

# Men in Guyana Attorney General's vehicle terrorize Kaieteur News staff in Georgetown

July 31, 2014 | By [KNews](#) | Filed Under [News](#)



Attorney General, Anil Nandlall

The approach of a black Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) and the slow lowering of the dark tinted windows sent some staff members of Kaieteur News taking cover behind parked cars. Some in the building peeped out from behind posts.

The incident brought back memories of two horrific attacks on Kaieteur News in the past—the firebombing of the printing press at Eccles in 2002 and the killing of five Kaieteur News pressmen in 2006.

The black SUV turned out to be the vehicle used by Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Mohabir Anil Nandlall.

It was shortly after 13:00 hours on Monday when some staff members saw the vehicle approaching from the south along Saffron Street. When the vehicle neared the newspaper office both the left front and rear windows were lowered. The people saw hands going up and did not wait to see the result. One man was certain that he saw a gun in one of the hands.

Two minutes later the vehicle returned and the procedure was repeated. This time the vehicle stopped. The closed circuit television cameras revealed that the men appeared to be photographing the building and the vehicles parked outside.

It seemed that during the first pass the photographs were not good. The men appeared to be using camera phones. That was why they had to stop the second time around, a staff member said when he saw the video footage.

Caption for video above: Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Anil Nandlall's personal vehicle stopped twice outside the offices of Kaieteur News on 28/07/14. The occupants roll down the windows and appear to photograph the vehicles outside the building and the building itself..See black SUV stopping at 1:00 and 3:35 on the 5-minute video from a Kaieteur News surveillance camera

On receiving the report and verifying the number of the vehicle, Publisher Glenn Lall telephoned Mr. Anil Nandlall to complain about what he described as an act of terrorism. He then sent a text message to Mr. Nandlall protesting the intimidation of his staff.

Editor in Chief, Adam Harris, also called Mr. Nandlall who claimed ignorance of the affair. He said that he was attending an EID function on East Coast Demerara and that he was using

a white Range Rover. Mr. Nandlall said that the Range Rover was hardly ever used and that he chose to do so on Monday.

In response to a query about who would use the vehicle when he opted to use another, Nandlall said that the Permanent Secretary could use the vehicle. He promised an investigation.

Up to Wednesday, there was no report from Nandlall. But the incident has left some staff members nervous. Glenn Lall said that he sees this latest incident as part of the scare tactics to silence this newspaper.

However, he said that he is not intimidated; that he will not be silenced.

He said that he has been critical of so many things that have been happening in the country, that he has attracted hostility from Government elements. In fact, former President Bharrat Jagdeo, President Donald Ramotar, People's Progressive Party General Secretary Clement Rohee and other political types have resorted to describing the newspaper as the opposition media.

Some of them, including the Attorney General have resorted to suing the newspaper, which is another form of attempting to silence the newspaper. "I am surprised that the Attorney General has resorted to suing the newspaper and then terrorizing its staff."

There are still staff members on roll who recalled facing two gunmen who had barged into the newspaper offices a few years ago, enquiring about the boss. At the time Mr. Lall was out of the country.

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## **Legal fraternity calls for immediate sacking of Nandlall**

November 1, 2014 | By [KNews](#) | Filed Under [News](#)

**...any other result would be an endorsement of the AG's conduct**

**"Even in private conversation the comments are deeply troubling and inappropriate and their candid nature, unbridled by the conventions of public discourse, calls his character and professionalism into question."**

In what has clearly been the most influential and strongly worded response to date, the Guyana Bar Association



President of the Guyana Bar Association, Ronald Burch-Smith

and the Guyana Women Lawyers Association, yesterday roundly condemned the recent actions put on display by Minister of Legal Affairs and Attorney General, Anil Nandlall, which was exposed via publicized audio recording.

By way of a public statement yesterday the two leading bodies, representative of the local legal fraternity, said that it wishes to “express their concern and consternation at the recorded conversation between the Attorney-General and a member of the media.”

According to the two bodies, “everything done and said by the Attorney-General since the disclosure of the conversation invites us to draw every and all reasonable inferences therefrom.”

The Guyana Bar Association is headed by Attorney-at-Law, Ronald Burch-Smith, while its female counterpart is headed by Simone Morris-Ramlall.

