

Public Sector - GOVT. -

Asian Affairs

1986

Party not told of Heunis meetings MP

Solidarity chief denies secret talks

STAR

6/1/86

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DURBAN — The leader of the official opposition in the House of Delegates, Dr Jayaram "JN" Reddy, yesterday rejected a statement by his Solidarity MP for Reservoir Hills and former national chairman, Mr Pat Poovalingam, that he had had "secret" meetings with Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, before his current "unity" talks with the National Peoples Party.

Confirming the meetings with the Minister, Dr Reddy said there was "nothing secret" about them.

"Surely meetings with Gov-

ernment ministers should be treated with decorum?" he said.

Mr Poovalingam, a lawyer, was ousted from his national chairman's post at the Solidarity congress last October. He has refused to be a party to the Solidarity-NPP talks which, he said, were prompted by Mr Heunis.

OUTLINED

He said that by "dangling baits" Mr Heunis was influencing some people to get into situations in which they would become "supine supporters of the Government".

In a statement sent to all Solidarity MPs, Mr Poovalingam outlined why he had refused to

take part in the talks.

Referring to the Heunis-Reddy meetings in Pretoria recently, Mr Poovalingam said it was "so secret" that although he was in Pretoria at the time and stayed at the same hotel and they had a meal together, Dr Reddy had not breathed a word to him about the meeting with Mr Heunis.

Later there was another "secret meeting" in Cape Town at the Minister's home, but when the third meeting was to be held Dr Reddy "merely told caucus that Minister Heunis had asked for a discussion", Mr Poovalingam said — Sapa.

I turned down diplomatic post, says Poovalingam

DURBAN — A senior House of Delegates MP, Mr Pat Poovalingam, said yesterday he had been approached by a top Government official to find out if he would accept appointment as Ambassador to Mauritius "with purview in Asian countries".

He said his reply was that he would not accept "in the present circumstances", but would consider it an honour to do so if the State President first made a public declaration that apartheid would be dismantled.

Mr Poovalingam, a Durban lawyer and the opposition Solidarity Party's MP for Reservoir Hills, said he was revealing this to underline that he was not after State positions.

Mr Poovalingam said representation in Parliament was a new experience for Indians. Solidarity intended to use Parliament as a platform to fight apartheid and not play the National Party's game of promoting parochial, racial or ethnic interests.

"Real opposition to apartheid can never happen if MPs merely try to get Ministerial or new regional services council posts for themselves, their friends or their relatives.

"Nationalists will offer these 'perks' as inducements," Mr Poovalingam said. — Sapa.

Unity talks may not be resumed

CAPE TOWN — Unity talks between the ruling National People's Party in the House of Delegates and the opposition Solidarity party would fail if firm proposals were not offered by the NPP on Wednesday, Mr Ismail Omar, chairman of Solidarity, warned yesterday.

Mr Omar said that during preliminary talks there had been some disagreement on issues of policy.

"Solidarity's mandate from caucus was to present to it a set of draft proposals and if at Wednesday's meeting a firm set of proposals does not emanate then we will not seek a further mandate to continue talks," he said. — Sapa

Strange World of Indian Politics

Confusion and contradiction are almost the watchwords of the House of Delegates, and the latest machinations in attempting to bring together the two main Indian political parties in the tricameral system have added to that impression.

But the joining of forces in the Indian House has run into problems. On Monday a Durban judge granted an interim order against Solidarity which restrains it from enforcing the agreement reached on January 17 between its leader, Mr J N Reddy, and the leader of the National People's Party, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

According to the parties, the "coalition" arrangement was reached in order to fight apartheid. But the joining of forces, if it should take place, is unlikely to make much difference to the effectiveness of the Indian House.

application had been brought by members of Solidarity opposing the merger. Although hotly denied, it is hardly surprising that accusations are being made that personal ambition and position probably played a large part in the Solidarity/National People's Party moves towards a coalition.

AGREEMENT

The turbulent brief history of the House of Delegates has been dominated by these factors — with political principle and policy differences playing very little part in the alliances and groupings.

There was no major change in South African or Indian politics that could have caused the coalition to be formed apart from the fact that President Botha sacked Mr Boethi Abramjee as Indian Budget Minister for leaking confidential information.

Only weeks before the merger agreement was signed, Solidarity — at its congress in Durban — decided that it should not have firm links with any other party. This referred specifically to the Progressive Federal Party.

Last year there were acrimonious debates in the House of Delegates. Here again the clashes were not so much over political principle as over personal differences and accusations of corruption.

