

Memorandum to Cabinet by the Honourable Minister of Labour,
Employment and Welfare

Closing of Petrol Stations on Sundays and Holidays of Obligation

A delegation from the General Retailers' and Traders' Union at a meeting with the Honourable Minister of Labour, Employment and Welfare, proposed that petrol stations close at 8 p.m. on working days and at 11 a.m. on Sundays and holidays of obligation. The reasons to substantiate their proposal were:-

- (a) Owners and employees can have time for rest and leisure;
- (b) to have shorter hours for employees in line with present day trends.

The delegation's attention was drawn to the fact that it would still be essential to have some petrol stations open for emergency on the afternoon of Sundays and holidays of obligation. Moreover, it might not be in the public interest to impose a total closing of petrol stations as suggested by the Union.

After lengthy discussions the delegation agreed to accept the following changes:-

- (a) Petrol stations will open not before 5 a.m. and up to 8.30 p.m. on working days, and up to noon on Sundays and holidays of obligation;
- (b) one petrol station in every electoral district will be open on a roster system from 2 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. on Sundays and holidays of obligation".

Honourable Ministers may wish to consider the advisability of implementing this proposal.

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