

Memorandum to Cabinet  
by the  
Hon. Minister of Public Building and Works

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Timekeepers on Cost Account duties at the  
Public Works Department

A number of Timekeepers in the Public Works Department have been doing the duties of Assistant Recorders of Work at the Marsa Garage for Costing purposes. Some of these Timekeepers have been performing these duties for the last five years.

The Workers and Family Union have taken up the case of these Timekeepers, contending inter alia, that these employees were graded under Group 3 of the Standardization of Wages Scheme, alongside Barbers-bathers in hospitals, Mates and Porters among others. The Union claims that the duties of the latter could not, in any way, compare with the responsibilities of Recorder of Work in the Cost Accounts Section.

The United Nations Expert on costings, Mr. E.H. Cook, has stated in writing that these Cost Timekeepers were doing more than ordinary Timekeeping but they were mostly handling Cost duties of a routine nature.

The Director of Public Works wrote to the Principal Assistant Secretary (Establishments) soliciting early upgrading of these employees from Group 3 to Group 4. However, the Establishment Division is of the opinion that the status of the Timekeeper should be examined when Mr. Cook's recommendations are considered by Government as a whole.

The Workers and Family Union is pressing this Ministry for the early upgrading of the Timekeepers and may even take industrial action.

Hon. Ministers are requested to decide whether to accept the Union claim for the immediate upgrading of the Timekeepers or to wait until Mr. Cook's recommendations are implemented.

15th September, 1967.