

2.5 Judicial Services

- 2.5.1 The Judicial Services is responsible for the administration of justice in Rodrigues. The Court of Rodrigues is the only Court in the island and unlike other Courts in Mauritius, it sits as a Court of first instance and all cases before the subordinate Court.
- 2.5.2 At the level of the Court, justice is administered by a full-time Magistrate and a visiting Judge of the Supreme Court. It is also manned by a Chief Court Officer/Court Manager, who is on a tour of service from Mauritius, officers of the Court Officer Cadre, Court Ushers and other ancillary staff.
- 2.5.3 For this Report no submission has been made by Management. Whereas, for the grade of Court Usher, Union represented, among others, that the officers be compensated for serving judicial and extra judicial processes beyond normal working hours and be paid a monthly commuted travelling allowance for official travelling. Other requests pertain to the creation of a grade of Senior Court Usher; and the payment of an allowance to officers of the Court Officer Cadre and to the Court Ushers, for working extra hours for the grant of release on bail to persons arrested during Weekends and Public Holidays.
- 2.5.4 The proposals have been examined and discussed with parties concerned during the consultative meetings. Those considered relevant have been entertained. We are, therefore, providing to the Court Ushers, payment of a monthly commuted travelling allowance and a monthly allowance for serving court papers beyond office hours; and retaining payment of existing allowances whilst revising their quanta. As regards request for payment of an allowance to officers performing additional/higher duties, same should be submitted to Management to be dealt with administratively.

Diploma in Legal Studies and Court Administration

- 2.5.5 In line with what obtains for officers of the Court Officer Cadre at the Judiciary, provision was made in the 2021 Report for their counterparts at the RRA to be sponsored to follow a Diploma course in Legal Studies and Court Administration. We are retaining this provision, the moreso same has not been implemented as at date.

Recommendation 1

- 2.5.6 We recommend that officers of the Court Officer Cadre should be sponsored, on a seniority basis, to follow a Diploma course in Legal Studies and Court Administration or an equivalent Diploma course in the relevant field.**

Monthly Commuted Travelling Allowance to the Court Usher

- 2.5.7 Union requested for the payment of a monthly commuted travelling allowance to the Court Ushers, who in the course of their duties, perform extensive official travelling by their private car.
- 2.5.8 Based on additional information obtained concerning the average mileage covered per month as official travelling by the Court Ushers, we are providing for the payment of a monthly commuted travelling allowance to the incumbents.

Recommendation 2

- 2.5.9 We recommend that the Court Ushers at the RRA should be paid a monthly commuted travelling allowance of Rs 5000 for using their private car for official travelling.**

Compensation for putting in extra hours on a daily basis

- 2.5.10 The Union made a case for the Court Ushers to be additionally compensated for the extra hours put in by the officers in connection with the serving of court papers and execution of court orders beyond normal working hours, including weekends and public holidays. After closely examining the request, we are recommending accordingly.

Recommendation 3

- 2.5.11 We recommend that the Court Ushers at the RRA who are required to put in extra hours in connection with the serving of Court papers beyond normal working hours including Weekends and Public Holidays should be paid a monthly allowance of Rs 1000.**

Black Jacket Allowance

- 2.5.12 A yearly Black Jacket Allowance is payable to the Court Ushers and officers of the Court Officer Cadre who are required to appear before Court in black jacket with tie. We are reiterating this provision while revising the quantum of the allowance.

Recommendation 4

- 2.5.13 We recommend that the Court Ushers and officers of the Court Officer Cadre who are required to appear in black jacket with tie, should continue to be paid a black jacket allowance at a revised rate of Rs 5640 yearly.**

Witness Attendance Allowance

- 2.5.14 Public Officers who attend Court as witnesses on behalf of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and professionals who attend Court as expert witnesses, are paid an Attendance Allowance. We are maintaining this provision.

Recommendation 5

2.5.15 We recommend that:

- (i) public officers who attend Court as witness on behalf of the RRA should be paid an Attendance Allowance of Rs 120; and
- (ii) professionals such as Architect, Attorney-at-Law, Engineer, among others, who attend Court as expert witnesses be paid an Attendance Allowance of Rs 240.

SALARY SCHEDULE

Salary Code	Salary Scale and Grade
JUDICIAL SERVICES	
12 064 084	Rs 41080 x 970 - 46900 x 1050 - 49000 x 1100 - 54500 x 1450 - 58850 x 1750 - 62350 x 1850 - 66050 Principal Court Officer
12 055 079	Rs 34160 x 560 - 35840 x 725 - 37290 x 925 - 39140 x 970 - 46900 x 1050 - 49000 x 1100 - 54500 x 1450 - 57400 Senior Court Officer
12 041 075	Rs 28545 x 320 - 28865 x 350 - 30965 x 400 - 31765 x 425 - 33040 x 560 - 35840 x 725 - 37290 x 925 - 39140 x 970 - 46900 x 1050 - 49000 x 1100 - 52300 Court Officer Court Usher

