

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

B/293 The Honourable Third Member for Rodrigues (**Mr Francois**)

To ask the Honourable Attorney General:

Whether, in regard to the posting of a magistrate, in Rodrigues, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Chief Justice, information as to (a) the conditions attached to the posting and (b) if consideration will be given for the (i) posting of a second magistrate and (ii) creation of a second court room?

REPLY

Mr. Speaker, Sir,

I am informed by the Honourable Acting Master and Registrar of the Supreme Court that:

In regard to part (a), the conditions attached to the posting of a magistrate in Rodrigues, according to existing regulations, are as follows-

Increment allowance

An increment allowance at the rate of 50 % of the salary is given instead of a disturbance allowance.

Air Tickets

A District Magistrate domiciled in Mauritius and posted in Rodrigues for a minimum tour of service for a continuous period of at least 6 months is entitled to the following –

- (i) One free air tickets to and from Rodrigues for the magistrate, his spouse and up to three children under the age of 21;
- (ii) two return tickets from Rodrigues for medical treatment in Mauritius in respect of himself or any member of his family, provided a Government Medical Officer certifies that such medical treatment is not available in Rodrigues and cannot safely be postponed until the end of his tour of service , and that the patient needs to be accompanied.

Quarters

Rent free furnished quarters are provided.

Transport

- (i) The Magistrate is entitled to free transport by sea of his personal effects.
- (ii) A vehicle is provided for his local transport on the island.

Vacation leave

The magistrate is entitled to-

- (i) 50% more vacation leave than as per his eligibility in respect of that period;
- (ii) the additional leave granted under paragraph (i) above being accumulated over and above the normal entitlement.

However, save in exceptional circumstances, the magistrate is not allowed to enjoy vacation leave during his tour of service.

In regard to part (b)(i) and (ii) of the Question, I am informed that it is not proposed to have a second magistrate posted in Rodrigues, nor a second court room for the time being.