Mauritius National Assembly
Communiqué issued for the information of the public

Further to the publication of several press articles contending that myself, Clerk of the National Assembly, and Ms Darshinee Seetul, Clerk Assistant, refused service of a legal process in relation to a hearing of the Electoral Petition before the Supreme Court, held on 05 July 2021, and in so doing, allegedly committed a legal impropriety under the Authority of the Assembly, the present Communiqué is being issued.

Members of the public may wish to –

➤ be informed that, on Friday 02 July, 2021, Mr Tanweer Jhagri, Court Usher, presented himself at the Registry, in my Office, purporting to serve a legal/judicial process on the undersigned;

➤ take notice of section 6(1)(t) of the National Assembly (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act, which provides that service or execution in the Chamber or precincts of the Assembly of any legal or judicial process constitute the offence of contempt of the Assembly;

➤ be informed that, under my direction, Miss Seetul kindly drew the attention of the said usher to the essence of the above-mentioned section of the law and that he may explore an alternative means of substitute service;

➤ be further informed that, thereafter, no substitute service was effected on the undersigned.

The Clerk of the National Assembly wishes to inform members of the public that at no time did she refuse or caused the Clerk Assistant to refuse service of any legal process in relation to the hearing in the matter of the Electoral Petition held before the Supreme Court on 05 July 2021.

Bibi Safeena Lotun (Mrs)
Clerk of the National Assembly

Parliament House
Port Louis

06 July 2021