



SPEAKER
PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

17 July 2023

Mr Lee Hsien Loong
Prime Minister
Republic of Singapore

Secretary-General
People's Action Party

Dear *Prime Minister Lee,*

I am writing to resign as a member of the People's Action Party, and to inform you of my resignation as Speaker of Parliament and Member of Parliament (MP) for Marine Parade GRC with immediate effect.

Recently, I made a mistake in Parliament when I uttered words which were rude and unparliamentary in nature. This was wrong and I have apologized publicly for it. I have also spoken to the MP concerned to convey my apologies. Deservedly, there has been much disquiet over my remarks. Many felt that I was not impartial. Others felt that it was conduct unbecoming of a Speaker of Parliament. Some have also called for my resignation.


When such mistakes happen, all Members, myself included, will have to apologize and withdraw their comments. However, as Speaker, I should have known better and held myself to higher standards. The issue at hand isn't just about the mistake itself. My mistake raised broader questions over my neutrality and impartiality as Speaker. The credibility of Parliament and the Chair is critical and cannot be compromised.

For me personally, this recent episode has added to the hurt I have caused my family. I have let them down. We have spoken about my personal conduct before. There are areas where I have fallen short. I need to take responsibility for them, and help heal my family. We need space to recover and work through the issues. I have discussed the matter with my wife and agreed I must step away from politics and devote myself to my family.

I apologize to my fellow Singaporeans, residents, volunteers, colleagues and friends for having let them down.

I am deeply grateful for your leadership, support and guidance over the years, as I am for the friendship and cooperation of my fellow MPs in Parliament.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tan Chuan-Jin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

TAN CHUAN-JIN