment programs according to their ability, in order to supply basic knowledge and basic resources required in that regard, provisions can be provided subjected to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000/-)
13. The following criteria should be followed in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Social Welfare.
- (1) Providing capital provisions under a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs.150,000/-) on government contribution and a 30% of minimum beneficiary contribution for a woman engaged in self employment or expecting to commence a self employment.
 - (2) Conducting self employment training programs for women and providing capital provisions subjected to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs.150,000/-) on government contribution based on a 30% of minimum contribution by the beneficiary to women who have commenced self employment.
 - (3) Having referred to relevant institutions to obtain the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Certificate, providing the amount required thereby subjected to a minimum of Rupees Fifty Thousand (Rs.50,000/-). Subsequent to a formal contract with the beneficiary, this amount should be directly paid to the relevant vocational training institute.
 - (4) Identifying projects to upgrade the living conditions of depressed women (widows, deserted by the spouse, disabled) and providing capital equipment subjected to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs.150,000/-) as government contribution .

- (5) Conducting personality development, leadership workshops to reach for priority statuses in economic, social and political environments.
 - (6) Conducting counseling programs and entrepreneurship programs for women .
 - (7) Implementing projects that are required to improve women's physical and mental health.
14. The following criteria could be corresponded to when identifying and approving proposals under the subject of land.
- (1) Carrying out necessary development affairs including soil conservation affairs that are relevant to preservation of state lands.
 - (2) Providing required facilities to strengthen the institutions relevant to state land management.
 - (3) Developing road facilities providing access ways to state lands.
15. Proposals under the subject of Agriculture can be identified and approved conforming to the criteria mentioned below.
- (1) When implementing the entrepreneurship development projects relevant to agriculture of the province, if it is required to provide inputs to the selected beneficiaries, allocating provisions subjected to a maximum of Rupees One Million (Rs.1,000,000/-) as government contribution. Under this new entrepreneurship development or further development of already established entrepreneurship can be carried out.
 - (i) Beneficiary contribution should be at least 30% of the total project value and a beneficiary will only be given a one time opportunity.
 - (ii) From the occasion of providing the first benefit, subsequent benefits can be provided as one-time benefit or several-time benefits within the 5 years ensuing therefrom totaling up to One Million Rupees (Rs.1,000,000/-)
 - (2) If it is required to provide inputs to beneficiaries selected for specific projects (agricultural modernization, climate friendly agrarian projects, export based agrarian projects *etc.*), which are implemented for entrepreneur development relating to agriculture of the province, having decided the provision requirement and methodology for releasing provisions through a technical committee (this committee should comprise a representation of the department in addition to technical officers), and having considered the decision given therefrom and as per the recommendation given by the Western Provincial Director of Agriculture, provisions can be allocated subjected to a maximum of Rupees One Million Five Hundred Thousand (Rs.1,500,000/-). Therein,
 - (i) Beneficiary contribution shall at least be 30% of the total project value.
 - (ii) Providing this benefit one time only to one entrepreneur.
 - (iii) The number of projects of this nature implementable for a year per a district would be of two projects maximally.
 - (3) Providing agricultural equipment or other benefits subjected to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000/-) per beneficiary by government and 30% of beneficiary contribution from the value of the total project where selected minor scale agricultural entrepreneurship development projects and projects which contribute to ensure food security are concerned.
 - (i) Once benefits are provided, in order to receive benefits again, at least 5 years should have lapsed.
 - (4) When implementing projects relevant to agriculture in the province, if it is necessary to provide benefits to registered Agricultural Associations, agricultural equipment and/ or other benefits could be provided, subjected to

30% contribution by the Agricultural Association of the total project value and maximum amount of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000/-) as government contribution.

- (i) In order to be eligible to obtain these benefits, three years since the registration of the Agricultural Association should have elapsed.
 - (ii) Subsequent to receiving benefits once, in order to become eligible to obtain benefits again, at least 5 years maximum should have elapsed.
- (5) Implementation of projects to ensure food security
- (i) Increasing the cultivation area and productivity of products to increase agricultural production
 - (ii) Panning of projects that can decrease the production cost
 - (iii) Implementation of projects to create market opportunities
 - (iv) Implementation of projects to create value added projects
 - (v) Implementation of homestead gardening projects
- (6) Implementation of projects to certify consumption of better quality foods such as vegetables and fruits.
- (i) Implementation of relevant project proposals to use organic fertilizer and produce organic fertilizer
 - (ii) Implementation of projects that are required to implement better agricultural practices
 - (iii) Implementing programs for GAP certification
 - (iv) Implementation of projects required to promote organic agriculture
- (7) Implementing projects to create abundance in seeds and cultivation media in the Western Province
- (i) Having identified the producers who produce seeds and cultivation media through projects as suppliers in forthcoming seasons, taking measures to identify them as registered suppliers in the Provincial Department of Agriculture in order to purchase from them for projects of the said department.
 - (ii) Implementation of projects as appropriate for selling of seeds and cultivation media.
 - (iii) The potential is there to implement projects to initiate a mechanism to provide seeds for selected projects and to reimburse the same amount at the end of the season with the view of providing them for other beneficiaries in the next season.
- (8) Implementation of projects to provide training for agricultural extension.
- (i) For any person who is engaged in the field of agriculture or anybody interested in entering the field of agriculture, organizing training programs to provide them with technological knowledge and implementing them.
 - (ii) Projects can be implemented to provide farmers with agri-technology through local field studies and educational field visits to agricultural institutions and opportunity can be given to officers engaged in extension affairs to participate in them (Offices of Sri Lanka Agricultural Service, Agricultural Instructors, Agricultural Operations Officers, Technical Assistants). Two such projects maximum should be implemented per year in a district.