At a Press conference Mr Reddy, who was expected to become the next Indian Minister of the Budget, said the coalition was in the larger interests of South Africa to assist in bringing about reform and change.

But the problems that are said to have brought the coalition agreement are very little different from those which existed at the end of 1984 and the beginning of last year when numerous attempts were made to bring the two parties together.

At the time members were shifting to and fro and there were reports of all types of offers being made to individuals to win the majority in the House of Delegates.

Those talks finally foundered because Solidarity did not get the positions it sought on the Ministers' Council and not because of any policy differences.

At the time the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, was deeply involved. It was obvious that the people in Solidarity were far more acceptable than the NPP members.

It was expected that with the merger Solidarity members would be given positions of power. But the court ruling could change that.

Apart from Mr Reddy, Mr Ismael Kathrada, who is one of Natal's largest clothing manufacturers, looked likely to become a Minister in the Indian administration.

The existing Housing Minister, Mr B Dookie, who is out of favour because of his penchant to go-it-alone, was expected to be transferred to the Health post held by Dr M S Padayachay, who, in turn, was likely to be dropped.

Left outside the coalition was a small four-man opposition led by two former members of the old President's Council, Mr Pat Poovalingam and Mr Mamoo Rajab.

Although the group was using political reasons for opposing the coalition, its political stand was not all that clear.

Mr Poovalingam, for instance, was one of the members who made a speech in the President's Vote last year that sparked the comment from Mr P W Botha that he felt as if he were sitting in his own caucus.

Whether or not a realignment will now take place only time will tell.

Williams: vandalism at unused school costly

DISPATCH

29/1/86

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — The chairman of the Indian Management Committee, Mr Mike Williams, said last night that thousands of rands had been lost through vandalism at the Esperanza Junior Primary School because of government intransigence in putting the building to use

Mr Williams said after the monthly meeting of the IMC, that much red tape surrounded the issue of deciding who was responsible for the building

Earlier, he had suggested to the committee meeting that the Esperanza building be rezoned for housing purposes, since the city council was always in need of land for housing

The meeting was told the Indian community would not need a junior

primary school for at least another five years since the present high school had adequate accommodation

The meeting also was told an approach to the Department of Education, House of Delegates, for the building to be revamped to make it suitable for a junior primary school, was met with the reply that the present building did not fit in with the department's plans for educational facilities. As such, the building would have to be demolished to make way for a new school building

● East London's coloured and Indian schools will be approached to nominate pupils to sit on the Junior City Council. The Lion's Club, which sponsors the Junior City Council project, said in a letter to the IMC it wel-

comed the decision to open the project to all race groups, since "this has been our objective for some time"

● The director of parks and amenities, Mr J R Odell, reported to the IMC that maintenance work at the A E Bob Stadium had been suspended because workers had been "molested each time they had gone into the township"

Mr Odell told the meeting "an organised method of precluding any action" on the part of instigators was the cause of the hold-up

Mr Williams said the City Council should liaise with the Duncan Village Residents' Association to combat the harassment of workers at the stadium, since the facility was for the whole community and was not just an Indian sports' ground

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DISPATCH
7/2/86

IMC ultimatum on apartheid

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The whole of East London's Indian Management Committee would resign within the next week or two if the government did not scrap all apartheid, the chairman of the Indian Management Committee here, Mr Mike Williams, said during an interview

Mr Williams said his committee wanted the removal of apartheid, the dismantling of all racist signs and the scrapping of the Group Areas Act

He emphasised that

he was speaking on behalf of the whole committee, which wanted to demonstrate its allegiance to the black cause

"We want the changes made that are being demanded by the boycott committee," he said

His people wanted direct representation on the city council but there had been no sign that this would happen in the near future

Had it not been for the Association of Management Committees (Assomac), which persuaded

the committee to stay on, the Indian Management Committee would have resigned six months ago

Assomac implored the IMC to stay on so it could see what the government was going to do, Mr Williams said

If his people did not have direct representation by August this year, Indian management committees throughout the country would resign

"But we now feel the government is dragging its feet and not enough is being done in this area

"We want the Government to meet the demands of the Duncan Village Residents Association"

Mr Williams said he had the backing of the Braelynn Residents' Association

He denied any pressure having been brought upon his committee by the Oriental Plaza Traders' Association and said the traders had not spoken to his committee

The IMC would welcome a meeting with the traders if they requested one, he said

Minister 'will fight medical apartheid'

STAR 21/2/86

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By Kashvina Jaga

The newly appointed Minister of Health and Welfare in the House of Delegates, Mr Ismail Kathrada, says he will fight to eliminate racial discrimination in medical and health services in the country

The post was previously held by Dr MS Padayachy, who was axed from the Ministers' Council headed by Mr Amichand Rajbansi

The Star interviewed Mr Kathrada about the recent Transvaal Provincial Administration directive calling for the transfer of Indian and black patients from the Coronation Hospital to regional hospitals in their "own" areas

Mr Kathrada said he was opposed to such action, adding that his department had nothing to do with the matter

Asked about future objectives,

Mr Kathrada said a top priority was the establishment of health services in rural and urban areas where services were severely lacking

A plan already on the drawing board was a hospital in Phoenix, an Indian area in Durban with a population of about 100 000, he said.

