

ANNOUNCEMENT 2

On Wednesday, 29 March 2023, I received a letter signed by the Honourable Second Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Mr Assirvaden) in regard to the reply made by the Honourable Prime Minister to Parliamentary Questions B/1, B/11 and B/19, being replied together, purporting to raise a Point of Order having regard to the provisions of Standing Order 22(1)(h) of the Standing Orders and Rules of the National Assembly (1995).

I am tabling the said letter for ease of reference.

Honourable Members are referred to the provisions of Standing Order 41 (1) which clearly lays down the procedure that obtains in case any Member wishes to raise a Point of Order.

Honourable Members would appreciate that, in the light thereof, the procedure adopted by Hon Assirvaden, that is, raising a Point of Order by way of a letter on a day subsequent to the parliamentary sitting on which the purported incident occurred, drawing my attention thereto and intimating that I take a series of actions against the Honourable Member having allegedly deviated from the stated Standing Order, is utterly misconceived, inappropriate, irregular and alien to the prevailing Standing Orders and Rules.

I have ruled on several occasions, including on Tuesday last itself, it is deemed most improper, discourteous and unethical, to say the least, that Honourable Members copy private correspondences addressed to the Office of the Speaker or Office of the Clerk to the press and that said are published, in their entirety, prior to same being acted upon.
