

**CABINET DECISIONS – 18 DECEMBER 2014**

1. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction of the Additional Remuneration (2015) Bill in the National Assembly. The Bill provides for the payment of an additional remuneration to employees of the private sector with effect from 01 January 2015 as follows –

- (a) Rs600 to full-time employees, irrespective of the basic monthly salary drawn; and
- (b) 6 per cent to part-time employees drawing basic salary up to Rs10,000 monthly, and Rs600 to those drawing above Rs10,000 monthly.

Cabinet has also taken note that the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training would, immediately, proceed with amendments to existing Remuneration Orders with a view to revising the minimum wages.

----

2. In line with the pledge made, Cabinet has agreed to –

- (a) increase, with immediate effect, the Basic Retirement Pension to Rs5,000 monthly for those between 60-89 years, Rs15,000 monthly for those between 90-99 years, and Rs20,000 monthly for centenarians;
- (b) increase the Basic Widow's Pension and Basic Invalidation Pension to Rs5,000 monthly;
- (c) revise upward other basic pensions and allowances; and
- (d) adjust the end-of-year bonus for December 2014 accordingly.

The total number of beneficiaries is estimated at 240,000.

Cabinet has also taken note that the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions has made appropriate arrangements for the payment of the additional amount to all beneficiaries before the end of December 2014.

----

3. Cabinet has agreed to the validity of the old National Identity Card being extended to 31 March 2015. As regards the maintenance of biometric data, a decision would be taken following the judgment on the case before Court. A campaign would be launched to sensitize the public on the issue.

----

4. Cabinet has taken note that a number of cases of gastroenteritis has been registered in Port Louis. The Ministry of Health and Quality of Life has taken appropriate measures to contain the disease.

The public is, therefore, advised to boil water before drinking, and wash hands at regular intervals. In view of the recent heavy rainfalls, appropriate measures should be taken to prevent stagnation of water and the proliferation of mosquito borne diseases.

----

5. Cabinet has taken note that the Ministry of Arts and Culture would organize a number of activities to celebrate Christmas at national level, namely performance by children of the *Centre de Lecture Publique et d'Animation* at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Phoenix; the final of the Christmas Carols Competition organized by the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture at the Caudan Waterfront, and a cultural programme at the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre, Phoenix.

----

6. Cabinet has taken note that the National Empowerment Foundation would distribute school materials to needy students as from next week. Distribution would start in the west of the country.

-----