

Hinds: Law Association must speak

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PUBLIC Utilities Minister Fitzgerald Hinds yesterday called upon the Law Association to "get on up" and "speak out" about moves by certain parliamentarians to question appointments to the Judiciary. Speaking with reporters during the tea break in the House of Representatives. Hinds described this as a "burgeoning and dangerous development." Stating he has observed this action being taken by some parliamentarians who are also lawyers, Hinds said judicial appointments are not made by the Chief Justice but by the Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC). Noting that Chief Justice Ivor Archie is the chairman of the JLSC, Hinds said the actions of these persons is a violation of the Doctrine of the Separation of Powers.

Hinds, who is also an attorney, explained the Standing Orders of the House and Senate make it clear that parliamentarians cannot berate judicial officers in the course of debates in the Parliament.

However, Hinds said, "Yet these same members venture outside of the Parliament and behave in that way."

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