

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

First Session

MONDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2021

No. 16

12 noon

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PRESENT:

Mr SPEAKER (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin (Marine Parade)).

Mr ABDUL SAMAD (Nominated Member).

Ms JANET ANG (Nominated Member).

Mr ANG WEI NENG (West Coast).

Mr BAEY YAM KENG (Tampines), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Transport.

Miss CHERYL CHAN WEI LING (East Coast).

Mr CHAN CHUN SING (Tanjong Pagar), Minister for Trade and Industry.

Mr MARK CHAY (Nominated Member).

Mr CHEE HONG TAT (Bishan-Toa Payoh), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Transport.

Mr CHENG HSING YAO (Nominated Member).

Miss CHENG LI HUI (Tampines).

Mr EDWARD CHIA BING HUI (Holland-Bukit Timah).

Mr CHONG KEE HIONG (Bishan-Toa Payoh).

Mr DESMOND CHOO (Tampines).

Mr ERIC CHUA (Tanjong Pagar) Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Social and Family Development.

Mr CHUA KHENG WEE LOUIS (Sengkang).

Mr DARRYL DAVID (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr CHRISTOPHER DE SOUZA (Holland-Bukit Timah), Deputy Speaker.

Ms FOO MEE HAR (West Coast).

Ms GRACE FU HAI YIEN (Yuhua), Minister for Sustainability and the Environment.

Mr GAN KIM YONG (Chua Chu Kang), Minister for Health.

Ms GAN SIOW HUANG (Marymount), Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Manpower.

Mr GAN THIAM POH (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr GERALD GIAM YEAN SONG (Aljunied).

Mr DERRICK GOH (Nee Soon).

Mr HENG CHEE HOW (Jalan Besar), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence.

Mr HENG SWEE KEAT (East Coast), Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for Economic Policies and Minister for Finance.

Prof HOON HIAN TECK (Nominated Member).

Mr SHAWN HUANG WEI ZHONG (Jurong).

Ms INDRANEE RAJAH (Tanjong Pagar), Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Finance, Second Minister for National Development and Leader of the House.

Mr S ISWARAN (West Coast), Minister for Communications and Information and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations.

Dr JANIL PUTHUCHEARY (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information and Ministry of Health and Government Whip.

Dr AMY KHOR LEAN SUAN (Hong Kah North), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment and Ministry of Transport.

Prof KOH LIAN PIN (Nominated Member).

Dr KOH POH KOON (Tampines), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Health.

Mr KWEK HIAN CHUAN HENRY (Kebun Baru).

Mr DESMOND LEE (West Coast), Minister for National Development and Minister-in-charge of Social Services Integration.

Mr LEE HSIEN LOONG (Ang Mo Kio), Prime Minister.

Mr LEONG MUN WAI (Non-Constituency Member).

Mr LIANG ENG HWA (Bukit Panjang).

Mr LIM BIOW CHUAN (Mountbatten).

Assoc Prof JAMUS JEROME LIM (Sengkang).

Ms SYLVIA LIM (Aljunied).

Dr LIM WEE KIAK (Sembawang).

Ms LOW YEN LING (Chua Chu Kang), Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Ms MARIAM JAAFAR (Sembawang).

Mr MASAGOS ZULKIFLI B M M (Tampines), Minister for Social and Family Development, Second Minister for Health and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs.

Dr MOHAMAD MALIKI BIN OSMAN (East Coast), Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Mr MOHD FAHMI BIN ALIMAN (Marine Parade).

Mr MUHAMAD FAISAL ABDUL MANAP (Aljunied).

Assoc Prof Dr MUHAMMAD FAISHAL IBRAHIM (Nee Soon), Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development.

Mr MURALI PILLAI (Bukit Batok).

Ms NADIA AHMAD SAMDIN (Ang Mo Kio).

Dr NG ENG HEN (Bishan-Toa Payoh), Minister for Defence.

