

Announcement No. 1

Sitting of Tuesday 07 May 2024

“The drawing of lots of Parliamentary Questions has always been and is still being conducted as per the terms of the Agreement signed between the Whips on 18 March 2022”

Hon Members

I have a few announcements to make.

Firstly, regarding the incident of Tuesday last which arose in the Office of the Clerk pertaining to the modality for the drawing of lots for Parliamentary Questions.

I wish to clarify that the process for the Drawing of lots of Parliamentary Questions has always been and is still being conducted as per the terms of the Agreement signed between the Whips on 18 March 2022 which specifically makes mention of numbers. At no point in time does the said Agreement make mention of the names of Hon. Members or the subject matter of the PQs.

Hon. Members will recall that the said Agreement was laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday 29 March 2022.

Moreover, I wish to confirm that the Drawing of Lots is purely administrative exercise over which the Speaker does not exercise any control whatsoever, the more so that the Speaker is not present during the balloting.

I also wish to highlight that regarding the allegations levelled against me to the effect that I have a secret code to manipulate the results of the balloting exercise, I wish to inform Hon. Members that the existence of any secret code is only fictitious and purely a creation of the imagination of the Hon. Member.

Should any Member in this House have any doubt about the process, I humbly invite any Member to go to the nearest Police Station or to the Court to address the problem.
