

**FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE**

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**Second Session**

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**SECOND REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT  
AS NOMINATED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Parl. 17 of 2023**

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**Presented to Parliament on**

**17 July 2023**

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## COMPOSITION OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE

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Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (Marine Parade) (*Chairman*)

Mr Chan Chun Sing (Tanjong Pagar)  
*Minister for Education*

Mr Gan Kim Yong (Chua Chu Kang)  
*Minister for Trade and Industry*

Ms Gan Siow Huang (Marymount)  
*Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Manpower*

Ms Indranee Rajah (Tanjong Pagar)  
*Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Finance, Second Minister for National Development and Leader of the House*

Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman (East Coast)  
*Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs*

Mr Leon Perera (Aljunied)

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan (Holland-Bukit Timah)  
*Minister for Foreign Affairs*

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**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT  
AS NOMINATED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

The Special Select Committee, appointed pursuant to the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore to nominate persons for appointment by the President as nominated Members of Parliament, has agreed to the following Report:

*Introduction*

1 On 21 January 2021, the President, on the nomination of the Special Select Committee of Parliament, appointed nine persons as nominated Members of Parliament for a term of two and a half years. The term of service of the nine nominated Members of Parliament will expire on 20 July 2023. Under section 4(1) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, the vacancies that arise shall be filled by the President by making appointments on the nomination of the Special Select Committee.

2 The Members of the Special Select Committee (Committee) were nominated by the Committee of Selection, with Speaker as ex-officio Chairman. The Committee comprised the following members:

Chairman: Mr Tan Chuan-Jin (Speaker)  
Members: Mr Chan Chun Sing  
Mr Gan Kim Yong  
Ms Gan Siow Huang  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman  
Mr Leon Perera  
Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

*Invitation to the General Public to Submit Names of Persons for Consideration by the Committee*

3 Under sections 2(1) and 2(2) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, the Committee agreed that an advertisement inviting the general public to submit names of persons for consideration by the Committee be published in Lianhe Zaobao, Berita Harian, Tamil Murasu and The Straits Times on 16 March 2023. A press release was also issued to this effect.

4 In addition to the hardcopies available for collection from the Parliament Secretariat, the proposal and curriculum vitae forms were made available on the Parliament website.

5 Each proposal form must be signed by the nominee, a proposer and a seconder and by not less than four other persons, all of whose names should appear in the current Register of Electors. The person proposed was also required to submit a curriculum vitae form, which included an essay on the contribution the person hoped to make as a nominated Member of Parliament, and to submit written references from two referees. The closing date for the submission of names was 19 April 2023.

*Formation of Functional Groups*

6 The Committee decided to continue the practice of inviting the seven functional groups, namely, business and industry; labour; the professions; tertiary education institutions; social service organisations; civic and people sector; and the media, arts and sports organisations, to submit names of suitable candidates for the Committee to consider. The Committee was of the view that functional groups continued to perform a relevant role in the nomination process by ensuring that there were good quality candidates proposed from a cross section of society.

7 The names of the coordinators for each functional group and an invitation to organisations identifying themselves with any of the functional groups were publicised by the Committee in a press release issued on 15 March 2023.

### *Consideration of Persons Proposed*

8 By the closing date, the Committee received a total of 30 proposal forms. There were 14 names submitted by the functional groups and 16 individual applications.

9 The Committee's process for assessing the persons proposed is contained in the Annex.

10 Section 2(3) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution provides that, before making any nomination for appointment by the President as nominated Members of Parliament, "the Special Select Committee shall, wherever possible, consult other Members of Parliament in such manner as it thinks fit".

11 On 20 April 2023, elected Members of Parliament were informed of the names of the persons proposed and their comments were sought on the suitability of such persons for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament.

12 The Committee assessed the suitability of all 30 persons proposed. As most of the persons proposed were qualified and of good calibre, the selection of only nine candidates was a challenging one. The Committee proceeded to interview some of the persons proposed to obtain a better assessment of the individuals.

13 When assessing each candidate's suitability for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament, the Committee, took into account the criteria set out in section 3(2) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore, which provided that the persons to be nominated:

- shall be persons who have rendered distinguished public service, or who have brought honour to the Republic, or who have distinguished themselves in the field of arts and letters, culture, the sciences, business, industry, the professions, social or community service or the labour movement; and
- will be able to reflect as wide a range of independent and non-partisan views as possible.