Ms NG LING LING (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr LOUIS NG KOK KWANG (Nee Soon).

Miss RACHEL ONG (West Coast).

Mr ONG YE KUNG (Sembawang), Minister for Transport.

Ms JOAN PEREIRA (Tanjong Pagar).

Mr LEON PERERA (Aljunied).

Ms DENISE PHUA LAY PENG (Jalan Besar).

Ms HAZEL POA (Non-Constituency Member).

Ms POH LI SAN (Sembawang).

Mr PRITAM SINGH (Aljunied), Leader of the Opposition.

Ms RAHAYU MAHZAM (Jurong), Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health.

Mr SAKTIANDI SUPAAT (Bishan-Toa Payoh).

Mr SEAH KIAN PENG (Marine Parade).

Dr SHAHIRA ABDULLAH (Nominated Member).

Mr K SHANMUGAM (Nee Soon), Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law.

Mr SHARAEL TAHA (Pasir Ris-Punggol).

Ms SIM ANN (Holland-Bukit Timah), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information and Ministry of National Development and Deputy Government Whip.

Mr SITOY YIH PIN (Potong Pasir).

Ms HANY SOH (Marsiling-Yew Tee).

Ms SUN XUELING (Punggol West), Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social and Family Development.

Mr ALVIN TAN (Tanjong Pagar), Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Ms CARRIE TAN (Nee Soon).

Mr DENNIS TAN LIP FONG (Hougang).

Mr DESMOND TAN (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment.

Ms JESSICA TAN SOON NEO (East Coast), Deputy Speaker.

Mr TAN KIAT HOW (East Coast), Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of National Development.

Dr TAN SEE LENG (Marine Parade), Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Manpower and Second Minister for Trade and Industry.

Dr TAN WU MENG (Jurong).

Dr TAN YIA SWAM (Nominated Member).

Mr PATRICK TAY TECK GUAN (Pioneer).

Mr TEO CHEE HEAN (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security.

Mrs JOSEPHINE TEO (Jalan Besar), Minister for Manpower and Second Minister for Home Affairs.

Mr THARMAN SHANMUGARATNAM (Jurong), Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for Social Policies.

Mr RAJ JOSHUA THOMAS (Nominated Member).

Ms TIN PEI LING (MacPherson).

Mr EDWIN TONG CHUN FAI (Marine Parade), Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Second Minister for Law.

Mr VIKRAM NAIR (Sembawang).

Dr VIVIAN BALAKRISHNAN (Holland-Bukit Timah), Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Dr WAN RIZAL (Jalan Besar).

Mr DON WEE (Chua Chu Kang).

Mr LAWRENCE WONG (Marsiling-Yew Tee), Minister for Education and Second Minister for Finance.

Mr XIE YAO QUAN (Jurong).

Mr ALEX YAM ZIMING (Marsiling-Yew Tee).

Ms YEO WAN LING (Pasir Ris-Punggol).

Mr YIP HON WENG (Yio Chu Kang).

Mr MELVIN YONG YIK CHYE (Radin Mas).

Mr ZAQY MOHAMAD (Marsiling-Yew Tee), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Manpower and Deputy Leader of the House.

Mr ZHULKARNAIN ABDUL RAHIM (Chua Chu Kang).

ABSENT:

Ms HE TING RU (Sengkang).

Ms RAEESAH KHAN (Sengkang).

