

MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ANNOUNCEMENT SITTING OF 17 OCTOBER 2023

Announcement by Mr. Speaker: Hon. Paul Bérenger uttered outrageous, contemptuous, abusive and filthy words to the address of Mr. Speaker - Matter left in the hands of the House

Motion for suspension – Hon. Paul Bérenger suspended by the House for the day's sitting and the next 6 sittings unless unreserved apologies are tendered to the House

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Mr Speaker:

“Honourable Members,

Earlier, I informed the House that I reserved my right to name the Honourable Paul Bérenger for uttering outrageous, contemptuous, abusive and filthy words, namely “Sovaz, Cosson, Zako” amongst other things, to my address while I was leaving the Chamber. I consider his conduct was a departure from parliamentary convention and etiquette. I am reporting the incident to the House because, if left unchecked, it would represent a standing challenge to the authority of the Chair and the dignity of the House.

I leave the matter in the hands of the House.”

The Hon. Prime Minister:

“Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of your ruling and the gravity of the matter, I beg under Standing Order 17(3) to take the time of the House for urgent business.”

The Hon. Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology seconded.

Mr Speaker put the following question:

“The question is that the Honourable Prime Minister be allowed under Standing Order 17(3) to take the time of the House for urgent business. Those in favour say AYE. Those against say NO. The AYES have it.”

The Hon. Prime Minister:

“Mr Speaker, Sir, having obtained your permission, I beg to move under Standing Order 29(1) to present a motion without notice.”

The Hon. Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology seconded.

Mr Speaker put the following question:

“The question is that the Honorable Prime Minister be allowed under Standing Order 29(1) to move a motion without notice. Those in favour say AYE. Those against say NO. The AYES have it.”

The Hon. Prime Minister:

“Mr Speaker, Sir, in view of your ruling and the gravity of the matter, I beg to move that the Honourable Paul Bérenger be suspended from the service of the Assembly for today’s sitting and the next 6 sittings unless unreserved apologies are tendered to the House.”

The Hon. Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology seconded.

Mr. Speaker put the following question:

“The question is that the Honourable Paul Bérenger, be suspended from the service of the Assembly for today’s sitting and the next 6 sittings unless unreserved apologies are tendered to the House. Those in favour say AYE. Those against say NO. The AYES have it.”
