



Mauritius National Assembly

10.11.2020

ANNOUNCEMENT

MR JAIRAJ SONOO, CSK - CHAIRMAN - STATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD - COMPLAINT

Mr Speaker: Hon. Members, before we proceed with the business of the House, I have an announcement to make.

I have received a written complaint from Mr Jairaj Sonoo, CSK, Chairman of the State Investment Corporation Ltd, on Friday 06 November. Mr Sonoo's complaint is in regard to the proceedings of Tuesday 03 November when, during Question time, the hon. Xavier Luc Duval, in addressing a supplementary question to his main Question B/694, whilst clearly identifying Mr Sonoo by name made some unfounded allegations against the latter.

I have perused the Hansard which reveals that, in fact, reference has been made to Mr Sonoo, and I quote -

“Can I also ask whether there is one Mr Sonoo who was dismissed from the SBM under dubious circumstances? Whether this Mr Sonoo is not Head of the Investment Committee and he is the person who is deciding as to where our Rs80 billion is going?”

End of quote.

Mr Sonoo claims that the words uttered by the hon. Duval, made in his absence, are most unfair and damaging to his character.

Mr Sonoo has further complained that the said averments which were broadcast live have gone viral on the social media. Mr Sonoo is now seeking the intervention of the Chair for redress.

Mr Sonoo contends that he has had a long and untarnished career in the banking sector for over 40 years during which he has held several positions of responsibility both locally and internationally. Mr Sonoo has stated that he was neither dismissed from the SBM nor is he the Head of Investment Committee.



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I consider that the statement of the hon. Duval may cause irreparable prejudice to him and attempt to his credibility and reputation both locally and internationally.

Hon. Members, in the matter at hand I am, by virtue of the powers conferred upon me by Standing Order 77, ordering that all references made to Mr Sonoo be expunged from the Hansard and the video footage of the proceedings.

I am tabling a copy of the letter.

I thank you.

10.11.2020

Hon. Members, I have to address the House concerning hon. Osman Mohamed. Earlier today, while putting a supplementary question in connection with PQ B/775, addressed to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister, you purported to lay a few documents in support thereof. I have perused the said documents and it is noted that one of it is, in fact, a letter addressed personally to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister and the other documents are directly linked to the subject matter of the said letter.

In the circumstances, the laying of documents which the hon. Deputy Prime Minister already has personal cognisance is not accepted.