In addition to the above criteria, the Committee also considered whether the persons proposed:

- possessed a record of significant achievement that demonstrates a range of experience, skills and competencies;
- understood the current issues and challenges facing Singapore;
- had the ability to make effective and significant contributions to the debates in Parliament; and
- were willing and able to commit the time necessary to participate in Parliamentary proceedings.

14 The Committee also considered the views and comments submitted by other Members of Parliament before making its nomination.

#### *Nominations of the Committee*

15 In its final deliberations, the Committee considered whether to release the names of all the persons proposed. The Committee took cognizance of the fact that many candidates had not revealed their names publicly and decided that, on balance, the reasons for maintaining the confidentiality of the names proposed continue to remain valid. Revealing the names of unsuccessful candidates may give rise to speculation and public debate on their suitability and reasons for not being selected. This may cause discomfort and embarrassment to some candidates and deter potential candidates from participating in future nomination exercises.

16 While the Committee found many of the candidates to be well qualified, not more than nine nominated Members of Parliament can be appointed, as stipulated under section 3(1) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution. The Committee has therefore nominated the following nine persons to the President for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament:

(1) **Ms Chandradas Usha Ranee**

Ms Chandradas co-founded the Plural Art Mag, an online magazine composed of a website, social media platforms, an online shop and a consultancy arm. She is also a part-time lecturer and course coordinator at the Nanyang Technological University's Nanyang Business School, as well as a member on the Panel of Experts with the Legal Department of the International Monetary Fund. She has been an active volunteer with Pro Bono SG for over a decade, serving, amongst others, as editor and writer for publications which facilitate access to justice in Singapore.

(2) **Mr Chua Tiang Choon Keith**

Mr Chua is currently the Vice President of Singapore Anglican Community Services, a key service provider in both health and social service sectors that runs a wide range of services. This includes senior services such as senior activity centres and nursing homes, a temporary shelter for women and children, and psychiatric services such as residential rehabilitation, community intervention and integrated employment services. In addition to his involvement in the social service and health sectors, he is also the Executive Chairman of ABR Holdings Limited, which operates Food and Beverage companies and was conferred the Champion of Good award by the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre in 2017, 2018, 2020 and 2022.

(3) **Mr Mark Lee Kean Phi**

Mr Lee is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Sing Lun Holdings Pte Ltd and the Managing Director of Vac-Tech Engineering Pte Ltd. He is also the Deputy Honorary Treasurer of the Singapore Business Federation Council, and the Chairperson of the Jobs and Skills Advisory Committee, and Vice Chair of the Young Business Leaders Network. He was awarded the "Most Outstanding Entrepreneur" during the Asia Pacific Entrepreneur Awards 2010 in Singapore and was the winner of the prestigious Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year (Manufacturing) award in 2015.

(4) **Mr Ong Hua Han**

Mr Ong is currently an Assistant Vice President at Deutsche Bank AG. He is actively involved in dbEnable, a diversity initiative focused on promoting inclusive hiring for persons with disabilities in Deutsche Bank, where he co-leads the work placement programme. This initiative was later instituted as a junior talent hiring pipeline for Deutsche Bank and led to the conferment of the Enabling Mark (Silver) award in recognition of inclusive hiring practice. He is also an Employment Taskforce Member to promote inclusive employment practices under the Enabling Masterplan 2030 and a committee member of the Our Accessible City@CBD (Raffles Place) to improve accessibility in the Central Business District infrastructure.

(5) **Mr Parekh Nimil Rajnikant**

Mr Parekh is the Chairperson of the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and a Council Member of the Singapore Business Federation. He is also the Partner and Head of Asia, Australia and New Zealand at Tikehau Capital and the Chief Executive Officer of Pegasus Asia, a Special Purpose Acquisitions Company listed on the Singapore Exchange. He currently serves as a Board Director of Elevandi, a set up by the Monetary Authority of Singapore to foster an open dialogue between the public and private sectors to advance FinTech in the digital economy. As a member of the Advisory Council of James Cook University (Singapore), he has initiated programmes that focus on helping to increase financial literacy in Singapore.

