

C/203/2022

Complaints from Students of Polytechnics Mauritius of Pamplemousses against an Officer in the Nursing cadre

On 13th September 2022, this Office received a complaint from students of Polytechnics Mauritius Pamplemousses (PML) regarding malpractices and allegations of corruption on the part of one Officer of the Nursing cadre who visited, without any cause and interfered in the PML and the inaction of the management in spite of several complaints. Taking into consideration the serious nature of allegations, the views of the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Science and Technology were sought.

The Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Science and Technology apprised that the Officer in question was not an employee or Lecturer of the PML. Therefore, the Officer does not have any involvement nor intervention in any activity performed at the PML including the Pamplemousses Campus. The PML also reported that no complaint was received from the students, contrary to what was averred in the letter of complaint.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness reported on its part that several anonymous letters from the students of PML targeting its staff have been received and an internal enquiry was carried out on 25 July 2022 where it was found that the allegations made against the Officers was completely erroneous, malicious and only aimed at tarnishing their professional image. It was therefore concluded that these anonymous letters should be set aside.

However, the concerned Officer was informed to seek authorization of the Ministry of Health and Wellness prior to acting in any capacity, at any training institution and to discontinue his performance in such capacity in the event he was already doing so.

Moreover, following a referral from the ICAC, the latter was informed of the outcome of the Internal enquiry conducted at the level of the Ministry. Nonetheless, in view of the new complaint received, the Ministry proposed to refer the matter to the ICAC for investigation.

Being given the alleged corruption, this Office is satisfied with the action taken by the Ministry of Health and Wellness.