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# THE DAILY NEWS

## FROM THE GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE

### PM Barrow Issues Strong Response to Chamber's Letter that Suggested GOB Should Honour a Private Company's Debt



Today, November 30<sup>th</sup>, the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Dean Barrow, issued a strong response to the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industries (BCCI) after they issued a press release suggesting that Belize should honour the debt of a private company (Universal Health Services Ltd.).

The Prime Minister called out the hypocrisy of the Chamber, pointing out that it was, in fact, they (along with others) who first challenged the secret

loan guarantee made by the previous administration.

In his letter, Prime Minister Barrow stated, "We do concede that the end of the judicial road having now been reached, your strong point of view that the 90 million should be paid is an arguable position to adopt. Thus, only one last question for you: in view of your principle would you agree to recommend to your membership an increase in taxes on the business sector to raise the moneys for what you now see as a debt of honour?" [Read more](#)

### GOB Updates Nation on the Recent CCJ Ruling



Yesterday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, the Government of Belize held a press conference at the Best Western Biltmore Plaza to update the nation on the Government's position following the recent Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) ruling.

The CCJ ruling requires that the Minister of Finance seek Parliament's approval to satisfy a loan guarantee that was entered into secretly and illegally (according to the Belize Supreme Court and Court of Appeal) by the previous Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Said Musa.

Speaking at the press conference, Prime Minister Barrow expressed that Government will honour the court's ruling by seeking Parliament's approval to satisfy the BZD\$90 million CCJ ruling. The Prime Minister also expressed that all Parliamentarians have the right to vote their conscience on whether or not the Belizeans taxpayers, their respective constituents, are to make the gargantuan payment.

### New Japanese Ambassador Presents Letters of Credence



The Ambassador of Japan to Belize H.E. Hiromasa Yamazaki presented his Letters of Credence today, November 30 to the Governor General of Belize H.E. Sir Colville Young at the Belize House in Belmopan.

Ambassador Yamazaki said that it is his hope that cordial relations and goodwill be promoted between Belize and Japan during his time as ambassador. [Read](#)

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