

PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTRY

CIRCULAR NO. 12/2001

REFERENCE NO. PS: 15/0

FROM: Permanent Secretary,
& Head of the Public Service
Ministry.

TO: All Permanent Secretaries,
Heads of Departments and
Regional Executive Officers.

SUBJECT:

Telephone Usage

DATE: 2001-08-17

It has been brought to our attention that several ministries and departments are experiencing an upsurge in the cost of telephone calls since the introduction of the “caller party pays” System in the cellular service. When the budget was crafted this cost was not taken into account.

You may therefore be advised to curtail the use of employees making calls to cellular numbers on government telephones. If it is possible the GT&T should be contacted to block all telephones, with the expectation of the phones operated by Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments, from making calls to cellular numbers. Only if urgent cases where the calls are to top Government functionaries for the purpose of official business will payment be authorized.

Public Officials who are in receipt of telephone facilities paid for in their homes are also to monitor their use with respect to making calls to cellular numbers.

You will also agree that the Government allocation of cellular phones was intended as an emergency mechanism for Public Officials to be easily contacted. As a consequence, it would be advisable for officials to exercise care and good judgment whenever the use of cellular phones becomes necessary.

Your cooperation in this matter is anticipated.

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N.K. Gopaul
For Permanent Secretary
Public Service Ministry.