Both bodies contend that the statements made by the Attorney-General point to serious legal and moral infractions on his part having regard to his standing as one of the highest legal officers in the country.

The two bodies have observed that in the recording, the Attorney-General offered in vulgar and obscene language, knowledge of actual and planned illegal activities.

“Even in private conversation the comments are deeply troubling and inappropriate and their candid nature, unbridled by the conventions of public discourse, calls his character and professionalism into question.”

According to the joint statement issued, “we are most concerned that the Attorney-General appeared to be acknowledging that the use of deadly violence against the media was an acceptable reaction to frustration where public officials and other citizens are offended by what is reported about them.”

It did not escape the legal fraternity too that Nandlall in his tirade, also referred to making restitution of funds used by him for some purpose which he did not want the press to report about.

“The President of Guyana is said to have participated in conversations with a defendant in extant criminal prosecution



Simone Morris-Ramlall

to have same discontinued in return for less critical reporting by her co-defendant...Equally disturbing is his persistent objectification of the unidentified woman, which conduct flies in the face of the Government’s obligations and commitments regarding respect for women.”

According to the two legal bodies, freedom of the press and freedom of speech are essential to the rule of law and political democracy.

“These freedoms result frequently in the publication of true information which may be offensive or embarrassing to some persons...But the Attorney-General needs no lecture on such matters...His Government is well acquainted with the perils of a society where the media must be ‘well-behaved’ or otherwise risk being killed or intimidated.”

According to the two umbrella bodies for Lawyers in Guyana, public officials are given wide

powers and great responsibility to make thousands of important decisions, many of which never see the light of day.

“We expect in return for the privilege of office, that they demonstrate good character and judgment... Where they demonstrably fail to do so either by public action or by private conduct which bears on their fitness for office, as the Attorney-General has done, such public officials should be removed from office.”

The Guyana Bar Association and the Women lawyers Association categorically denounced the actions of the Minister and said that as leader of the Bar, the Attorney General, mindful of the honour, dignity and integrity of his office should resign

Attorney General

Anil Nandlall

immediately.

“If he does not resign he should be removed... Any other result would be an endorsement of the Attorney-General’s conduct and an admission by the Executive that the highest moral and legal standards are not applicable to the State.”

In the now infamous recording Nandlall could be overheard advising a senior reporter of the Kaieteur newspaper to get out of the Saffon Street office, which he described as a “dangerous place”.

He hinted at an intended hit on Lall and the establishment.

“No, hear nah, you know how it gun stop? Somebody gun go into Kaieteur... You see everybody nah gat, as I told Adam (Harris) today ...I said Adam, everybody don’t just...everybody, wait hold on...everybody doesn’t have a newspaper to use as a weapon. I told Adam, I said ‘Adam people got weapons, right?’

“Is not newspaper they gonna use as a weapon; they got weapons and when you continue attack people like that and they have no way of responding they gun just walk with their weapon into that same f\*\*\*ing Saffon Street office and wha come suh do, and innocent... Peter gun gah pay fuh f\*\*\*ing Paul in deh one day.

“Me ah tell you innocent, me ah tell you honestly, man to man, that will happen soon. So the quicker you get out of deh the better.”

Describing himself as a “thoroughbred” and as a “Kshatriya” (pronounced Chatree), a reference to an upper social class in India, known to be united by their claims to rulership, the pursuit of war, or the possession of land, Nandlall hurled a string of expletives in his almost 19-minute harangue on the intended plan against Lall.

He portrayed himself as a “bad-man” who “running things” in Guyana. He boasted that the former President, Bharrat Jagdeo, his best friend Bobby Ramroop and Winston Brassington, are no match for him.

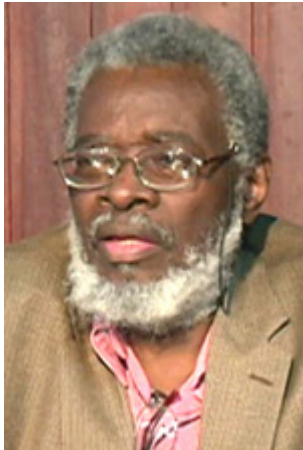
The Government has since come out in defence of Nandlall saying that it was a loose private conversation which was illegally recorded and further manipulated.