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- 1 Papers presented to Parliament and received by the Clerk of Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Presentation of Papers) and ordered to lie upon the Table:
- 1.1 Legal Profession (Admission) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 128 of 2021)
 - 1.2 Legal Profession (Admission) (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 129 of 2021)
 - 1.3 Community Disputes Resolution Tribunals (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 130 of 2021)
 - 1.4 Employment Claims (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 131 of 2021)
 - 1.5 Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution (Miscellaneous Amendments) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 132 of 2021)
 - 1.6 Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 133 of 2021)
 - 1.7 Legal Aid and Advice (Amendment) Regulations 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 134 of 2021)
 - 1.8 Land Surveyors (Investigation Committees) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 135 of 2021)
 - 1.9 Rules of Court (Amendment No. 5) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 136 of 2021)
 - 1.10 Supreme Court (Presidential Elections) (Application for Avoidance of Election) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 137 of 2021)
 - 1.11 Supreme Court of Judicature (Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 138 of 2021)
 - 1.12 Supreme Court of Judicature (Singapore Convention on Mediation) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 139 of 2021)
 - 1.13 Legal Profession (Disciplinary Tribunal) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 140 of 2021)
 - 1.14 Legal Profession (Representation in Singapore International Commercial Court) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 141 of 2021)
 - 1.15 Legal Profession (Law Practice Entities) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 142 of 2021)
 - 1.16 Legal Profession (Regulated Individuals) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 143 of 2021)
 - 1.17 Legal Profession (Modified Application of Act for International Services) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 144 of 2021)
 - 1.18 Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 145 of 2021)
 - 1.19 Family Justice (Amendment No. 4) Rules 2020 – Presented on 6 January 2021 (S. L. 146 of 2021)

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- 1.20 Auxiliary Police Forces (Amendment) Regulations 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 147 of 2021)
 - 1.21 Prisons (Amendment) Regulations 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 148 of 2021)
 - 1.22 Road Traffic (Vehicular Emissions Tax) (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 149 of 2021)
 - 1.23 Road Traffic (Motor Vehicle Registration and Licensing) (Amendment No. 4) Rules 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 150 of 2021)
 - 1.24 Road Traffic (Motor Vehicles, Registration and Licensing) (Amendment No. 5) Rules 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 151 of 2021)
 - 1.25 Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) (Amendment No. 3) Rules 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 152 of 2021)
 - 1.26 Organised Crime (Amendment) Regulations 2020 – Presented on 7 January 2021 (S. L. 153 of 2021)
 - 1.27 Charities (Fund-raising Appeals for Local and Foreign Charitable Purposes) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 – Presented on 8 January 2021 (S. L. 154 of 2021)
 - 1.28 Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 – Presented on 8 January 2021 (S. L. 155 of 2021)
 - 1.29 Women's Charter (Registration of Marriages) (Amendment) Rules 2020 – Presented on 11 January 2021 (S. L. 156 of 2021)
 - 1.30 Income Tax (Exemption under Section 13ZA(3)) Rules 2020 – Presented on 13 January 2021 (S. L. 157 of 2021)
 - 1.31 Report of the Special Select Committee on Nominations for Appointment as Nominated Members of Parliament – Presented on 14 January 2021 (Parl. 2 of 2021)
 - 1.32 Report of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights on the Payment Services (Amendment) Bill [Bill No 41/2020] – Presented on 22 January 2021 (Pres. Co. 11 of 2021)
 - 1.33 Report of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights on the Guns, Explosives and Weapons Control Bill [Bill No 44/2020] – Presented on 22 January 2021 (Pres. Co. 12 of 2021)
 - 1.34 Report of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights on the Multimodal Transport Bill [Bill No 42/2020] – Presented on 22 January 2021 (Pres. Co. 13 of 2021)
 - 1.35 Report of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights on the Statute Law Reform Bill [Bill No 45/2020] – Presented on 22 January 2021 (Pres. Co. 14 of 2021)
 - 1.36 COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 – Presented on 25 January 2021 (S. L. 158 of 2021)
 - 1.37 COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2021 – Presented on 27 January 2021 (S. L. 159 of 2021)
 - 1.38 COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Performances and Other Activities – Control Order) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 – Presented on 27 January 2021 (S. L. 160 of 2021)

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- 2 Announcement by Speaker on Nominated Members of Parliament – Mr Speaker made the following communication to the House:-

"Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore, the Special Select Committee nominated the following nine persons to the President for appointment as Nominated Members of Parliament:

Mr Abdul Samad;
Ms Janet Ang;
Mr Mark Chay;
Mr Cheng Hsing Yao;
Prof Hoon Hian Teck;
Prof Koh Lian Pin;
Dr Shahira Abdullah;
Dr Tan Yia Swam; and
Mr Raj Joshua Thomas.

