58. The Commission continues to receive complaints not related to human rights against Ministries, Government Departments and Local authorities. Many complainants expressed their frustration on not being recruited or promoted. Obviously they had difficulty in accepting or understanding that their personal rights do not form part of the human rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Where appropriate those complaints which related to maladministration were referred to the Ombudsman.

59. A girl who was still a minor was refused access to her class by her School Principal and denied the right to pay fees to participate in the School Certificate examinations because she was pregnant. The authorities thought her presence would constitute a bad precedent. Fortunately, the Ministry of Education intervened and the matter was resolved satisfactorily.

60. One complainant went to the extent of complaining that an increase in parking dues in Port Louis would restrict his freedom of movement. The Commission declined to intervene.
61. Another person contended that the creation of a Regional Assembly in Rodrigues with powers of self-government was discriminatory towards the inhabitants of the island of Mauritius, especially since the Municipal authorities and District Councils in Mauritius have little autonomous power. However, the Constitution of Mauritius had been amended in 2001 (Act 32 of 2001) to provide for the creation of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly. There was thus no infringement of the provisions of the Constitution.

62. The father of an eight year old boy complained that his son had been the victim of racial discrimination in a music school. According to him, although his son had done better than his classmates for the past three years, the latter were promoted whereas he was left out. The Ministry of Education ordered that a fresh examination should be conducted. Thus no further enquiry was necessary.

63. One complaint related to deprivation of property. The complainant contended that the District Council of the North had erected barriers and tarred a road on his land. On examination the NHRC concluded that the District Council was not responsible, but that another authority could be the culprit. The complainant was advised to raise the matter with the Ombudsman.
64. It was brought to the attention of the NHRC that the drivers of vehicles fitted with crash bars were driving dangerously on the road, oblivious of the security of other drivers and pedestrians. In some cases accidents involving such vehicles proved fatal to the victims. The Commission drew the attention of the authorities to the fact that the State had the duty to preserve life and had to take steps to ensure the security of the citizens. The Road Traffic Authorities and the Police were of the same view. The Road Traffic Regulations were consequently amended to provide for the banning of crash bars.

65. The Commission has expressed concern on the fact that trials sometimes take too long. A foreigner employed in Mauritius complained that he had had to wait for so long for his trial in a case of money laundering that he no longer had the means to sustain himself. His request to be allowed to proceed to his home country to visit his sick father was turned down by the authorities as it was feared that he would abscond. The Commission requested the DPP to look into the matter. The trial is now under way.

66. Another complainant against whom there was an objection to departure because of a pending trial protested because the Court file was lost for more than six months and he did not know whether he would still stand trial. The matter was referred to the Master and Registrar of the Supreme Court.
67. In one case a person protested that he could not erect an additional floor on the ground floor of his property because of a Central Electricity Board wayleave. He considered this to be a deprivation of property. The enquiry revealed that the wayleave existed even before complainant acquired the property. Nevertheless, the CEB was asked to move the wayleave closer to the road as it caused inconvenience.

68. A person convicted for dealing in drugs lodged a complaint to the effect that his bank account had been frozen under the provisions of the Dangerous Drugs Act because it was suspected that all the money deposited therein was the proceeds of drug trafficking. Yet, he could prove that his pension money from the Bulk Sugar Terminal was deposited in his account while he was in prison. He wished to use the money to pay a fine so that he could be released from prison on an earlier date. The matter was referred to the DPP to consider the possibility of a variation of the freezing order.

69. A number of complaints were received where people were dissatisfied with Court judgments or were unhappy at the long delay before their case is lodged before the trial court. In the former case the NHRC cannot intervene. In the latter case, the complaints were sent to the DPP for any action which might be deemed fit. [See Section 7 of paragraph 40 and paragraph 41].