LACK OF SERVICES

Preventative and promotive health care projects, the lack of services in certain areas, as well as "expansion programmes" for existing services, will all be receiving attention

Questioned on the disparity in the quality of medical services given to blacks in comparison to whites, Mr Kathrada said "I would not like to discuss this as a black/white issue, but wherever there is any disparity I will work towards eliminating it"

Describing his new post as "challenging", he indicated that he still had to plan working strategies.

His interest in health care can be traced to his involvement as a youth in health and welfare associations

Mr Kathrada said his previous working experience would stand him in good stead in his new post

- He was the first Indian to head a local municipality.
- He was on the Verulam Town Board in Durban for five years and a former chairman of the Verulam local Affairs Committee.
- He was also a member of the now defunct Administrator's Non-White Local Government Committee in Natal and an executive member of the now defunct South African Indian Council (SAIC)

Indian committee members resign

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Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON - The Indian Management Committee here resigned en bloc last night because members felt "we are not getting anywhere".

The dramatic announcement was made at the committee's monthly meeting by the chairman, Mr Mike Williams.

There was uncertainty in local government circles last night as to what body would emerge to communicate with the council on the affairs of the borough.

Give leaders said it was an opportune moment for the government to be approached to make Braelyn a ward of the council.

The senior administrative officer in the town clerk's department, Miss Abby Cronin, said if the IMC had been elected, an election would have followed.

"But they are nominated so we will have to inform the council, the administrator and the House of Delegates."

The mayor, Mr Joe Yazbek, said the move had come as a surprise to him and it would be an opportune moment to ask the government to implement what the council had felt for a long time.

"For a democracy to work, we have to have elected representatives and I know for sure there are some fine people in Braelyn who could proudly take their seats around the horse-shoe and contribute in an exemplary manner to the running of the city," Mr Yazbek said.

The chairman of the action committee, Mr Donald Gard, said "It does not matter what happens now but it is patently clear that nominated people are not acceptable. My view is that we must ask the government to make Braelyn a ward of the city council."

He hoped the true leadership among the people would now emerge and negotiate with the city council. Before leaving the committee room in the