- (iii) Taking measures to provide knowledge, familiarity and skills to everybody who are interested in this subject including the farmer-community using various extension methods. (mobile programs, crop clinics , exhibitions, field training programs, publications FFs, FBS, Mass Media-television and radio programs, special work-shops and conferences)
 - (iv) Implementing projects to conduct crop cultivations and demonstrations in a manner in which agri-technology will be advertised from field level.
 - (v) Conducting training programs as demonstrations to promote homestead gardening in relation to schools, homes and governmental institutions and in required occasions, providing inputs.
 - (vi) Implementing projects to conduct conferences for yearly evaluation of successful extension programs (best homesteads/ best agricultural entrepreneur, *etc.*)
- (9) Implementation of project proposals for the development affairs, construction of buildings and development affairs of institutions belonging to the Provincial Department of Agriculture.
- (i) In a manner agri-technology is disseminated to the public, carrying out crop cultivations and integrated farm systems at specimen level in training centers and spacious extension offices.
 - (ii) Implementation of projects related to food security and income generation in farms/ integrative farming systems under the Provincial Department of Agriculture.
 - (iii) Development of facilities for extension agents/ field staff.
 - (iv) Implementation of projects such as flower cultivation, animal husbandry, various artistic creations (such as bonsai art, terrarium, kokidata *etc.*) to generate income.
- (10) Implementation of project proposals for the institutional development affairs, construction of buildings and development works of institutions belonging to the Provincial Department of Agriculture.
- (i) Construction of buildings and development
 - (ii) Land development
 - (iii) Development of farm affairs
 - (iv) Training capacity development
 - (v) Machinery and plant purchasing
- (11) Implementation of proposals subsequent to obtaining approval from the planning committee for projects identified in relation to provincial research activities.
- (i) If the selected agricultural fields are used for that purpose and if the government has to bear the expenses related to those research activities, provisions can be allocated subject to a maximum of Rupees One Million Five Hundred Thousand (Rs.1,500,000/-) as the contribution of the government.
 - (ii) Benefits can be provided at one time or several times totaling up to Rupees One Million Five Hundred Thousand (Rs.1,500,000/-) within 05 years from the time of receiving the first benefit.
 - (iii) The number of projects in this nature, implementable per district per year is of one project maximum.

- (12) Implementing projects to execute and supervise agricultural regulations and acts as per powers assigned to Provincial Public Service Officers in relation to Provincial Councils.
- (13) Presenting necessary project proposals for value chain development, value added products and providing market facilities for them.
- (14) Implementation of projects to promote agribusinesses and entrepreneurship and to reduce post-harvest damages.
- (15) Implementing proposals to induce the youth community towards agriculture.
- (16) Implementing programs to use suitable yet uncultivated lands effectively for cultivation and implementing projects to develop farms and agricultural lands.
- (17) Implementing projects to promote the “*Hela Bojun*” (Native Sri Lankan Food) concept of the Department of Agriculture of Western Province.
- (18) Implementing projects as appropriate by the Department of Agriculture in times of disaster such as pandemics, diseases, pests, floods, etc. that threaten agriculture/food security.
- (19) Implementing public - private partnership projects conducted in conjugation with public and private sectors at necessary times.
- (20) Implementing climate-friendly projects that are necessary for adaptation and to minimize climate impacts.
- (21) In the case of the Agricultural Services Authority,
 - (i) Implementing project proposals relevant for the promotion of agricultural crops.
 - (ii) Implementing project proposals required for value-added products and provision of market facilities for them.
 - (iii) Implementing projects for the promotion of agribusiness and entrepreneurship.
 - (iv) Implementing development projects for the promotion of “*Hela Bojun*” concept.
 - (v) Implementing projects to minimize post-harvest damage.
 - (vi) Introducing markets for the sale of organic products of entrepreneurs, establishing marketing centers and implementing project proposals for the development of those centers.
 - (vii) Contributing to conduct mobile markets and hold exhibitions.
 - (viii) Encouraging the community to engage in self-employment and implementing projects to support them to continue their businesses.
 - (ix) Implementing projects related to the agricultural sector that can generate income for the Provincial Agricultural Authority.
 - (x) Implementing projects to create availability of inputs and provide services.

16 Proposals under the subject of Minor Irrigation should be identified and approved conforming to the criterion mentioned below.

