

At the time of the transfer of shares, Government had approved the transfer onto Steward after the Office of the PM was approached with a proposal for the acquisition of the concession. My understanding is that as private parties, the transferor and transferee were free to accept or decline reaching an agreement, and an agreement was in fact reached. I reject any claim that Mr Tumuluri was being bullied to exit, and deny even being aware that he received any threat, if he did. If a statement was made stating that I was present, then it is false.

On the matter of bank financing, government attended to requests in line with contractual rights and obligations, and subject to due process per government rules and policy. I can understand that the Vitals Representative might have preferred otherwise on occasions, but government did not bypass such processes.

Regards,

Konrad Mizzi