

Meeting No. 4 of 1971.

Cabinet Meeting held at the Palace, Valletta on Thursday, 21st January, 1971, at 10.30 a. m.

Present: The Acting Prime Minister, the Acting Minister of Commonwealth and Foreign Affairs and Minister of Finance, Customs and Port.
The Minister of Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
The Minister of Trade, Industry and Agriculture
The Minister of Health.
The Minister of Education, Culture and Tourism
The Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare.

Absent: The Minister of Public Building and Works.
(Indisposed)

OPM. 28/71

Composition of the Gas Board.

Ministers agreed to the amendment to the Gas Act, 1952, as recommended in Memorandum No. 1690 providing for the General Manager of the Gas Board to be an *ex officio* member of the Board and for a casting vote to the Chairman of the Board.

OPM. 733/56. Schoolchildren's passes.

Ministers agreed that the Minister of Education, Culture and Tourism should explore the possibility of changing the school timetable in order to avoid a change in the Traffic Regulations covering the time within which school children's passes are valid.

OPM. 927/70 Public Examinations:

Ministers agreed to defer consideration on the resumption of the holding of public examinations until they had time to study the report of the Committee of Inquiry appointed to go into the leakage of an examination paper and the reactions of the Board of Examiners on the findings and recommendations outlined in the report.

A copy of the Report and of the reactions of the Board of Examiners were given to each Minister.

OPM. 414/57 II Air Fares.

Ministers considered the new fares approved by the International Air Transport Association in respect of routes to and from Malta, the United Kingdom, Italy and Libya, and agreed that the following action should be taken: -

- (i) Malta Airlines be informed that the Government does not approve any of the proposed fares;
- (ii) the British High Commissioner be given notice of the Government's dissatisfaction with the proposed tariff for the Malta - United Kingdom routes.

Confirmation of Written Opinion

The files mentioned below were circulated to Ministers whose written opinion was as follows:

Land 50/69 II. H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of five plots of land at Zebbiegh, limits of Mgarr, Malta, required for widening the Mgarr, Zebbiegh Road. (Memorandum No. 1692)

Land 670/70. H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of four plots of land at St. Julians required for road widening. (Memorandum No. 1693)

Land 50/69 I. H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of fourteen plots of land at Mgarr, Malta, required for road widening. (Memorandum No. 1694)

Land 50/69 III H.E. the Governor-General was advised to sign Declaration for the acquisition of fifteen plots of land at Zebbiegh, limits of Mgarr, Malta, and at Naxxar required for widening of the Mgarr - Zebbiegh Road. (Memorandum No. 1695)