

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS**

**COMMUNIQUE**

**MITD CASE**

The police have conducted 3 distinct enquiries, all having as their basis allegations of sexual intercourse with a minor student under the age of 16 of the MITD by one Narain Chedumbrum, a former MITD teacher.

The police file relating to the said enquiries was submitted to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions on 18 March 2014 for advice. In the light of the enquiry submitted to it, the following advice has been tendered to the police.

In the first enquiry, the wife of the said Narain Chedumbrum made allegations that her husband had confessed to her that he has had sexual intercourse with a minor under the age of 16 studying at the MITD on at least 8 occasions in an Auberge in Bonne Terre. Narain Chedumbrum has denied those allegations.

The minor student, when interviewed by the police in presence of her parents, has also denied the allegations of Mrs. Chedumbrum.

The minor was examined by the Chief Police Medical Officer and the medical examination does not reveal any evidence of sexual intercourse.

Although the enquiry has revealed that there had been several exchanges of messages and calls between mobile phones belonging to the parents of the minor student and the mobile phone registered in the name of Mrs. Chedumbrum, in the absence of evidence of the contents of those messages and calls, these exchanges cannot be linked to an offence of sexual intercourse with a minor under the age of 16. Furthermore, the enquiry has also revealed that information about the contents of messages exchanged between mobile telephones are not kept by the service providers.

In view of the above, no further action has being advised with regard to the allegations of Mrs. Chedumbrum.

The second enquiry concerns an alleged conspiracy between Mrs. Bodet and Mrs. Singh, a psychologist and teacher of the MITD, respectively, to falsify the Minutes of Proceedings of a meeting allegedly attending by them and the minor and her mother.

Both the minor and her mother have denied having attended the meeting and the evidence on record is too weak to establish any conspiracy between Mrs. Bodet and Mrs. Singh. The evidence is also too weak to establish that the Minutes had been forged in any manner whatsoever.

No further action has being advised against Mrs. Bodet and Mrs. Singh in relation to the second enquiry.

In the third enquiry, Honourable Pravind Jugnauth is alleged to have stated certain words during a press conference held on 21 December 2012. Our advice has been sought as to whether those words amounted to an offence of Sedition under our Criminal Code.

Irrespective of the truth of the alleged words being imputed to Honourable Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, the words used, without more, cannot in law amount to the offence of Sedition in the light of the clear decision in **DPP v Masson & Anor (1972) SCJ 142**, as there is no evidence of incitement to disorder or tendency or likelihood of public disorder or the reasonable apprehension thereof.

For those reasons no further action has being advised against Honourable Pravind Kumar Jugnauth in the third enquiry.