On 21 January 2021, President Halimah Yacob, by Instruments of Appointment dated on the same day, appointed the nine Members as Nominated Members for a term of two and a half years with effect from 21 January 2021.

The Nominated Members are present today to take their seats. They will now take their oaths of allegiance and affirmations."

- 3 Oaths of Allegiance and Affirmations – The following Members took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance or made and subscribed the Affirmation:-

Mr Abdul Samad (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Ms Janet Ang (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Mr Mark Chay (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Mr Cheng Hsing Yao (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Prof Hoon Hian Teck (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Prof Koh Lian Pin (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Dr Shahira Abdullah (Nominated Member of Parliament);
Dr Tan Yia Swam (Nominated Member of Parliament); and
Mr Raj Joshua Thomas (Nominated Member of Parliament).

- 4 25 Questions for Oral Answer were answered during Question Time.
- 5 COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Amendment) Bill – "to amend the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020" – presented by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Minister for Law; read the first time; on a Certificate of Urgency under Standing Order No. 86, to be read a second time on 2 February 2021 – (Copies of the Bill handed to Members present). [Bill No. 2/2021]
- 6 Electronic Transactions (Amendment) Bill – read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill – (Minister for Communications and Information).

(In the Committee)

Clauses 1 to 10 inclusive agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported, without amendment; read a third time.

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- 7 Accelerate and Deepen Efforts Against Climate Change – (Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang) – Motion made, and Question proposed – "That this House calls on the Government, in partnership with the private sector and the people of Singapore, to deepen and accelerate efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to embrace sustainability in the development of Singapore."

Amendments proposed:

- (1) in line 2, after the words "That this House" to insert the words "acknowledges a climate emergency and"; and
- (2) in line 2, after the words "private sector" to insert a comma and the words "civil society". – (Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong);

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be inserted, be there inserted."; Debate arising.

- 8 Exempted Business – (Leader of the House) – Motion made, and Question put – Resolved, "That the proceedings on the business set down on the Order Paper for today be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of Standing Order No. 2."

- 9 Accelerate and Deepen Efforts Against Climate Change – (Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang) – Debate resumed on Question, "That the words proposed to be inserted, be there inserted."

Further amendment to amendment no (1) proposed, after the word "acknowledges", to leave out the words "a climate emergency" and there to insert the words "that climate change is a global emergency and a threat to mankind". – (Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling).

Question proposed on the further amendment to amendment no (1), "That the words proposed to be left out, be there left out."

Question on the further amendment to amendment no (1), "That the words proposed to be left out, be there left out.", put, and agreed to.

Question on the further amendment to amendment no (1), "That the words proposed to be inserted, be there inserted.", put and agreed to.

Question on original amendment no (1), as amended, put and agreed to.

Question on original amendment no (2), put and agreed to.

Original Motion, as amended, put and agreed to.

Resolved, "That this House acknowledges that climate change is a global emergency and a threat to mankind and calls on the Government, in partnership with the private sector, civil society and the people of Singapore, to deepen and accelerate efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and to embrace sustainability in the development of Singapore."

- 10 Adjournment to a Later Date – (Leader of the House) – Motion made, and Question put, Resolved, "That at its rising today, Parliament do stand adjourned to 12 noon tomorrow."

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- 11 Adjournment – (Leader of the House) – Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Parliament do now adjourn."; Debate arising.

On Question put – Resolved, "That Parliament do now adjourn.".

Adjourned at 9.13 pm

TAN CHUAN-JIN,
Speaker

MEMORANDUM

Mr Speaker will take the Chair again at 12 noon on Tuesday, 2 February 2021.