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## **The Anil Nandlall recording...Government will remain silent – Dr. Luncheon**

October 30, 2014 | By [KNews](#) | Filed Under [News](#)

The Government will remain “silent” on the issue regarding the Minister of Legal Affairs Anil Nandlall following the release



Head of the Presidential Secretariat, Dr. Roger Luncheon of a recorded conversation between the Minister and a reporter from Kaieteur News. This “new” announcement comes after the government had initially issued a lengthy statement supporting Nandlall.

Head of the Presidential Secretariat, Dr. Roger Luncheon told the media yesterday that the administration will not say anything more on the matter.

Luncheon explained that since the matter is now engaging the attention of the Court, the government could not comment since it would be ‘sub judice’.

The Cabinet Secretary was responding to questions about whether the government will give in to several calls by the Alliance for Change and A Partnership for National Unity, for Nandall to step down as the country’s Attorney General and Legal Affairs Minister.

The information of legal action being filed has arisen and the matter being sub judice,” Dr Luncheon said.

On Tuesday the embattled Attorney General filed a \$30M lawsuit against this publication Kaieteur News for libel contained in an article published on October 28, titled “Attorney General reveals plan to hit Glenn Lall, Kaieteur News”.

*ACCORDING TO BURNHAM'S SPEAKER 1971-92*

*“Nandlall’s actions do not shock me. Look at the persons they are putting in these prominent positions. But when you talk in this country you become a victim. That’s what politics has gone to. When you don’t support the government it tries to break you; that’s politics **now.**”*

(HE FORGOT TO SAY **'THEN TOO- IN 'king kong' BURNHAM'S REIGN'** .

*(He continues:)*

*It's frightening, it is scary, but we the people need to be courageous and stand up...The media play a chief role in ensuring democracy."*

*NB Walter Rodney and many others stood up then and Walter Rodney's life was taken in 1980  
..but Speaker Narain did not Resign or Stand .Nor did he the Speaker even speak out.....*

After serving as House Speaker for over 20 years, Sase Narain, a lawyer by profession, has said that he is not the least bit surprised by the despicable actions of Attorney General Nandlall as he exposed a plot to viciously attack Kaieteur News publisher, Glenn Lall, and his staff members. The expose was contained in a 19-minute long recorded conversation with a Kaieteur News reporter.



Former Speaker, Sase Narain

Yesterday, Mr Narain said that the People's Progressive Party has always been vociferous in its quest for absolute domination. Such behaviour during the time he served as Speaker from 1971 to 1992, he said, showed itself in some of

the most obvious forms and at times in the most subtle ways. Narain said that he is not shocked by Nandlall's behaviour for he saw those signs since the 1970s. The only difference in this era is that the government is simply showing its true colours without all the subtlety.

The House Speaker then reflected on Nandlall's conversation that contained the Attorney General's admission that he took money from one Ministry for his wife's health but emphasized that the money was repaid.

***“I want to ask Nandlall, lawyer to lawyer, if you commit a crime, as in you thief money but you give back the stolen funds, does that mean you didn't commit the crime? That you should be pardoned? You committed a crime that attracts a penalty,”*** Narain said.

The political opposition recently stated that this aspect will be investigated.

Narain said, too, that the government has deteriorated considerably.

“Nandlall's actions do not shock me. Look at the persons they are putting in these prominent positions. But when you talk in this country you become a victim. That's what politics has gone to. When you don't support the government it tries to break you; that's politics now.”

Narain said that the AG's action reflects government's obsession with dominating the media “so you can only



Attorney General,  
Anil Nandlall

hear their side. It's frightening, it is scary, but we the people need to be courageous and stand up...The media play a chief role in ensuring democracy.”

The political opposition—the Alliance For Change and A Partnership for National Unity, the Guyana Human Rights Association, the legal fraternity, and even the international media community have all expressed support to stand alongside the publication and have also condemned Nandlall for his actions. Calls continue to mount daily for the resignation of the Attorney General despite Government's continued support for its “blue-eyed boy who was caught with his pants down”.

In the recorded conversation, Nandlall said, “No, hear nah, you know how it gun stop? Somebody gun go into Kaieteur... You see everybody nah gat, as I told Adam (Harris) today ...I said Adam, everybody don't just...everybody, wait hold on...everybody doesn't have a newspaper to use as a weapon. I told Adam, I said ‘Adam people got weapons, right?

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