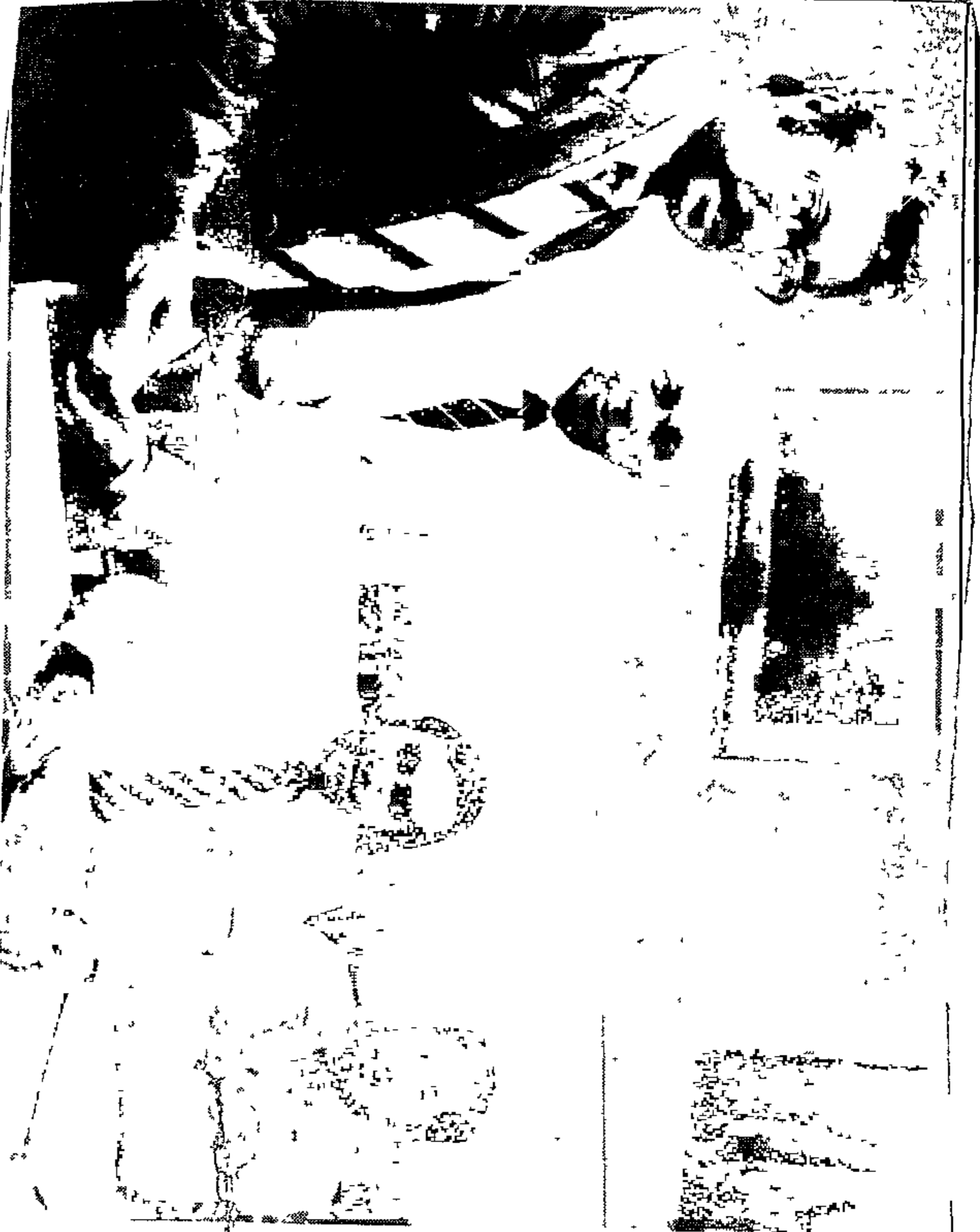
city hall for the last time, Mr Williams said his committee had contributed to civic life in its small way.

"We have done our best to help the community but we don't seem to be getting anywhere. We sit in on action committee meetings but we do not have the vote."

"We hope other bodies such as the Duncan Village Community Council and the Coloured Management Committee will follow suit."

"We will be available to give advice freely in our community and we would like the representatives from our community to be recognised as full councillors," Mr Williams said.

Although they announced their resignation en bloc, each member will resign individually. The other members are Mr Edward Vengadejellum, Mr Murgas Moodley, Mr Billy Chetty and Mr Mogie Coopasamy.



Four of the Indian Management Committee members who resigned yesterday. From left: the chairman, Mr Mike Williams, with his letter of resignation, Mr Murgas Moodley, Mr Mogie Coopasamy, and Mr Billy Chetty.

IMC men say they have not quit

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — Two members of the Indian Management Committee (IMC) have not resigned.

Last night Mr Edward Vengedjellum attended the city council's action committee and informed the meeting that he and Mr Billy Chetty had not resigned.

There were some raised eyebrows when Mr Vengedjellum entered the council chamber as the former chairman of the IMC, Mr Mike Williams, had issued a statement last week saying committee members had resigned en bloc.

The chairman of the action committee, Mr Donald Card, confirmed that Mr Vengedjellum had informed the meeting that he and Mr Chetty had not resigned.

"I do not know what the next move will be as they do not have a quorum," Mr Card said.

Mr Vengedjellum was not available for comment last night.

Last night the chairmen of the Braelynn Heights Residents' Association, Mr Hashmoog Lalla, and of the Braelynn Park Ratepayers' Association, Mr Kemal Obaray, said they were shocked and dismayed by the news.

They said in a joint statement they were studying the legal implications of what they called an "unbelievable somersault" and would issue a press statement today.

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4/3/86

War on IMC is declared

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2/13/68

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — Open warfare was declared here last night on the concept of nominated Indian management committees by the newly-elected president of the Braelynn Residents Association, Mr Kemal Obaray.

The young businessman was elected at a meeting attended by the executive committees of the three subsidiary bodies which fused to form a powerful mother body which will articulate the views and requirements of the Braelynn area.

Deputy president is East London attorney, Mr Hashmoeg Lalla, with two school teachers, Mr Raman Khandoo and Mr Dicky Naidoo as joint secretaries. Treasurers are Mr Vissie Chetty and Mr Ruthna Nina.

