

MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

**ANNOUNCEMENT – PRIVILEGE COMPLAINT
SITTING OF FRIDAY 21 JULY 2023**

Hon. Members, I have to inform the House, that the Honourable Dhunoo has in writing today given me notice of a privilege complaint arising out of an interview which Dr the Honourable Boolell gave earlier today in the media.

In the said interview the Honourable Boolell has made a series of allegations which are offensive and reflect on the conduct and character of the Speaker.

The Hon. Member is of the view that the content of the said interview may amount to a contempt of the Assembly under section 6(1) (s) of the National Assembly (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act for uttering and publishing a statement and containing accusation of partiality in the discharge of his duty as Speaker.

Hon. Members, I have perused the said transcript of the interview and I take the view that an offence may have been committed under section 6(1) (s) of the National Assembly (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act, which reads as follows–

“6. Contempt of the Assembly

(1) Subject to subsection (2), each of the following acts, matters and things constitutes the offence of contempt of the Assembly”

Subsection (s) reads as follows –

“uttering or publishing any statement reflecting on the conduct or character of, or containing or amounting to an accusation of partiality in the discharge of his duty by the Speaker, Deputy Speaker or Chairperson of any committee.”

The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dhunoo) moved the following motion –

Mr Speaker Sir, in the light of your ruling, I move that the matter be referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for appropriate action pursuant to Standing Order 74(4) of the Standing Orders and Rules of the National Assembly.

The Honourable Dhunoo filed copy of the transcript of the press conference.

The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Long (Ms Tour) seconded the motion.

Mr Speaker put the following question: -

“The Question is that the matter be referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for appropriate action pursuant to Standing Order 74(4) of the Standing Orders and Rules of the National Assembly. Those in favor say AYE. Those against say NO. The AYES have it.”
