



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

STATEMENT
ON THE APPOINTMENT OF
DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERED
BY
HIS HONOUR
THE VICE PRESIDENT
DR. GUY L. SCOTT, MP

MR SPEAKER

I wish to remind the house that on the 22nd February, 2012, Monze Central Member of Parliament Hon Jack Mwiimbu raised a point of order that last year, the Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Executive came to this house and informed the Members that we have decided to relieve all the District Commissioners (DCs) because they were party cadres and that DCs will be appointed from amongst the civil servants currently employed by the Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Mr Speaker, I wish to give a statement in response to the Point of Order that was raised.

Mr. Speaker, the post of District Commissioner is an establishment position in the Public Service. In accordance with the Constitution of Zambia section 44 (2) (g), the President has power to appoint such persons as are required by the constitution or any other law to be appointed by him. However, the President is empowered by the Service Commissions Act Cap 259 of the Laws of Zambia, to delegate the powers to appoint officers to all established positions in the Public Service including officers to all established positions in the Public Service including that of the District Commissioners. The appointment of District Commissioners is therefore, done by the Public Service Commissioner in the name and on behalf of the President.

District Commissioners like any other Public Service employees are not allowed to engage in active politics. The PF government is promoting professionalism, non-partisan Public Service which is guided by the Code of Ethics for the Public Service which states, among others, that Public Service employees shall be impartial by:

- ❖ Carrying out their responsibilities in a way that is fair, just and equitable and reflects the Public Service commitments to equality and diversity;
- ❖ Serving the Government of the day, whatever political persuasion, to the best of one's ability in the way that maintains political impartiality, and is in line with requirement as outlines in the Code, no matter what one's political beliefs are; and
- ❖ Not acting in a way that unjustifiably favours or discriminates against particular individuals or interests based on political party, cultural, religious, ethnic, social and other considerations”.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you.