

**Republic of Seychelles
Office of the President**

PRESS RELEASE

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POLICE CONDUCTS SEARCH AND CLEAN- UP OPERATION IN PRISON

The Police has undertaken a Search and Clean- up Operation of the Montagne Posee prison in the early hours of this morning in order to restore law and order in the prison, following public concerns about safety and lack of control in the prison.

The operation was aimed at removing illicit materials from the prison, such as mobile phones, self made weapons, drugs and illegal liquor. This follows written and verbal complaints to the Government and the Police that prisoners had access to the above mentioned materials as well as unjustified freedom of movement within the prison area.

The Police is currently investigating a number of complaints of prisoner to prison violence, as well as several assaults have been reported to the Police.

During the search and clean-up operation Police officers were supported by Military Police, and the operation will continue until the prison is secure.

This is not the first time the Police has undertaken routine search and clean-up operations in the prison, resulting in the removal of illicit materials.

In the meantime all individuals who has relatives in the Montagne Posee prison are informed that visits are being suspended until further notice.