



APDUSA VIEWS

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PIRATES AND PRIOR VOTES

INTRODUCTION

In 1984, when the first tricameral parliament elections were to take place, the P.W. Botha government seriously expected unending queues of Indian and 'Coloured' people waiting at the polling stations from dawn till dusk in order to put their X mark against the name of their **FAVOURITE** candidate. In terms of government thinking, the Houses of Representatives and Delegates would not be regarded as dummy institutions as were the South African Indian and the Coloured Representative Council.

The government could not have been more wrong! More than 80% of the Indian and 'Coloured' people rejected the Tricameral Parliament. It showed that the government was totally out of touch with the thinking among the oppressed people.

The Sell-outs, who got elected with tiny minorities (e.g. Chan Rampersadh, the self-styled 'people's man' only got 3% of the people's vote in 1984) earned universal contempt. Even their Masters made no bones about their distaste for these despicable creatures. It was then that the Sell-outs concocted the **LIE** that it was **INTIMIDATION** on the part of the **DON'T VOTERS** that kept the people from the polls.

The Government used the "intimidation" story for propaganda purposes. It also used that story as an excuse to:

- a) Introduce the new system of **PRIOR VOTES**
- b) To **BAN** the calling of boycotts for the Local Authority Elections held in October 1988.

HOW THE PRIOR VOTES SYSTEM WORKS?

Previously, the prior vote or special vote system applied when the voter would not be present in his or her area on the day of the elections. That person had to fill an application form supported by an affidavit stating why he or she could not be able to vote in the polling booths in that voter's area.

Now the position is that special or prior votes can be cast from the 3rd August 1989 to the 5th September

1989. **MOST IMPORTANTLY**, the voter does **NOT** have to give any reason for wanting to use the prior vote procedure.

Elections will therefore extend over a period of **THIRTY THREE** days — the **longest elections** in the world.

PIRATES AND THE PRIOR VOTES

The whole system of the Prior Votes was designed to assist **POLITICAL PIRATES** to pressgang the poor, unprotected and the weak into casting their votes.

Why do we call these Sell-outs “pirates”? The answer to this question lies in the workings of **political piracy**.

This form of piracy works along the following lines:

1. By **THREATENING** pensioners and those receiving grants that they would lose their pensions and grants if they did not vote.
2. By **LYING** to people that if they had registered as voters then they **HAD** to vote otherwise they would be charged.
3. By undisguised **BRIBERY**.
4. By hiring political **BOUNTY HUNTERS** whose job is to hunt down victims for the polling booth and for which job they get a **BOUNTY** or commission.

5. By **FALSELY** promising people that if they voted they would get preference when it came to allocation of Council houses.
6. Generally by begging, pleading, nagging, harrassing, badgering and wearing down their friends, relatives, employees, the poor, the defenceless, the ignorant and the weak.

WHY 33 DAYS OF VOTING?

In normal elections where the size of the electorate is similar to the voting population under the tricameral parliament, elections ought not be longer than one day. With the percentage poll for the Houses of Representatives and Delegates being so small, about an hour or two should be more than adequate. Yet the Sell-outs have been given 33 days to do their piratical act.

That is what Prior Votes are all about.

PRIOR VOTES PROVIDE PREY TO POLITICAL PIRATES!!!

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this issue of **APDUSA VIEWS** is explain that if the percentage of voting is higher in this election than in the 1984 one, then people must not feel disheartened or feel that the Sell-outs are getting more support. They must understand that there has been **PIRACY AT WORK!!!**