- (1) Providing necessary facilities to carry water to the agricultural lands when providing water supply to lands

in which agricultural works are carried out, dispose of excess water and construction of structures to reduce the damages caused by floods and sea water and their maintenance.

- (2) Maintenance and development of existing and new irrigation works and construction of new irrigation works.
- (3) Conducting programs to impart knowledge about water management to the farming community.
- (4) Implementing project proposals for constructions related to minor Irrigations or irrigations of which renovations are expected to be completed or other elements.
- (5) Constructing agricultural roads and tractor bunds which are required to access agricultural lands.
- (6) Purchasing mechanical equipment related to irrigational constructions and maintenance and maintaining continuous service supply.

17 Proposals under the subject of Fisheries should be identified and approved conforming to the criterion mentioned below.

- (1) Releasing fingerlings to freshwater reservoirs of the province to make abundant fish production in order to minimize the nutritional deficiencies of the people of the province and to ensure food security, providing fishing equipment to the people engaged in freshwater and small-scale saltwater fish industry once in every three years under a 30% of beneficiary contribution, up to a maximum of one Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000/-), and providing inputs as direct grants up to a maximum of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs.500,000/-) under a 30% beneficiary contribution to fisheries societies registered with the Aquaculture Development Authority or the Ministry of Fisheries under the recommendations of the Technical Committee (This Technical Committee should also include an officer from the Ministry of Agriculture In addition to experts in the subject.)
- (2) Providing benefits up to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000/-) once in every 03 years at a beneficiary contribution rate of 30% when implementing projects related to the promotion of the ornamental fish industry.
- (3) Conducting training programs necessary to develop the knowledge and attitudes of officers to efficiently provide services to the fishing community, providing new technology to farms, and conducting training programs, field days and field trips for fish farmers to familiarize them with that technology.
- (4) Developing and maintaining Pitipana Aquaculture Development Center.

18 Proposals under the subject of Animal Production should be identified and approved conforming to the criterion mentioned below.

- (1) Implementation of the proposed programs for the development of these sectors to provide quality animal products to the public.
- (2) Provision of breeding animals and breeding material based on the improvement of the breed of farm animals to increase the income of farmers engaged in animal husbandry by increasing the production of the farms.
 - (i) When a Technical Committee confirms that a farmer who is currently engaged in cattle husbandry is able to maintain cows/ heifers by providing foods in a cow shed set-up by the said farmer, and, for a farmer who produces milk and supplies it to the market; payment of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs.500,000/-) to a farmer subject to a maximum Government contribution of 70% to purchase a maximum of two cows/grown heifers (over one year old).
 - (ii) When a Technical Committee confirms that beneficiaries who are entering anew to the sector on self-employment

are able to maintain cows/ heifers by providing foods in a cow shed set-up by the new farmer, payment of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs.200,000/-) according to the estimation of the Technical Committee subject to a maximum Government contribution of 70%, can be made to purchase a cow. The newly constructed cow shed can be used as the farmer's contribution subsequent to the estimation by the Technical Committee.

- (iii) When a Technical Committee confirms that a farmer who is currently engaged in goat husbandry is able to maintain goats/ nanny-goats by providing foods in a goat shed set-up by the said farmer, and, a farmer who produces and supplies milk/supplies goats for meat to the market; Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) maximum can be paid to such a farmer subject to a Government contribution of 70% to purchase 2 to 5 nanny goats according to the estimation by the Technical Committee. To purchase a billy-goat, payment of a sum equal to 70% of the value of the animal as per the estimation by the Technical Committee subjected to a maximum amount of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-)
 - (iv) When a Technical Committee confirms that beneficiaries who are entering anew to the sector on self-employment are able to maintain goats/ nanny-goats by providing foods in a goat shed set-up by the new farmer, payment of Rupees Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs. 250,000/-) maximum according to the estimation of the Technical Committee subject to a Government contribution of 70%, can be made to purchase goats. The newly constructed goat shed can be used as the farmer's contribution subsequent to the estimation by the Technical Committee.
 - (v) When a Technical Committee confirms that a farmer who is currently engaged in porcine husbandry is able to maintain swine/ sow by providing foods in a pigsty set-up by the said farmer; payment of Rupees Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs. 250,000/-) maximum to a farmer subject to a Government contribution of 70% of the animals to purchase maximum of five piglets.
 - (vi) When a Technical Committee confirms that beneficiaries who are entering anew to porcine industry on self-employment are able to maintain swine/ sow by providing foods in a pigsty set-up by the new farmer, payment of Rupees Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs. 250,000/-) maximum according to the estimation of the Technical Committee subject to a Government contribution of 70%, can be made to purchase piglets. The newly constructed pigsty can be used as the farmer's contribution subsequent to the estimation by the Technical Committee.
 - (vii) For a farm consisting more than 5 breeding cows that produces natural curd for selling, paying Rupees Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (Rs. 250,000) subject to a maximum government contribution of up to 70% of the value of the animals, to purchase a bull calf for natural breeding purposes.
 - (3) The following steps can be taken when submitting project proposals for the development of infrastructure facilities of animal farms/dairy farmers' societies/livestock production institutions.
 - i. Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000/-) can be provided subjected to a maximum Government contribution of (70%) of the estimated cost when providing infrastructure facilities to dairy farmers' societies/ livestock production institutions, on the recommendations of the Technical Committee.
 - (4) When providing the animals required for the domestic poultry farming program, alternative poultry farming (quails, turkeys, ducks) with a view to ensure food security in the households of the people; a quantity of 10-20 chicks and poults and a quantity of 25-100 quails per each household once in every two years will be provided on the recommendation of the Animal Development Advisor and the Veterinary Officer. It is compulsory for the beneficiary to have a cage prepared by him and it can be set off for the beneficiary contribution on the recommendation of the Animal Development Advisor and the Veterinary Officer.
 - (5) Improving the facilities required by the institutions under the department to provide a quality public service.
- 19 Proposals under the subject of Industries should be identified and approved and implemented conforming to the criterion mentioned below.