In a press statement after the meeting which has spawned a significant new actor on the civic field, Mr Obaray outlined the path his organisation would charter and emphasised that it was diametrically opposed to the concept of management committees.

"It has been brought to our notice that a misguided minority in the community are trying to breathe life into the dormant nominated IMC by arranging a meeting on Sunday purportedly to work with the IMC.

"Needless to say they are merely jumping on the bandwagon of civic awareness we have created and have emerged as agents of a despicable system out to confuse the people.

"But they are misjudging the resolve of the people who suffered for 12 long years under that

heavily tainted body, the IMC, which has not only been a toothless bulldog, but has really been a hurdle in the path of progress.

"We need only read the statement in the minutes of the IMC when three members resigned to see how worthless this concept has been. No lesser person than former chairman Mike Williams has underlined that point.

"We urge the people not to give any credibility to this phantom organisation by attending the meeting on Sunday. We are fully aware that such bodies in the system will be satisfied with a two per cent attendance from the community and they will still have the audacity to claim legitimacy. But those are the facts of life we have come to live with with superimposed leaders who have no democratic base."

Mr Obaray appealed both to the provincial authorities and the local authorities to take note of the trend in the Braelynn area and to respond with pragmatism.

"We bring a simple message to the authorities anchor local government on firm democratic ground and things will run smoothly. Do not superimpose nominated leaders on us. These people do not have standing in the community and they merely turn local government into a sick joke.

"We cannot tolerate such a situation at this point in the history of the country. We do not need puppets. The demarcation between civics and politics is very blurred and because of this, we need people well versed in the politico-socio-economic problems which con-

front us.

"You will never find such people among the ranks of misguided people who make themselves available for nomination merely for selfish ends and thereby short-circuit the democratic process. The political scrap heap of apartheid is littered with such poor souls and we appeal to the authorities not to exacerbate that situation."

Addressing the city council, Mr Obaray said: "We are mindful of the statutory shackles which bind you but in the interests of good local government, but we urge you as a body to act in good faith. Do not be used to circumvent the true aspirations and elected leaders of the people of Braelynn wherever you can. Act in good faith and negotiate with the true representatives as you are rightfully trying to do in the Duncan Village situation."

"We are reasonable men willing to be plugged in an equitable and just system of local government. We are also mindful of the extent to which the economic cake can be shared and we will not make unreasonable demands.

"We urge you to make strong representation to the government and lay bare the numerous shortcomings of a management committee system which erodes the very fabric of true democratic grassroots participation in local government.

"Anything short of that will be a betrayal of the people of Braelynn who through their elected representatives have sent you a clear message that the IMC must be dumped as that outmoded characteristic which the State President spoke about."

2/13/86

WEEKLY MAIL

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Call for parliamentary probe into land 'trickery'

A MAJOR land scandal, which could involve certain MPs, is brewing in the House of Delegates.

The opposition Solidarity Party has given notice of a motion asking for a parliamentary select committee to investigate allegations of irregularities in the allocation of stands in Lenasia South.

Pat Poovalingham, (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) told the Weekly Mail he believed MPs Denis Pillay (NPP, Lenasia West), Subhrey Colacoppen (NPP, Central Rand), Abdoolhack Choonara (NPP, Lenasia Central) and Yusuf Seedat (NPP, Nominated) would be in a position to furnish evidence to the committee

By JEAN LE MAY
Cape Town

It has been confirmed that irregularities contained in a 90-page memorandum are being investigated by police

The memorandum was prepared by Thambi Kistasamy of Dashanya Residential Development, who sent a copy to Baldeo Dookie, Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates

Dookie passed it onto the police and wrote to President Botha, telling him he had done so.

The gist of the memorandum is that "fictitious" utility companies formed by friends or relatives of National Peoples Party MPs were allocated stands which were then being resold at substantial profits

The memorandum said one example of this was the allocation of 30 plots to the son of an MP in the name of a fictitious developer.

The plots were then resold to a genuine development company at a profit of R3 000 each, netting profits of R90 000

The Department of Community Development was "tricked" into making the allocations, said the memorandum

Another allegation is that a company registered as a non-profit-making utility company paid all expenses for a congress of "a political party" held at a posh Durban hotel

Dookie, who has been ill and in hospital, got himself into trouble with the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Amichand Rajbansi, by sending him a telegram from his hospital bed saying that other members of the Ministers' Council were advising developers that they could have stands in Lenasia South for development

"I am not yet dead and there is no need for anyone to take over responsibility for running my department," he said in the telegram.

