

Announcement 1
Sitting of Tuesday 23 July 2024

“Legality of the election of the Speaker-The election of the Speaker was conducted by the Clerk in accordance with sections 32(4) and 32(6) of the Constitution and the provisions of Standing Order 7(1) and (2)”.

Honourable Members,

I have to report to the House as follows:

Prior to and during the proceedings of the Assembly at the sitting of 18 July 2024, certain Members, all belonging to the Labour Party, the MMM and the Nouveau Démocrate continually hindered the proceedings by screaming and making loud and noisy interruptions. Scandalous slogans and insults were proffered in an attempt to impugn the very legitimacy of the election of the Speaker and to hamper its due process. This behaviour was intended to undermine the integrity of the Constitutional Office of the Speaker and the dignity of the National Assembly as a whole. At the same time, these Members caused irredeemable damage to the image of the nation in the eyes of the world.

Honourable Members,

The election of the Speaker was conducted by the Clerk in accordance with sections 32(4) and 32(6) of the Constitution and the provisions of Standing Order 7(1) and (2).

Let me remind Honourable Members that it is not the first time that the Office of Speaker has become vacant before the dissolution of the Assembly. It is a fact that, this very procedure was the one adopted in electing to the Office of the Speaker:

First, Mr Iswurdeo Seetaram on 04 December 1990 following a motion by the then Prime Minister, The Right Honourable, Sir Anerood Jugnauth.

Second, Sir Ramesh Jeewoolall on 23 January 1996 following a motion of Prime Minister Dr. the Honourable Navinchandra Ramgoolam.

Thirdly, Mr Abdool Razack Mahomed Ameen Peeroo on 24 July 2012 following a motion again by Prime Minister Dr the Honourable Navinchandra Ramgoolam.

Members of Parliament know that the appropriate forum to challenge the legality of the election of the Speaker is neither for the House nor the press, but the Supreme Court of Mauritius.