In order to encourage local traditional industries (textile, wood, clay, leather, light, coir, sewing) and other industries covering various ranges and to improve the quality of those products,

- (1) Small Industries Societies may be provided assistance to purchase inputs and technical equipment required for specifically identified projects. In this regard, the following points should be considered.
 - (i) It should be an active Small Industries Society registered in the Government.
 - (ii) The relevant society should contribute 30% of the value of the inputs/technical equipment provided, and the maximum value that can be provided as government assistance to one society per year is Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000).
 - (iii) It is compulsory to obtain the recommendation of an officer of a recognized government institution with technical knowledge in the relevant industry along with the project report for the approval of these projects.
- (2) The relevant equipment may also be provided to an industrialist engaged in a local traditional industry (textile, wood, clay, leather, light, coir, sewing). The following matters should be considered in this regard .
 - (i) The Provincial Director of Industries should recommend that the field in which the relevant industrialist is currently engaged is a traditional industry.
 - (ii) It is compulsory to obtain a recommendation of an officer of a recognized government institution with technical knowledge in the relevant industry that the applicant is suitable to be provided with the relevant equipment.
 - (iii) The donation must be given on a 30% of beneficiary contribution from the value of the equipment subject to a maximum of One Hundred Thousand Rupees (Rs. 100,000) per year.

In providing the benefits in (1) and (2) above;

Money should not be released directly to the beneficiary for the purchase of equipment.

It is the responsibility of the implementing authority to procure the necessary equipment following the government's standard procurement procedures and to purchase the necessary equipment after collecting the applicable beneficiary contribution.

- (3) Direct grants may be provided as self-employment assistance to entrepreneurs who are currently engaged in self-employment or who are expecting to engage in self - employment in future and whom the Divisional Secretary of the relevant area is satisfied that they have the competence to engage in the enterprise. The following matters should be considered in this regard.
 - (i) Only self-employment equipment or machinery or capital goods should be provided. Consumer goods/materials should not be provided.
 - (ii) A minimum beneficiary contribution of 30% of the value of the equipment/machinery/capital goods provided should be collected from the beneficiary.
 - (iii) These direct grants should be provided subject to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand as government contribution.
 - (iv) Notwithstanding anything stated in the section (ii) above, the Chief Secretary may decide, taking into account the facts submitted by the Secretary of the relevant subject Ministry, what percentage of the minimum beneficiary contribution should be.

- (v) The list of beneficiaries receiving direct grants should be submitted for the approval of the Secretary of the Ministry in charge of the subject.
- (4) Can contribute for the sale of products of small and medium scale industrialists of the province and artisans registered in the Provincial Department of Industries in ways mentioned below.
- (i) Introducing markets
 - (ii) Establishing trade centers and developing them
 - (iii) Conducting mobile markets and exhibitions
 - (iv) Presenting products to local and foreign markets/exhibitions. A beneficiary contribution of 50% of the amount payable for such markets/exhibitions should be recovered from the relevant artisan.
- (5) Providing new technology and other physical facilities to the production and training centers established under the Western Provincial Department of Industries and the Industrial Development Authority.
- (6) Conducting vocational training programs and entrepreneurship development programs suitable for the development of knowledge and skills of persons engaged/ desire to engage in industries. Herein, the following matters should be taken into consideration.
- (i) Resource persons should be selected from a pool of registered resource persons of the Western Provincial Department of Industries/ Western Provincial Industrial Development Authority/ National Crafts Council.
 - (ii) The most suitable resource person should be selected according to the target group. For this, the prior approval of the project or implementing authority should be obtained depending on the nature of the training program.
 - (iii) The resource person should be an expert with a certificate obtained from a recognized institution with professional competence relevant to the subject area.
 - (iv) In cases where the resource person is a skilled craftsman who cannot produce such recognized certificates, the prior approval of the Secretary of the Ministry in charge of the relevant subject should be obtained.
- (7) Provisions can be made for persons above 18 years of age who are engaged/ intending to engage in self-employment, to pursue courses in Government approved vocational training institutions. The following matters should be taken into consideration here.
- (i) The maximum provision amount that can be allocated to one person is Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs. 100,000/-). After entering into an agreement with the beneficiary, this amount should be paid directly to the relevant vocational training institution only.
 - (ii) Priority should be given to persons with the following needs in selecting beneficiaries.
 - a) Being a person not covered by any other scheme and not previously received such a sponsorship.
 - b) Being a mother-headed household
 - c) Being a person with special needs
 - (iii) A beneficiary contribution of 30% of the relevant course fee should be recovered from non-low-income holders. No beneficiary contribution is required from persons who have been confirmed as low-income holders by the relevant Grama Niladhari.