Talk around parliament is that Dookie was made to apologise for the telegram

In the event, when he returned to his office he put out a statement saying the matter of the telegram had been "satisfactorily resolved" at a meeting of the Ministers' Council.

He was satisfied, he said, that the Ministers' Council had decided that no decision should be taken on matters concerning his portfolio while he was in hospital.

New Indian body formed

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — The Braelynn Service Council (BSC) was formed here yesterday at a meeting attended by more than 60 members of the Indian community in the East London High School hall

The council was formed as a liaison body between the community and the Indian Management Committee (IMC)

The acting chairman of the IMC, Mr Edwin Vengadajellum said the BSC had been formed to enlighten the community on civic matters such as housing and road developments

Mr Vengadajellum said pamphlets had been distributed at the meeting advising people to boycott the council's inauguration

He said the pamphlets had been distributed by the newly formed Braelynn Residents Association

who were against the concept of the IMC

"I don't know why they want to boycott a council which is only there to do good for the Indian community. They should not profess to be democratic because their actions just prove otherwise," Mr Vengadajellum said

Mr Raman Bhana, of Port Elizabeth, MP for the Eastern Cape in the House of Delegates, was also present at the meeting

He said that committees like the Braelynn Residents Association were not recognised in Parliament and that the IMC was the only recognised body

Mr Raymond Pillay was voted in as chairman, Mr Raj Moodaly as vice chairman, Mr J. Natha as treasurer, and Mr G. Augustine as secretary

DISPATCH
24/3/86

NPP accused of underhand dealings

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Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — The National People's Party congress last year was paid for by a housing utility company in return for preferential treatment in the allocation of land, it was claimed in the House of Delegates yesterday.

The allegation has been made in a memorandum compiled by property developer Mr K Thambi of Dashanya Residential Development.

Those who have been sent copies of the memorandum include the State President, the Minister of Law and Order, the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates and leader of the ruling NPP, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATION BLOCKED

However, Opposition moves to set up a parliamentary investigation into Mr Thambi's claims were blocked yesterday by the NPP.

The acting leader of the Opposition Solidarity Party, Mr Yunus Moolla, moved yesterday that a select committee be appointed to investigate the claims.

Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) outlined some of the claims made by Mr Thambi.

One was that the NPP had accepted a donation covering the cost of the party's congress in October last year from Golden City Housing, a Johannesburg-based non-profit-making utility company.

In exchange, the company had received preferential treatment from the NPP-controlled House of Delegates administration in the allocation of land for housing development in the Indian township of Lenasia South, outside Johannesburg.

Another claim made in the memorandum was that friends and relatives of Indian MPs were being employed by such utility companies at high salaries, Mr Poovalingam said.

Neither this nor accepting donations for party congresses was necessarily illegal.



Mr Yunus Moolla . . . wants an investigation



Mr Pat Poovalingam . . . outlined some of the claims

But if there was any truth in the claims, they would be indicative of grossly improper conduct, he said.

NPP Chief Whip Mr M Baig moved an amendment endorsing the decision of the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr Baldeo Dookie, to hand over the memorandum to the police.

Mr Baig said the House was setting a dangerous precedent by debating whether or not to refer the claims of "a shady and notorious man" to a select committee.

Housing Minister Mr Dookie said he wanted to be sure of his facts before commenting on the claims.

The NPP leader Mr Rajbansi accused Mr Thambi of having tried to coerce Mr Dookie into allocating extra plots for his company.

Having failed, he was now trying to bring Mr Dookie's ministry into disrepute, he said.

Mr Rajbansi was adamant Mr Dookie had at all times acted correctly.

'Murder' claim as Delegates feud hots up

Political Staff

The feuding in the House of Delegates took a dramatic turn yesterday when an accusation was made that a politician had been responsible for the murder of a man who had reported him to the Durban City Council for dishonesty

The political bombshell was dropped by Opposition MP Mr Cherry Mohangi (Solidarity, Tongaat) in the second-reading debate on the own affairs budget

Referring to the debate on Tuesday on alleged corruption — during which MPs were involved in heated cross-floor shouting matches — Mr Mohangi said the House had been reduced to its lowest level

He hoped that in future the contribution to debates by the Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, would be at a different level

Mr Mohangi said that in the interest of clean administration he wished to ask the House some questions

- Which politician was described as gun-toting because of his penchant for intimidating and harassing innocent young women through his position?
- Which politician was responsible for the brutal murder of Mr C G Pillay?
- Did not Mr Pillay report the dishonesty of a politician to the Durban City Council?
- Which politician was chucked out by the Durban City Council from the Local Affairs Committee because of his dishonesty?

