

Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms

11 October 2010

Ministry Of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms Circular Letter No 44 of 2010 E/251/4/01

From: Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms

To: Supervising Officers, in charge of Ministries/Departments

Safeguard of Pension Rights during Leave Without Salary

Paragraph 19.61 of the PRB Report 2008 recommends that -

"Officers who have been granted leave without pay after 1993 and up to 30 June 2008 should continue to be given the option to contribute 25% of their salary to Government in order to have such period of leave reckoned for pension purposes. Thereafter, with effect from 1 July 2008, the rate of contribution would be 18%."

Regulation 16 of the Pensions Regulations 1951 has been amended by the Pensions (Amendment) Regulations 2010 (Government Notice No. 157 of 2010) to give effect to the above recommendation.

Accordingly, henceforth, an officer proceeding on approved leave without salary should, if he wishes to have such period of leave reckoned as pensionable service, contribute 18% of the salary he would have earned provided that:-

- (a) where leave is granted for employment purposes, the contribution is made within 12 months of leave being granted;
- where leave is granted for study purposes, the contribution is made within 12 months of his resumption of duty; and
- (c) where leave is granted for any other purpose, the contribution is made within 6 months of his resumption of duty.

However, where an officer was on approved leave without salary after 1 July 1993 and before 31 July 2010, the payment of the contribution, if not already made, should be made within 12 months as from 31 July 2010 or the date of resumption of duty, whichever is the later.

All applications for leave without salary, wherein approval is conveyed by this Ministry, will be dealt with in accordance with the above provisions, which will allow an officer to safeguard his pension rights.

I should be grateful if the contents of this Circular could be brought to the attention of all officers concerned

Seebaluck Senior Chief Executive

Copy to:

Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service Accountant General Secretary, Public Service Commission