- (8) Taking measures to encourage small and medium scale industrialists in the Western Province. The following matters should be taken into consideration here.
 - (i) Providing entrepreneurship training and technical training.
 - (ii) Implementing a program to network information of traders.
 - (iii) Gathering new inventors in the province, conduct programs for them, connect them with institutions of the central government and implement appropriate projects to contribute to national development.
- (9) To minimize environmental pollution caused by industries;
 - (i) Conducting research related to introducing green technology to the industrial sector and taking necessary measures to adapt the industries to it.
 - (ii) Taking appropriate measures to direct medium and small scale industries to renewable energy sources.
- 20 Proposals under the subject of Provincial Roads should be identified and approved and implemented conforming to the criterion mentioned below.
 - (1) Construction of new roads belonging to 'C' and 'D' grades and access roads ('AR') in the Western Province, improvement and proper maintenance of existing roads. (A feasible system should be developed for water drainage during road development)
 - (2) Making of drainage system on both sides of the road to protect its sustainability during road development, rehabilitation of culverts and bridges.
 - (3) Construction and development of new structures related to the provincial road system such as drainage systems (shoe drains/concrete drains), bridges, culverts, side walls etc.
 - (4) (i) Prioritize the improvement of the provincial road system and its associated structures in areas that are vulnerable to climate change to make them resilient to such risks.
(ii) Implement appropriate strategies (construction of new bridges/ culverts/ sidewalls/ drainage systems, etc.) to prevent landslides in the provincial road system in those areas.
 - (5) Install road signs, fix road marks, install convex mirrors, and mark pedestrian crossings to improve road safety. Recommendations from relevant institutions should be obtained for the above matters when necessary.
- 21 Proposals under the subject of Housing and Constructions should be identified and approved and implemented conforming to the criterion mentioned below.
 - (1) After confirming the ownership of the land sponsorship amount or material assistance of a maximum of Rupees Three Hundred Thousand (Rs.300,000/-) and a minimum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs.100,000/-) can be provided in two installments to each low-income earning family for the remaining work of a house or repair of a house.
 - (2) After confirming the ownership of the land, a sponsorship amount of a maximum of Rupees Twenty Hundred Thousand (Rs. 2,000,000/-) can be provided in installments to each beneficiary low-income earning family that do not own a permanent house, for the construction of a new house. This housing assistance shall be provided subject to the approval of the Housing Development Committee of Western Province on the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary. Provisions can be allocated for the construction of a maximum of six new houses per year.

- (3) A maximum amount of Rupees Ten Hundred Thousand (Rs. 1,000,000/-) can be provided subject to the approval of the Chief Secretary with the recommendations of the Divisional Secretary and the Western Provincial Housing Development Committee for houses completely damaged due to sudden disasters (e.g. landslides, fires, cyclones, floods). It should be ensured that the beneficiary is not covered by any other government fund.
 - (4) Priority should be given to families that meet at least one of the following points in selecting beneficiaries for the rights mentioned under numbers (1), (2) and (3) above. These points should be confirmed by a certificate from the Grama Niladhari.
 - (i) Being a low-income earning family with school children/ persons with special needs.
 - (ii) Being a low-income earning family that has become destitute due to the death of the income earner of the family.
 - (iii) Being a low-income earning family devoid of one or both parents.
22. The following criteria should be followed in identifying, approving and implementing proposals under the subject of Estate Infrastructure. Estate infrastructure related to the plantation sector is only applicable under this subject.
- (1) Improvement of estate roads to uplift the living standards of the people living in the estates.
 - (i) Estate roads should be specifically identified through a proper methodology here.
 - (ii) Only the roads with access to estate settlements should be developed .
 - (2) Providing water and electricity facilities to improve the living standards of the people living in the estates.
 - (i) Provisions can be allocated to provide electricity connection to estate houses subject to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs. 100,000/-) per beneficiary family. This amount, which is provided only to provide electricity connection to a house should be paid to the institution providing the power connection.
 - (ii) Provisions can be allocated to implement community water projects required to provide water facilities to the people living in the estates. In this case, provisions should be allocated after obtaining formal confirmation as to the payment of bills by the relevant beneficiaries.
 - (3) Provisions can be allocated for the development of line-houses of the people living in the estates, subject to the recommendations of the Western Provincial Housing Development Committee. Provisions cannot be made for direct grants in this regard .
 - (4) Provisions can be allocated for the supply of sanitation facilities to the people living in the estates, subject to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs. 100,000/-).
23. Following criteria should be followed in identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Transport.
- (1) Construction, improvement and renovation of main bus yards other than the bus station yards maintained by Sri Lanka Transport Board.
 - (2) Providing quality service to the general public through the construction of passenger shelters on both sides of the road.
 - (3) Preparation and implementation of programs to reduce accidents caused by passenger transport buses, three-wheelers, school children transport service buses and staff transport service vehicles within the province.