(6) **Mr Joshua Thomas Raj**

Mr Raj is serving his second term as an NMP and a partner at Wee Swee Teow LLC. He is currently serving as President of the Security Association Singapore (SAS). In his tenure as SAS's President, he had established an Office of Industry Transformation within the SAS Secretariat and an Accredited Security Consultants Programme to recognise security consultancy as a new career path and to set standards. He has been involved as a volunteer lawyer under the Law Society's Criminal Legal Aid Scheme and has chaired the NUS Political Science Department's Singapore Forum on Politics and Policy, which contributed in encouraging dialogue and engagement with policy makers.

(7) **Associate Professor Razwana Begum Bt Abdul Rahim**

Associate Professor Razwana is currently the Head of Public Safety & Security Programme at the Singapore University of Social Sciences. She is also the Vice President II of the Singapore Muslim Women's Association and a member of the Committee on Fostering and the Security Consultant Accreditation Programme. As an advisor to the Youth Court, she has reviewed the pre-sentence reports for youths and also contributed to the discussion on children in need of care and protection. She was awarded the Ministry of Social and Family Development Star Service Award in 2018.

(8) **Ms See Jinli**

Ms See is currently a Director of the NTUC Freelancers and Self-employed Unit at NTUC Administration Research Unit. She is also the Executive Secretary to the National Instructors and Coaches Association; Visual, Audio, Creative Content Professionals Association (Singapore); National Delivery Champions Association; and the National Taxi Association. Together with the National Private Hire Vehicles Association, these associations were critical to rendering immediate and longer-term help and support to the different groups of self-employed persons during the COVID-19 pandemic. Her efforts were recognised with the Public Service Medal (COVID-19).

(9) **Dr Syed Harun Bin Taha Alhabsyi**

Dr Syed is a Consultant Psychiatrist at Starfish Psychiatry Pte Ltd and Alami Clinic. He is currently the President of Lembaga Biasiswa Kenangan Maulud, the Honorary Secretary of the Singapore Psychiatric Association and a member of the Muslim Healthcare Professionals' Association. He was a recipient of the Commendation Medal (COVID-19) for his contribution during the COVID-19 pandemic in supporting the efforts of the Joint Task Force at the Ministry of Manpower in the two key areas, namely the socio-religious needs of migrant workers and their state of mental health in a protracted period of lockdown.

**PROCESS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF  
PERSONS PROPOSED AS NOMINATED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

1 The Special Select Committee's (Committee) process for the consideration of persons proposed as nominated Members of Parliament is as follows:

**STEP 1**

2 The Committee will consult elected Members of Parliament and seek their comments on the persons proposed for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament.

**STEP 2**

3 The Committee will meet to assess all applications and consider the comments received from elected Members of Parliament. In deliberating on the persons to interview, the Committee is guided by the criteria contained in paragraph 13 of this Report.

**STEP 3**

4 The Committee will meet over a few days to interview selected candidates.

**STEP 4**

5 Following the interviews, the Committee will meet to discuss and agree on the persons to nominate for appointment by the President as NMPs. In its deliberations, the Committee is again guided by the criteria contained in paragraph 13 of this Report.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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Tuesday, 14 March 2023

3.00 pm

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (*in the Chair*)

Chan Chun Sing

Ms Gan Siow Huang

Ms Indranee Rajah

Dr Mohamad Maliki bin Osman

Leon Perera

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

#### ABSENT:

Gan Kim Yong

- 
- 1 The Committee deliberated.
  - 2 The following were considered and approved –
    - (a) invitation to the general public to submit names of persons who may be considered for nomination by the Committee for appointment by the President as Nominated Members of Parliament; and
    - (b) the Proposal Form, Form for Curriculum Vitae of the person proposed to be used in the submission of names to the Committee, Guide for the Submission of Names and FAQ document.
  - 3 *Agreed* –
    - (a) that the invitation be inserted as an advertisement in one Chinese, one Malay, one Tamil and one English local newspaper on Thursday, 16 March 2023;
    - (b) that the closing date for the submission of names to the Committee be Wednesday, 19 April 2023;
    - (c) that the Proposal Form and Form for Curriculum Vitae of the person proposed be made available on the Parliament website and may be submitted online or by hardcopy to the Committee;
    - (d) that elected Members of Parliament be consulted on the persons the Committee is considering for nomination;

- (e) that the Chairman invites coordinators and representatives of the seven functional groups and their constituent organisations for a briefing to inform them of the procedure in submitting nominations to the Committee;
- (f) that a press statement on the invitation for submission of names to the Special Select Committee for the nomination of Members of Parliament be issued; and
- (g) that a second press statement on the number of Proposal Forms received be issued on Friday, 21 April 2023.

