



Statement by the Prime Minister, Hon. Laisenia Qarase

Monday 16th January 2006

"The statement issued this afternoon by the Leader of the Opposition is, as usual, full of lies and distortions.

"It is very obviously yet another attempt by Mr Chaudhry to draw attention away from the damning public statement by the President of the Labour Party, Mrs Jokapeci Koroi, supporting an illegal takeover of Government.

"A complaint has been lodged with the Police for an investigation into what Mrs Koroi said.

"The most glaring example of just one of Mr Chaudhary's lies is in the last paragraph of his statement, where he refers to the SDL/CAMV Government as illegal and unconstitutional. This is a mockery of the truth.

"The SDL was elected in 2001 in a poll approved by international observers.

"It was the Labour Party that declined the offer I made to it to join in a multi-party Cabinet in line with the Constitution.

"Labour chose instead, to form the Opposition.

"Mr Chaudhry should explain to the country why he is still pursuing legal action against the Commander of the Military over the circumstances and consequences of what happened in 2000. He has listed the Commander as a Defendant in this legal action.

"If he is genuine in what he is saying in his statement today, he should drop his case against the Commander."

