



Deputy Governor
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CIRCULAR DATED 8th January 2010

**TO: PERMANENT SECRETARIES
DEPARTMENT HEADS
ALL PUBLIC SERVANTS**

Maintaining Political Impartiality During Election Period

As you are no doubt aware General Elections have been set for 15th February 2010. Public Officers are being reminded of their duty to be politically impartial. This is particularly important during an election period and public officers are therefore asked to acquaint/re-acquaint themselves with the provisions of General orders 3.25 and 3.26 which are set out below.

**“ENGAGEMENT OF PUBLIC OFFICERS IN
POLITICAL ACTIVITIES AND TRADE UNION AFFAIRS**

3.25 In order to ensure the impartiality and political integrity of the Public Service, the following instructions have been issued in regard to the engagement in political activities of persons employed in the Government and also the position of such persons in relation to trade unions in places where the objects of a trade union are wholly or in part political.

3.26 Officers may be members of political parties and may subscribe to the funds of those parties. They may attend private political meetings of the parties and may speak and vote at such meetings. They may not, however, hold office in political parties nor may they speak or vote at public meetings. They may, if eligible, record their votes at an election to the House of Assembly; it is indeed desirable that as good citizens they should do so. But they may not, by canvassing or any other means, attempt publicly to further the activities or aspirations of a political party or the return of a political party to the House of Assembly. They may not issue an address to the electors, nor in any way publicly announce themselves as candidates or prospective candidates for election unless they have first resigned from their official appointments.”

I anticipate your adherence to the above provisions.

Stanley E. Reid
Deputy Governor