

**FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE  
(SECOND SESSION)**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2025**

*No. 152*

**1.30 pm**

1

PRESENT:

Mr SPEAKER (Mr Seah Kian Peng (Marine Parade)).  
Mr ANG WEI NENG (West Coast).  
Mr BAEY YAM KENG (Tampines), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment and Ministry of Transport.  
Mr CHAN CHUN SING (Tanjong Pagar), Minister for Education.  
Miss CHERYL CHAN WEI LING (East Coast).  
Ms USHA CHANDRADAS (Nominated Member).  
Mr CHEE HONG TAT (Bishan-Toa Payoh), Minister for Transport and Second Minister for Finance.  
Mr EDWARD CHIA BING HUI (Holland-Bukit Timah).  
Mr CHONG KEE HIONG (Bishan-Toa Payoh).  
Mr DESMOND CHOO (Tampines).  
Mr ERIC CHUA (Tanjong Pagar) Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Social and Family Development.  
Mr KEITH CHUA (Nominated Member).  
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 and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations.  
Mr GAN KIM YONG (Chua Chu Kang), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry.  
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).  
Ms HE TING RU (Sengkang).  
Mr HENG CHEE HOW (Jalan Besar), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence.  
Mr HENG SWEE KEAT (East Coast), Deputy Prime Minister.  
Mr SHAWN HUANG WEI ZHONG (Jurong), Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Finance.  
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 JANIL PUTHUCHEARY (Pasir Ris-Punggol), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Digital Development 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.

Dr KOH POH KOON (Tampines), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Manpower and Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment.

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), Senior Minister.

Mr MARK LEE (Nominated Member)

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), Senior 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).

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), Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Transport.

Ms NADIA AHMAD SAMDIN (Ang Mo Kio).

Mr LOUIS NG KOK KWANG (Nee Soon).

Ms NG LING LING (Ang Mo Kio).

Miss RACHEL ONG (West Coast).

Mr ONG HUA HAN (Nominated Member).

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

Mr NEIL PAREKH NIMIL RAJNIKANT (Nominated Member).

Ms JOAN PEREIRA (Tanjong Pagar).

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), Minister of State, Ministry of Digital Development and Information and Ministry of Health.

Assoc Prof RAZWANA BEGUM ABDUL RAHIM (Nominated Member).

Mr SAKTIANDI SUPAAT (Bishan-Toa Payoh).

Ms SEE JINLI JEAN (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 Foreign Affairs 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 Home Affairs 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), Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office.

Mr TAN KIAT HOW (East Coast), Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Digital Development and Information and Ministry of National Development.

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

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

Dr TAN WU MENG (Jurong).

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 Digital Development and Information and Second Minister for Home Affairs.

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), Prime Minister and 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:

Mr MUHAMAD FAISAL ABDUL MANAP (Aljunied).

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

---

- 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 Commissioner of Charities Annual Report 2023 – Presented on 7 February 2025 (S. 580 of 2025)
  - 1.2 Environmental Protection and Management (Hazardous Substances) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 – Presented on 12 February 2025 (S. L. 1344 of 2025)
  - 1.3 Food (Amendment) Regulations 2025 – Presented on 14 February 2025 (S. L. 1345 of 2025)
  - 1.4 Corrigendum to Food (Amendment) Regulations 2025 – Presented on 14 February 2025 (S. L. 1346 of 2025)
  - 1.5 The Revenue and Expenditure Estimates for the Financial Year 2025/2026 – Presented on 18 February 2025 (Cmd. 32 of 2025)
  - 1.6 Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial Year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 – Presented on 18 February 2025 (Cmd. 33 of 2025)
  - 1.7 Statement of the Minister for Finance [Under Article 147(4)(a) of the Constitution] – Presented on 18 February 2025 (Misc. 11 of 2025)
  - 1.8 Statements Made by Members to Parliament and Its Committees – Presented on 18 February 2025 (Misc. 12 of 2025)

- 2 Announcement by Speaker – Mr Speaker made the following communication to the House:

"On 14 February this year, I informed Hon. Members that I received a letter on the same day, at 11.47 am, from Mr Raj Joshua Thomas, resigning his seat in Parliament. In accordance with clause (2)(c) of Article 46 of the Constitution, the seat of Mr Raj Joshua Thomas as a Nominated Member of Parliament became vacant with effect from 11.47 am on 14 February 2025.