Adjourned till 2.30 pm on  
Friday, 28 April 2023

## 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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Friday, 28 April 2023

2.30 pm

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### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (*in the Chair*)

Gan Kim Yong

Ms Gan Siow Huang

Ms Indranee Rajah

Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman

Leon Perera

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

### ABSENT:

Chan Chun Sing

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- 1 The Committee deliberated.
- 2 The Committee considered –
  - (a) the 30 proposals received from members of the public and the functional groups, namely, business and industry, the professions, the labour movement, social service organisations, civic and people sector, tertiary education institutions, and media, arts and sports organisations, for consideration by the Committee as nominated Members of Parliament; and
  - (b) the views and comments received from elected Members of Parliament and the referees respectively.
- 3 *Agreed* –
  - (a) that the Committee do interview certain persons proposed on Monday 15 May 2023, Tuesday, 16 May 2023 and Friday 19 May 2023.

Adjourned till 9.30 am on  
Monday, 15 May 2023

**9<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

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Monday, 15 May 2023  
9.30 am

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**PRESENT:**

Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (*in the Chair*)  
Chan Chun Sing  
Gan Kim Yong  
Ms Gan Siow Huang  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman  
Leon Perera

**ABSENT:**

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

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- 1 The Committee deliberated.
- 2 The Committee interviewed persons proposed.
- 3 Agreed that the Committee do meet again on Tuesday, 16 May 2023 at 9.00 am to continue interviewing certain persons proposed.

Adjourned till 9.00 am on  
Tuesday, 16 May 2023

## 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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Tuesday, 16 May 2023  
9.00 am

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### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (*in the Chair*)  
Chan Chun Sing  
Gan Kim Yong  
Ms Gan Siow Huang  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman  
Leon Perera

### ABSENT:

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

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- 1 The Committee deliberated.
- 2 The Committee interviewed persons proposed.
- 3 Agreed that the Committee do meet again on Friday, 19 May 2023 at 3.00 pm to continue interviewing certain persons proposed.

Adjourned till 3.00 pm on  
Friday, 19 May 2023

## 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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Friday, 19 May 2023  
3.00 pm

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### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (*in the Chair*)  
Chan Chun Sing  
Gan Kim Yong  
Ms Gan Siow Huang  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman  
Leon Perera

### ABSENT:

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

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- 1 The Committee deliberated.
- 2 The Committee interviewed persons proposed.
- 3 Agreed that the Committee do meet again on Monday, 10 July 2023 at 2.30 pm to finalise its recommendation to the President and its report to Parliament.

Adjourned till 2.30 pm on  
Monday, 10 July 2023

## 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting

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Monday, 10 July 2023  
2.30 pm

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### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Tan Chuan-Jin) (*in the Chair*)  
Chan Chun Sing  
Gan Kim Yong  
Ms Gan Siow Huang  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Leon Perera  
Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

### ABSENT:

Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman

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- 1 The Committee deliberated.
- 2 Agreed that the following nine persons be nominated to the President for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament:
  - (a) Ms Chandradas Usha Ranee
  - (b) Mr Chua Tiang Choon Keith
  - (c) Mr Mark Lee Kean Phi
  - (d) Mr Ong Hua Han
  - (e) Mr Parekh Nimil Rajnikant
  - (f) Mr Joshua Thomas Raj
  - (g) Associate Professor Razwana Begum Bt Abdul Rahim
  - (h) Ms See Jinli
  - (i) Dr Syed Harun Bin Taha Alhabsyi

### Report

- 3 The Chairman's report brought up and read the first time.

4 Resolved, “That the Chairman’s report be read a second time paragraph by paragraph.”.

Paragraphs 1 to 16 inclusive read and agreed to.

Paragraphs 1 to 5 inclusive of the Annex to the Chairman’s report read and agreed to.

5 Resolved, “That this report be the report of the Committee to Parliament.”.

6 Agreed that the Chairman do present the report to Parliament once copies are available for distribution to Members of Parliament.

Adjourned sine die