

C/133/2023

Concerns Regarding Delayed Diploma Course for Trainee Medical Imaging Technologists

On 29th May 2023, this Office received a complaint from Trainee Medical Imaging Technologists enlisted by the Ministry of Health and Wellness. These trainees, who joined since June 2021, were required to undergo a Diploma Course to be appointed as Medical Imaging Technologists. Despite entering a bond agreement of Rs 540,000, the course did not commence in good time and thus deprived them of potential benefits and delayed their appointment.

The trainees were informed that the Diploma course might start by June 2023, but there was a possibility that it would be conducted after office hours (16:00 to 18:00) due to the unavailability of resource persons during regular working hours. This situation caused frustration among the trainees, who felt it was both unfair and discriminatory. Currently, they were receiving practical training during office hours and have complained that the oral and technical training should follow the same schedule to avoid further delays and penalties. They have requested that the course be conducted during office hours, as was the case with previous batches, to ensure fair treatment.

The matter was taken up with the Ministry of Health and Wellness which reported as follows:

(a) In recent years, several batches of Trainee Medical Imaging Technologists have been enlisted as follows:

Year	No. of Trainees Enlisted
2021	28
2022	22
2023	5
2024	7

(b) In response to these concerns, the University of Mauritius (UOM) has assured us that lectures could be scheduled during both regular working hours and after, depending on the availability of resource persons. This flexibility aimed to minimize disruption to ongoing services. Furthermore, a blended learning approach would be adopted, incorporating both online and face-to-face sessions, reducing the need for students to travel to campus for all

lectures. Certain practical sessions are expected to take place in hospitals, most likely between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

(c) Arrangements have been made with the UOM to conduct a two-year Diploma course in Medical Imaging Technology for 30 participants from Mauritius and 4 participants from Rodrigues. While the course was originally scheduled to begin in November 2022, it was delayed due to a lengthy clearance and accreditation process. The course eventually started in January 2024.

(d) Currently, all Trainee Medical Imaging Technologists enlisted in 2021, along with the two most senior trainees from the 2022 batch, have begun the course. The next group of trainees would begin their course in January 2025.