

PSC CIRCULAR

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PSC CIRCULAR No. 08/2008

To: Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments

File: 29/632/1-5

Subject: CLARIFICATION ON THE RELEASE OF
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES DUE TO ADVERSE
WEATHER CONDITIONS

Date: 22/08/2008

1.0 Introduction

Due to adverse weather conditions which later developed into what is known as Cyclone Gene, PSC Circular No. 4/2008 was issued to provide the authority for Government employees to be released from work on Monday - 28th January 2008 on grounds of their safety.

The Circular was followed by a broadcast in the media on Tuesday - 29th January 2008 by the undersigned for Government employees to remain at home as the Nation experienced the destructive force of Cyclone Gene.

With many parts of Fiji adversely affected, substantial numbers of Government employees were unable to report to work even after the weather had cleared. There have been numerous submissions made on the matter and clarifications sought in terms of the length of time employees could stay home and/or exempted for absences immediately before Monday 28th January and on Tuesday 29th January 2008.

2.0 Clarifications

Government employees should not be disadvantaged in terms of their pay for the period during and after Cyclone Gene. Approval for the release of Government employees from work has already been granted for the period Monday – 28th January 2008 and Tuesday – 29th January 2008.

Consideration shall be granted to extending the time for those who could not genuinely report to work to include one day before 28th January 2008 and one day after 29th January 2009 i.e. duty leave from 27th January 2008 to 30th January 2008 due to difficulties encountered as a result of Cyclone Gene.

Addressees are advised to exercise discretionary powers to deal with individual cases on the basis of its merits. The Government employees ought to submit justification(s) for their absences since Sunday 27th January to Wednesday 30th January 2008 and it would be subject to scrutiny and approval of the Addressees.

Addressees are requested to ensure that this Circular is given the widest possible circulation and should further information and/or clarification be required, please contact Mr Asraf Ali Maqbool of the Employee Relations Division of the Public Service Commission on telephone no. 3314588 ext 218.



[Taina Tagicakibau]
Permanent Secretary for Public Service