- (4) Implementing relevant programs to train bus drivers, conductors, school van drivers and assistants, three-wheeler drivers and office transport service drivers in order to provide a more efficient and formal passenger transport service to the community.
 - (5) Providing technical tools and implementing relevant programs to streamline and make passenger transport services efficient and to conduct regulatory activities properly.
 - (6) Educating the public and those working in the transportation sector about the dangers that may arise due to climate change and the measures that should be taken to protect themselves from them.
24. In identifying and approving proposals under the subject of cooperative development, the following criteria should be followed.
- (1) Modernizing cooperative trade enterprises (*e.g.*, sales outlets, fuel stations, rural banks, pharmacies, milk bars, communication centers, *etc.*) in a way that attracts customers.
 - (2) Planning and implementing training programs to promote the knowledge and skills of government officers of cooperative societies engaged in the cooperative sector on the subject of auditing.
 - (3) Implementing entrepreneurship development programs by involving financial-service cooperative societies (rural banks, other cooperative societies) in selected target groups to promote self-employment, small and medium-scale entrepreneurs with the aim of eliminating rural indebtedness.
 - (4) Implementing programs to register and promotion of school cooperative societies to impart subject knowledge on cooperatives to school children.
25. In identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Rural Development, the following criteria should be followed.
- (1) Construction and improvement of specifically identified rural infrastructure within a local government authority area which are not private property. This includes tasks related to development projects connected to small roads, foot bridges, small bridges, culverts, buildings of Rural Development Societies, rural market facilities, community water projects *etc.*
 - (2) In the case of developing a road owned by a local government authority at the rural level, the implementing authority shall take steps to obtain the consent of the relevant local government authority before implementing the project.
 - (3) Providing goods and equipment to the Rural Development Societies which are identified as necessary for the public tasks carried out for the welfare of the rural people. Herein, the following points should be met.
 - (i) For Rural Development Societies registered under the Western Province Rural Development Department; it has to be a Rural Development Society that has been actively maintained for more than two years on the recommendation of the Director of the Western Province Rural Development Department/relevant Divisional Secretary/Director of Rural Development or a Rural Development Officer authorized by the relevant Divisional Secretary.
 - (ii) The relevant Rural Development Society does not have the requested goods/equipment in stock sufficient to meet the needs of the registered members of the society.
 - (iii) Provision of goods/equipment once in three years subject to a maximum of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) per Rural Development Society.
 - (iv) Chairs, prefabricated shelters (mobile sheds) and other items/equipment required for rural common needs that

are required by the Rural Development Society can be provided, by taking into account the confirmation given by the Director of the Western Province Rural Development Department/relevant Divisional Secretary/Director of Rural Development or the Rural Development Officer authorized by the relevant Divisional Secretary and the recommendation of the implementing authority of the project.

- (4) To build a network necessary for community development and to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes by uniting and coordinating voluntary associations established at the rural level.
 - (5) Provision of water and electricity facilities to the sewing centers and rural development society halls of the Department of Rural Development. The following facts should be taken into consideration here.
 - (i) Provisions may be made for the provision of water and electricity facilities for government-owned and other public premises where sewing centers of the Department of Rural Development are maintained, subject to the payment of the relevant bills by those institutions.
 - (ii) Provisions should be allocated for Rural Development Society Halls after obtaining formal confirmation regarding the payment of monthly bills in the future, with the recommendations of the relevant Rural Development Officers.
 - (6) Implementation of training courses in association with Rural Women's Development Training Centers.
 - (i) Providing local/foreign exhibition facilities and market facilities for the products made by the Provincial Tailoring Instructors under the Department of Rural Development.
 - (ii) Providing necessary facilities to market the products of trainees at rural training centers.
 - (iii) Introducing modern technology and providing necessary equipment to rural training centers.
 - (7) Providing necessary training, technology, *etc.* for domestic industries.
 - (8) Implementing field training programs and special technical skill development training programmes for officers of Rural Development Societies and conducting inter provincial knowledge exchange programs.
 - (9) (i) Implementing programs to improve the nutrition of the families of Rural Development Society members.
 - (ii) Implementation of drug prevention programs, environmental programs, cultural programs, *etc.* through Rural Development Societies.
26. The following criteria should be followed when identifying and approving proposals under the subject of education.
- (1) In government schools belonging to the Provincial Council, using provincial funds,
 - (i) Construction, renovation and repairing of buildings
 - (ii) Construction, renovation and repairing of toilets
 - (iii) Modernization and repair of electrical systems
 - (iv) Construction and development of school playgrounds and children's parks
 - (v) Construction of internal roads in schools
 - (vi) Construction and repair of security gates, walls, side walls and security fences

