

14.05.2019

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

B/331

The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Baloomoody**)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs, External Communications and National Development Unit, Minister of Finance and Economic Development –

Whether, in regard to the post of General Manager, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd., information as to the name of the incumbent thereof, if any, and, if so, indicate the (a) terms and conditions of appointment thereof and (b) date of advertisement of the said vacancy, indicating if the incumbent applied therefor?

REPLY

Madam Speaker,

I wish to inform the House that there is no post of General Manager at Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd. The Company is headed by a Managing Director.

I am informed by the Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd that the Board of Directors has appointed Mr R. P. Nowbuth, Managing Director, on contract for a period of one year effective as from 02 May 2019.

In regard to part (a) of the Question, the Managing Director is entitled to a monthly salary of Rs 185,000.

The other terms and conditions of his appointment are:

- (i) The use of an official car not exceeding 2000cc and refueled by Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd up to Rs 20,000 a month;
- (ii) 15 working days' sick leave for every year of contract;
- (iii) 20 days annual/casual/vacation leave for every year of contract; and

- (iv) An end of contract gratuity payable at the rate of 2 months' salary on completion of 12 months' satisfactory service.

In regard to part (b) of the question, the post of Managing Director was advertised locally and internationally on 05 October 2018 and the closing date for submission of the application was 16 November 2018. 15 applications were received. None of the candidates met all the laid down requirements for the post. The Board of Directors, therefore, decided not to make any appointment as provided in the advertisement and to cancel the exercise.

As the House is aware, with the upgrading of the port infrastructure and acquisition of new cranes, the port is now servicing supersized vessels and has reached another next level of development. We are therefore committed to improve port productivity coupled with better customer service to enhance port visibility and transform Port Louis into a major transshipment hub. In view of these challenges, the Board felt that it was imperative to provide for a stronger managerial leadership. Another selection exercise would have taken at least 6 months.

Madam Speaker,

The Board, taking into consideration that Mr R.P. Nowbuth has wide experience in Public Administration after having served at the highest levels of hierarchy in the Public Sector, namely, as Senior Chief Executive and head of several ministries including the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training and also as Chairperson of public enterprises in the financial, health, agriculture and industrial sectors amongst others, decided to appoint him as Managing Director. The same

procedure was also followed for the appointment of the previous Managing Director.