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President Ali, AG Nandlall condemn attacks on top state lawyers

By Staff Reporter - November 14, 2026 (https://guyanachronicle.com/author/vickash-katwaru/) (https://guyanachronicle.com/2026/11/14/)



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Deputy Solicitor General Shoshanna V Lall

PRESIDENT, Dr Irfaan Ali and Attorney General Anil Nandlall, SC, have condemned online attacks on two senior female lawyers at the Attorney General's Chambers.

"What wrong have they done to be attacked in the manner that they were attacked in?" the president asked at a press conference.

The lawyers, Deputy Solicitor General Shoshanna V. Lall and Assistant Solicitor General Ronetta Sargent, were the subject of a Facebook post published on 13 November, 2026 by Hana Mohamed, also known as Hana Khamelia, sister of US-indicted Opposition Leader,Azruddin Mohamed.

Attorney General Nandlall has described the post as "malicious, false and defamatory" and has warned of legal proceedings.

President Ali said he had not seen a single media headline about the attacks on the two women. He contrasted that silence with the criticism the government has faced over its decision to retain lawyer Selwyn Pieters to liaise with Meta, the parent company of Facebook, about potentially defamatory or otherwise objectionable content.

Defending that decision, the president said raising concerns about online content through legal channels was appropriate.



Assistant Solicitor General Ronetta Sargent

He said he did not personally examine the content or contact Facebook, but trusted Pieters to assess it and take appropriate steps on his behalf.

In a strongly worded statement, Nandlall said Mohamed's post made "serious and wholly unfounded allegations of professional misconduct" against the two attorneys while they were appearing in the High Court.

"Speaking for myself, I have refused to dignify such and similar inane, infantile and impish personal and professional attacks levelled against me by this individual," the attorney general said.

He said: "However, the extension of such attacks to the staff of the Attorney General's Chambers, who are simply discharging their professional duties, will not be tolerated."

The attorney general noted that the targets of the post are "two professional women holding two of the highest positions in the Attorney General's Chambers."

According to the attorney general, the post followed a tense hearing on November 12, 2026, when judicial-review proceedings involving Azruddin Mohamed came up in the High Court.

Nandlall said that while he was addressing the Court, the judge had cause, on more than one occasion, to admonish Bonita Mohamed for loud and disrespectful outbursts, and that even her own lawyers were forced to caution her.

He said he apologised to the Court for her conduct. After the hearing, the attorney general said, Bonita and Nazar Mohamed hurled personal attacks and insults at him, which he ignored.

Nandlall said he was informed by Lall and Sargent that throughout his presentation, Hana and Hadiyya Mohamed were inaudibly mouthing expletives in their direction.

Immediately after the proceedings were adjourned, he said, Bonita and Hana launched “a tirade of insults” against the two lawyers.

When Sargent responded that “we are simply doing our jobs,” the statement said, Bonita looked at her and spat.

The attorney general said the post falsely accused Lall and Sargent of misconduct and misbehaviour in the court and within its precincts, and had drawn large volumes of vitriolic comments that further tarnished their reputations.

Responding to Mohamed’s emphasis that the attorneys are paid from public funds, Nandlall said this “does not diminish their entitlement to dignity, personal security and the protection of their professional reputations,” nor does it make them “illegitimate targets for falsehoods, harassment or intimidation.”

“Public officers ought not to endure abuse as the price for serving the state. They are entitled to perform their duties with dignity, and fearlessly and without threats, intimidation or harassment from politicians and their families,” the statement read.

“This continuous attack must end now,” Nandlall added, encouraging public officers to take legal action against such attacks.

He said Lall and Sargent have been advised to do the same.

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