

Incumbent judges who are promoted must be able to show excellence in their previous offices. In the legal profession the law reports are the only places to verify this. Some of the judges do not meet the standard. The perception now in the Judicial Service and the public is that a person can be an excellent judge but if the Chief Justice does not like him, he can never earn promotion. This is dangerous for the Constitution, the legal profession, and the impartial administration of justice.

There is one particular case which I called your attention to on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1998, in the evening, in which I told you the Chief Justice had made promises to grant favours to some judges. This was in relation to a pending case. You assured me that it would not happen. But it appears it is now going to happen.

I have very strong feelings on these matters and I think this is my only available forum to convey them to you.

Another worrying issue for me is, how do we deal with the corruption and abuse of office which has become rampant and intense particularly since we won the elections in 1996? This is not a perception problem. It is a fact and you have to do something about them because we who are your officials are supposed to be the prime culprits. It makes no sense to me for us to talk to the ordinary people in the street about this vice when we have not dealt with ourselves. The principles and ideals of June 4<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December, have been seriously eroded by these activities.