- (vii) On the recommendation of Zonal Director of Education, provision of computers, desks, chairs, musical instruments, sports equipment, laboratory equipment and learning equipment that directly contribute to the development of schools and repair of existing equipment, and,
- (viii) Construction, renovation and repair of administrative buildings, may be carried out.
- (2) For students from needy families who are unable to purchase books and educational equipment, educational equipment such as books, pens, pencils, mathematical sets, school bags, shoes, *etc.*, may be provided to each student subject to a maximum of ten thousand rupees per year. After obtaining the recommendation of the Grama Niladhari and the Principal regarding the family's income status, the donation should be made to the relevant student through the class teacher. Also, other students in the school should not be informed about it, and these funds should not be used to provide books and equipment to students in general. (It should be ensured that the selected school child does not receive educational assistance from any other fund.)
- (3) Capacity development programs not covered by the quality development programs conducted by the Provincial Education Department may be conducted to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of students, teachers, and principals of Provincial Council schools. It should be ensured that the resource persons selected for such workshops are experts in the relevant subject.
- (4) Taking measures to provide physical resources to the Zonal and Divisional Education Offices which are directly involved in the education sector and which contribute directly to the efficient running of the school system, and conducting officer training workshops when necessary, can be done. In this regard, the relevant tasks should be carried out on the recommendations of the Provincial Director of Education with the approval of the Provincial Secretary of Education, and when obtaining resources for training workshops, it should be confirmed that those resources are experts in the relevant subject area.

Following programs can be implemented under these funds.

- (i) Special programs designed in accordance with national policies that can direct children who drop out of school to vocational education in accordance with their skills.
 - (ii) Providing the necessary equipment for the proper operation of special education and non-formal education units.
 - (iii) Preschool teacher training programs conducted by the Preschool Unit of the Western Province Education Department and training and capacity development programs required to regularize and regulate preschool education for officers of the Preschool Unit of the Western Province Education Department. (For preschool teachers who comply with the Preschool Statute)
 - (iv) If necessary, implement programs to improve the nutritional status of school students who have been confined by health authorities to be nutritionally deficient.
 - (v) Implementing programs included in the National Food Security Plan, Provincial Drug Prevention Plan and Provincial Climate Adaptation Plan.
 - (vi) Implementing programs to develop the innovative and entrepreneurial skills of school children.
27. The following criteria should be followed when identifying and approving proposals under the subject of Cultural and Artistic Activities.
- (1) Identifying and implementing project proposals that will help preserve the cultural heritage and inheritance existing in the province and pass it on to future generations.

- (2) Development activities of registered religious places located in the Western Province such as construction and repair of buildings, construction and repair of toilets under improvement of sanitation facilities, provision of water facilities, repair of water supply system, repair of electrical systems may be provided subjected to a maximum of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000/-) per place of worship with the consent of the Provincial Cultural Officer of the relevant Divisional Secretariat Division and the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary. Priority should be given to religious places that have not received any provisions previously. In this regard, in the event that provisions are made again to a religious place that has been provided with the said allocation previously, at least 05 years should have elapsed since the first allocation and the provision of allocations should be limited to a maximum of two sessions.
- (3) For the construction and renovation of buildings in registered Dhamma schools located in the Western Province, construction and renovation of toilets under the improvement of sanitary facilities, provision of water facilities, repair of water supply system, repair of electrical systems, *etc.*, a maximum of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000/-) may be provided for each Dhamma school with the consent of the Provincial Cultural Officer of the relevant Divisional Secretariat Division and on the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary. Priority should be given to Dhamma schools that have not received any allocations previously. In this regard, in the event that a Dhamma school that has been provided with allocations is allocated again, at least 05 years should have elapsed since the first allocation and the provision of allocations should be limited to a maximum of two sessions.
- (4) Registered Dhamma schools operating in the Western Province may be provided with essential furniture and equipment to maintain Dhamma school activities, and the maximum amount of provision that can be allocated for one Dhamma school is Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) on the approval of the Provincial Cultural Officer of the relevant Divisional Secretariat Division and the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary. In this regard, in the event that a Dhamma school that has been provided with furniture and equipment is allocated again, a minimum period of 05 years should have elapsed since the first allocation and the provision of allocations should be limited to a maximum of two sessions.
- (5) A maximum of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) may be allocated for a regional level program for the conservation and promotion of traditional dances and other art forms, and a maximum of five Rupees Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000) may be allocated for a provincial level program. Furthermore, a maximum of eight hundred thousand rupees (Rs. 800,000) may be allocated for provincial programs for the celebration of national and religious festivals. In any special case, if these maximum limits are exceeded, a formal cost estimate for that program should be submitted to the Planning Committee and prior approval should be obtained.
- (6) Conservation activities at places of worship containing archaeological value shall be carried out subject to a maximum of Rupees One Million. These conservation activities should be carried out in accordance with the approval and recommendations of the Department of Archaeology.
- (7) Provisions may be made for the allocation of musical instruments and equipment (which must be equipment directly used for artistic activities) required by government-registered art institutions, subject to a beneficiary contribution of not less than 50% and up to a maximum of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) upon the approval of the Provincial Cultural Officer and the recommendation of the relevant Divisional Secretary.
- (8) Project proposals that assist in the development of the cultural centers owned by the Provincial Council, "Kala ketha" and "Saundaryaya Nikethana", can be implemented with the approval of the Secretary to the Ministry.
- (9) Provisions may be made for provincial-level projects implemented with the aim of recognizing individuals who have demonstrated exceptional abilities in various cultural and artistic fields, and prior approval of the Planning Committee must be obtained if cash prizes are awarded.
- (10) Projects can be implemented with a maximum allocation of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) at the regional level and a maximum allocation of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand (Rs. 500,000/-) for provincial level programs to implement programs that enhance the enjoyment and artistic abilities of the community. In cases where

