

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE POINT OF ORDER RAISED
BY THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FROM MONZE CENTRAL**

MR. SPEAKER,

Following the debate that ensued on the floor of this house on Wednesday, 30th October, 2013 soon after the Honourable Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Development had delivered his ministerial statement on the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fund in response to a point of order raised by the Honourable Member for Monze Central, I was requested to issue a statement in order to clarify the issue of the legality of the fund.

Mr. Speaker,

Article 114(1) of the Constitution provides that:

“Subject to the provisions of this Article, taxation shall not be imposed or altered except by or under an Act of Parliament.”

The import of this provision is that no other body apart from Parliament can impose taxation and that such imposition shall be by or under an Act of Parliament. Notwithstanding this provision Mr. Speaker, the Constitution has authorized Parliament to delegate some of its powers of imposing or altering taxes, to other bodies.