

ANNOUNCEMENT – SITTING OF THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2022

Honourable Members

At the sitting of Tuesday last, after I ordered Hon. Bhagwan to withdraw from the Chamber during the remainder of the day's sitting following his grossly disorderly conduct, pursuant to Standing Order 48 of the Standing Orders and Rules of the National Assembly (1995), Hon Bhagwan uttered the following words to my address, I quote:

“You are acting like an agent of the MSM, not as Speaker. An agent of the MSM!”

I consider the words uttered as being contemptuous and outrageous against the Chair as well as casting aspersions on the impartiality of the Chair.

Moreover, instead of leaving the Chamber forthwith, as required, Hon. Bhagwan persisted in his grossly disorderly conduct. When I, consequently, suspended the sitting to allow the restoration of order in the Chamber for the resumption of the business of the House, Hon. Bhagwan further uttered contemptuous and outrageous remarks to the address of other members of this august Assembly, as can be ascertained from the *Hansard*.

I am reporting this incident to the Assembly because, in my opinion, this type of incident and grossly disorderly conduct, if left unchecked, would represent serious challenges to the authority of the Chair and of the decorum and dignity of the Assembly.

In the circumstances, I leave it to the Assembly to proceed, as it may deem necessary, against the said Member as it thinks fit in dealing with the above-mentioned breaches of order, pursuant to Standing Order 49(8), which provides as follows, I quote:

“Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to prevent the Assembly from proceeding against any Member for any breach of order not specified herein or from proceeding in any other way it thinks fit in dealing with the breaches of order herein mentioned.”

I thank you for your attention.