

Announcement 3

Sitting of Tuesday 23 April 2024

“Letter from Hon. Juman requesting the Speaker to tender apologies - the Speaker is accountable to the House and not to third parties acting on behalf of their colleagues”

Hon. Members

I have a third announcement.

I also have to inform the House that I have received a letter from the Hon. Juman requesting me to tender apologies.

Surprisingly, the letter, though addressed to me in person, found its way in the press which in itself is improper.

Hon. Members

I wish to inform the House that, as Speaker, I am accountable to the House and not to third parties acting on behalf of their colleagues.

Concerning the incident of last Tuesday, it is on record that both the Hon. Paul Bérenger and Hon. Bhagwan uttered insulting words such as “*sovaz, batiara, voler, souser*” in Parliament which is the source of the said incident we are referring to.

When asked whether they were prepared to withdraw and apologise, they categorically refused. In that respect, I find that such attitude from two senior members most regretful.

I would have readily tendered my apologies had the Hon. Members done so and in fact, I can review all the records and state in an announcement to this House on how many occasion Hon. Members have refused to tender apologies and have refused to withdraw unbecoming words and accusations against the Speaker.

I thank you for your attention.