payments need to be paid to the resource persons, prior approval of the Planning Committee must be obtained.

- 28 The following criteria should be followed when identifying project proposals under the Sports subject. Project proposals should also be identified to cover the following areas:
- (1) Development of infrastructure facilities related to the playgrounds, sports centers and Sri Bodhi Sports Complex belonging to the Provincial Council, excluding playgrounds belonging to provincial schools and local government authorities.
 - (2) To develop the skills of stakeholders involved in sports in the Western Province
 - (i) Conducting sports education programs.
 - (ii) Establishing sports training pools and conducting training programs for sports where the need is identified.
 - (iii) Conducting sports competitions in various events at the provincial , district, and divisional secretariat and Grama Niladhari division levels.
 - (3) Conducting evaluation programs at the provincial level to evaluate sportsmen and sportswomen who have demonstrated exceptional abilities in the field of sports at the international, national and-provincial levels, as well as sports officials ,and coaches who have contributed to it.
 - (4) On the recommendations of the Provincial Sports Director and a Sports Officer authorized by the Secretary of the Provincial Ministry in charge of the subject;
 - (i) Promotion of sports associations/ sports clubs, which present sportsmen/sportswomen to Divisional level competitions at regional level and/or engage in sportsmen's/ sportswomen's training affairs and which are at least active for 3 years having registered in the Provincial council and have had their registration updated, and, provision of sports equipment to a non-private gymnasium, subject to a maximum of Rupees Two Hundred Thousand (Rs. 200,000/-) once every two years.
 - (ii) Providing sports equipment and clothing to sportsmen/sportswomen representing the Western Province in sports competitions at the district or provincial level and national sports up to a maximum of Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs. 100,000/-) per person once every two years, based on the recommendation of the Provincial Sports Director and based on specific criteria.
 - (iii) Together with private sector contributions, providing nutritional assistance, with a maximum of Rupees Ten Thousand (Rs. 10,000/-) per month for a period of at least one year, to meet the nutritional needs of needy sportsmen/sportswomen representing the province in national level sports competitions.
 - (iv) Providing financial assistance up to a maximum of one hundred thousand rupees (Rs. 100,000) to encourage provincial athletes who represent Sri Lanka and achieve international level achievements.
 - (5) When school sportsmen/sportswomen who represented the Western Province in the National Sports Festival and achieved national level achievements, travel abroad for sports competitions, a specific amount of donation not exceeding Rupees Five Hundred Thousand will be provided to the relevant sportsmen/sportswomen for the relevant trip, as determined by a committee consisting of the Secretary to the Ministry, Chief Accountant, Sports Director, Assistant Sports Director (Technology) on the recommendation of the relevant Sports Officer and District Sports Officer.(This donation should be provided only if no other institution or party contributes)
 - (6) Implementing projects necessary to improve the physical and mntal health of people in the provipce

- (7) Properly organizing stakeholders in the sports sector at the regional, district and provincial levels and conducting relevant programs.
29. The following criteria should be followed when identifying and approving proposals under the Youth Affairs theme.
- (1) Providing a maximum course fee of Rupees Fifty Thousand (Rs. 50,000/-) to young people between the ages of 16 and 35 years for NVQ level vocational training courses for the development of the professional skills of the youth community and vocational training targeting the local and foreign job markets as per the agreement of the Skills Development Officer in charge of vocational training at the Divisional Secretariat where the beneficiary resides in and the recommendation of the Divisional Secretary. This payment should be paid to the relevant vocational training institution only after entering into a contract with the beneficiary. -
 - (2) Implementing projects related to leadership training, attitude and personality development programs, drug prevention programs and familiarization with new technology for the youth community in the province.
 - (3) Implementing relevant projects to direct students of the province who leave school without obtaining higher educational qualifications to receive formal vocational education.
30. With effect from the date of enforcement of this Code of Rules, the Code of Rules relating to the Preparation and Implementation of Development Plans in relation to the Western Provincial Council Fund, as amended from time to time, published in the *Extraordinary Gazette* of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka No. 2190/25 dated 25th August 2020, and the amendments thereto, are hereby repealed.
31. Under these rules, if there is any inconsistency between the Sinhala, English and Tamil texts, then the Sinhala text shall prevail.

EOG 02-0114