I also wish to place on record that on 14 February this year, I informed Hon. Members that I received a letter on the same day, at 12 noon, from Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi, resigning his seat in Parliament. In accordance with clause (2)(c) of Article 46 of the Constitution, the seat of Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi as a Nominated Member of Parliament became vacant with effect from 12 noon on 14 February 2025."

"On 17 February 2022, the Clerk of Parliament had written to the Attorney-General informing him of the Resolution passed by Parliament on 15 February 2022. The Resolution reads as follows:

(That this Parliament:

(a) Notes that it appears from the Report of the Committee of Privileges (Paper Parl 13 of 2022) that offences under Part 5 of the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act may have been committed before the Committee of Privileges; and

(b) Resolves, under section 21(1)(c) of the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act, to refer the conduct of Mr Pritam Singh and Mr Muhamad Faisal Bin Abdul Manap before the Committee to the Public Prosecutor.)

On 18 February 2025, I received a letter from the Public Prosecutor informing me of the outcome of the above two referred matters. Firstly, on the matter of Mr Muhamad Faisal Bin Abdul Manap, Member for Aljunied Group Representation Constituency (GRC), the Public Prosecutor, having reviewed the totality of the evidence, had decided not to prefer any charges against him for his refusal to answer relevant questions that had been put to him by the Committee of Privileges.

On 18 March 2024, the Public Prosecutor issued an advisory to Mr Muhamad Faisal Bin Abdul Manap to advise him to familiarise himself with the conduct expected of Members of Parliament under the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act and to refrain from any act that may be in breach of the Act. Mr Muhammad Faisal Bin Abdul Manap had acknowledged the advisory.

Secondly, two charges were preferred against Mr Pritam Singh, Leader of the Opposition and Member for Aljunied GRC, under section 31(q) of the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act, for wilfully making false answers to material questions put to him during examination by the Committee of Privileges.

On 17 February 2025, the District Court convicted Mr Pritam Singh of both charges and imposed the maximum fine of \$7,000 under section 36(1)(b) of the Act for each of the charges.

Mr Pritam Singh has a right of appeal against his convictions and sentences.

I will now address the question of Mr Pritam Singh's seat in Parliament. Members will note that Article 46(2)(e) of the Constitution states that the seat of a Member of Parliament shall become vacant if the Member becomes subject to any disqualifications specified in Article 45.

Article 45(1)(e) of the Constitution states that a person shall not be qualified to be a Member of Parliament who has been convicted of an offence by a court of law in Singapore or elsewhere and sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than one year or to a fine of not less than \$10,000 and has not received a free pardon.

The advice of the Attorney-General's Chambers was sought on the criteria for disqualification in Article 45(1)(e). The Attorney-General's Chambers has advised that the fine of \$10,000 specified in Article 45(1)(e) is based on the sentence imposed for a single offence and not the cumulative sentences of two offences.

In the circumstances, Mr Pritam Singh retains his seat in Parliament."

- 3      20 Questions for Oral Answer were answered during Question Time.
- 4      Budget Statement – (Prime Minister and Minister for Finance) – Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Parliament approves the financial policy of the Government for the financial year 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026."; Debate stood adjourned under Standing Order 89(1); to be resumed on Wednesday, 26 February 2025.

- 
- 5 Adjourment – (Leader of the House) – Resolved, "That Parliament do now adjourn to Wednesday, 26 February 2025."

Adjourned at 5.12 pm

SEAH KIAN PENG,  
*Speaker*

---

**MEMORANDUM**

Mr Speaker will take the Chair again on Wednesday, 26 February 2025.

---