



Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms

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10 May, 2007

From: Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service

To: Supervising Officers i/c of Ministries/Departments

Departmental Whitley Council

The attention of Supervising Officers has, on several occasions, been drawn on the need to have regular meetings of the Departmental Whitley Council with staff associations to thrash out departmental issues in the interest of efficiency and sound staff relations.

2. However, it has been reported to me that in several Ministries/Departments the Departmental Whitley Council, which is an appropriate forum for consultations and negotiations, is not being made to function as expected. The absence of dialogue between management and staff associations is thus causing unnecessary strained industrial relations.

3. I am therefore reiterating my request to you to abide by the provisions of the Whitley Councils Regulations and to hold regular consultation/negotiation meetings with staff associations concerned to address departmental issues and to sort out problems and grievances at your level in order to promote good and harmonious industrial relations in your Ministry/Department. I am also requesting you to arrange, as far as possible, to chair the meetings and forward the notes of meetings to the Ministry of Civil Service Affairs & Administrative Reforms.

4. I rely on your understanding and cooperation.

(S. C. Seeballuck)
Secretary to Cabinet and
Head of the Civil Service