

To base jetty rentals on a square metre basis is neither logical nor fair.

The owner of land having a shallow waterfront, is already disadvantaged by the high capital and maintenance costs of constructing and holding a long jetty, and should not be further penalised by charging a high rent. There are cases where land owners in the same street pay jetty rentals which differ from each other a factor of 3 or more.

To vary the rate per square metre as I understand is now proposed would be even more discriminatory.

This proposal, if it exists, would assume that holders of land having a high VG also have a high income and can therefore be expected to pay more per square metre than a holder of land with a low VG. This would be an entirely erroneous assumption and would bring a further level of injustice to the process of determining rentals.

I SUBMIT THAT :-

The government should, instead, consider what it is that it is providing to the land owner. The answer surely is that the government is granting access to a sufficient depth of water, at low tide, to float a modest boat, say a small power boat or a dinghy used for fishing or as a yacht tender. It would therefore be logical to charge all owners of waterfront land where, either fortuitously, by way of a natural river bank (eg) or by virtue of his having constructed a jetty, ramp, landing or whatever, the same amount each year for the privilege of having access to a usable depth of water (say 500 to 750 mm).

This would put all owners of waterfront land on the same footing, with no-one disadvantaged relative to someone else.