Mr Mohangi went on to say "The image of this House lies in tatters. Let this man not besmirch it any further." He did not specify to whom he was referring

IRREGULARITY CLAIMS REJECTED

Continuing, he said Mr Rajbansi should not think members of the House or the public were fooled by his failure to deal with the real issues

Earlier, Mr Mamoo Rajab (Solidarity, Springfield) firmly rejected an allegation of irregularities in his electoral division during the 1984 elections

The allegation was made by Mr Rajbansi on Tuesday

Referring to the allegation as unfounded, slanderous and defamatory, Mr Rajab said that if there had been any irregularities, Mr Rajbansi should have taken the necessary legal action against him then

Mr Cherry Mohangi . wants
answers to questions

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Shah urges House to investigate single Lenasia authority

The House of Delegates has been urged to appoint a committee to investigate the feasibility of consolidating Lenasia and its various extensions under a single local authority.

The chairman of the Lenasia South East Management Committee, Mr MS Shah, asked the House to appoint a new committee of people familiar with Lenasia.

He said "It would be ridiculous for people outside the area to serve on the committee as they would not be familiar with the problems of Lenasia residents.

"We have been fighting for years for the appointment of one local authority as it is not practical to have two local authorities for the same area."

Lenasia was originally controlled by the Peri-Urban Board, but in 1971 the Johannesburg City Council took over con-

rol of Lenasia's extensions one to seven Extensions eight to 11 and Lenasia South; which were built later, are administered by the board.

Mr Shah said consolidation would result in the equalisation of tariffs in Lenasia.

His committee had resolved to request the Demarcation Board to look into the question of incorporating the whole of Lenasia within the boundaries of the city council.

The move was supported by the chairman of the Lenasia Management Committee, Mrs Rashida Ebrahim.

The move for the establishment of a committee follows a recent meeting between the Indian Housing Minister, Mr Baldeo Dookie, senior officials of the city council, the Peri-Urban Board and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, and the heads of the Lenasia management committees.

Peace ^{PAR} in ^{17/4/86 258} House of Delegates

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — Peace has come to the House of Delegates — or so it seems

For the heated allegations and cross-floor crossfire that dominated proceedings in the chamber before the Easter recess have been noticeably absent over the past few days

The feuding reached a climax in the last week before the recess when allegations of murder, corruption, cover-ups and numerous other misdemeanours were bandied about.

One of the claims, made by Mr Cherry Mohangi (Solidarity), was that "a politician" had been implicated in a murder plot against a man who had reported him to the Durban City Council for dishonesty

Mr Mohangi also claimed that a certain "gun-toting politician" had intimidated and harassed young women

He did not name the "politician"

CLAIM

Another claim, made by Ministers' Council Chairman Mr Amichand Rajbansi, was that Mr Mamoo Rajab (Solidarity, Springfield), had received illegal votes in the 1984 elections

Earlier in the session Mr Rajab and Mr Rajbansi had been involved in a much-publicised altercation during which they had been surrounded and Mr Rajab led away

The incident followed a heated debate on the question of allegedly improper allocations of Indian land in Lenasia

It was decided that a Parliamentary select committee would not be appointed to investigate the matter and that it would be left in the hands of the police. This prompted cries of "cover-up" from some members of the Opposition

The incident which has caused most upset recently is Solidarity MP Mr Pat Poovalingam's reference to Health Minister Mr Ismail Kathrada as one who "belongs in a pig-gery"

LETTER

Mr Kathrada, a Muslim and himself a member of Solidarity, has written a strongly worded letter to party chairman Mr Ismail Omar complaining that comparisons with pigs are regarded as deeply insulting by Muslims.

He threatened to consider resigning from the party unless Mr Poovalingam were reprimanded

Party sources said Mr Poovalingam was made to apologise to Mr Kathrada at a lengthy caucus meeting

This, and the fact that the Chairman of the House, Mr Raman Bhana, has issued a stern appeal for calm, seems to have helped ease the feuding — for the time being

