Announcement

Honourable Members,

I have a short announcement to make before giving the floor to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

I have to inform the House that, in conformity with the responsibilities bestowed upon the Whips and in which the Speaker has no say, a time allocation has been agreed between the Chief Government Whip and the Opposition Whip. I, therefore, make an appeal to Hon. Members whose name appear on the list of orators to bear in mind the time allotted when making their respective speeches.

Moreover, I wish to draw the attention of Hon. Members to the provisions of Standing Order 47 in regard to Irrelevance or Repetition which reads as follows, I quote –

"The Speaker or the person presiding, after having called the attention of the Assembly, or of the Committee, to the conduct of a Member, who persists in irrelevance, or tedious repetition either of his or her own argument or of the arguments used by other Members in debate, may direct him or her to discontinue his or her speech."

I, therefore, invite Hon. Members to, accordingly, not indulge in irrelevance and tedious repetition, failing which, I will have no choice than to interrupt them.

I thank you.