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# Fuel Allocation and Responsability Allowance

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## 15.1 Fuel Allocation And Responsibility Allowance

On appointment as a sub-metropolitan District Director, I became entitled to weekly fuel allocation and monthly responsibility allowance. The amount of money involved was attractive enough to a typical civil servant like me. I continued to enjoy these allowances till I had to leave the office to attend a six-month residential course. It was at this point that a problem reared its head.

The problem was whether or not I should continue to collect the allowances. The fact was that I was still the incumbent. Second, I still collected my salary as a civil servant and third, I often visited the office when duty so demanded. At the same time, I was aware that the officer acting during my absence was also enjoying the same allowances. I considered that two of us taking

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allowances attached to the same position meant an extra burden and pressure on the finances of the organization.

In the search for a solution to the problem, 1 asked for a meeting with the chairman of the Assembly, the accountant and the cashier. I informed them of the problem concerning the allowances. The general opinion was that I was entitled to the allowances and could take them. I, however, explained my feeling about the problem to them. I explained that it did not appear right for me to take the allowances while away on course: I, therefore, refused to take the allowances, and that was how I solved the problem.

*Questions which may be useful for discussion*

1. What examples from your experience/circumstances were
   you reminded of? Why is it important to consult when you
   find yourself in a quandry?
2. Is the "problem concerning the allowances" an ethical problem?
3. In the same stituation what would you do?
4. What title would you give to this reading?