IMC to ask for removal of 'petty apartheid' signs

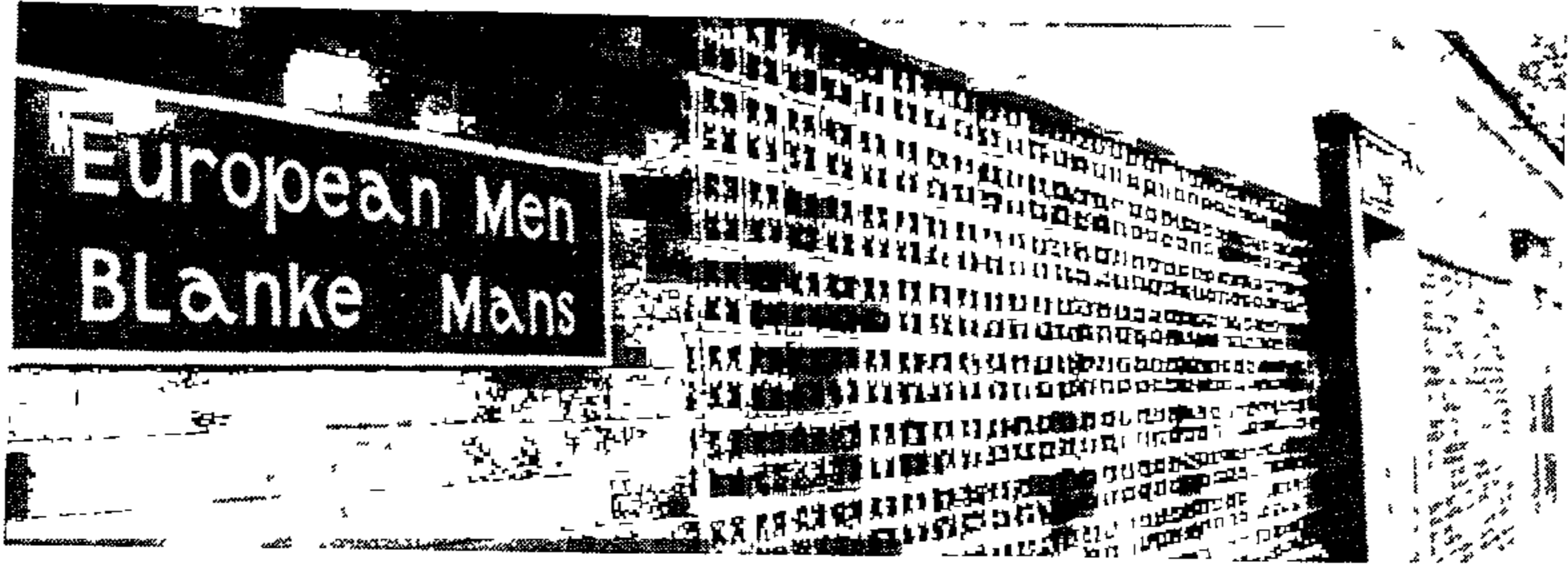
By BESSIE BOUWER

PORT ELIZABETH'S Indian Management Committee (IMC) is to ask the City Council to remove signs enforcing race segregation at its public toilets, according to the deputy chairman of the IMC, Mr Jay Kathan

Mr Kathan said it was ludicrous that the offensive signs continued to be displayed at a time when so many other major race reforms were taking place both in PE and the rest of the country

Petty apartheid signs have dominated the entrances to public toilets for years and the matter last came before council in 1977

Because of the Separate Amenities Act, public conveniences do not have to be integrated but it is in the City Council's power to reverse the situation



Spending a penny in Port Elizabeth might become a political issue if these "petty apartheid" signs outside municipal public toilets continue to be displayed. This sign appears outside a public toilet in Cape Road.

According to the Town Clerk, Mr Paul Botha, no complaints had been received, nor had councillors raised the matter

Mr Botha said the decision to keep public toilets segregated was taken in 1977, when the council appointed a sub-committee

to investigate petty apartheid in the city

Certain recommendations were discussed with the management committees and an agreement was reached that separate toilets would remain in force

Since then the signs re-

mained in place but legally the situation could easily be reversed, said Mr Botha

Councillors spoken to today said they had not been aware that these signs still existed but it was time they were removed

Today Mr Kathan was adamant "The signs must come down as soon as possible," he said

The matter will be raised at the IMC meeting in May and the City Council will then be requested to remove the signs, said Mr Kathan

IMC makes plea for end to boycott

By RAYMOND HILL
THE chairman of the Port Elizabeth Indian Management Committee (IMC), Mr Raman Bhana, MP for Malabar, today called for an end to the consumer boycott in Port Elizabeth

Speaking at the monthly IMC meeting in Korsten, Mr Bhana said the IMC's acting chairman, Mr Jay Kathan, had last month requested the PE City Council to include him (Mr Bhana) in the delegation to see various commercial, industrial and Government organisations regarding the boycott

"I believe a meeting between the sub-committee of the council and the various organisations was held. But the Indian

Management Committee was not requested to be represented. I am disappointed," he said

It had come to his notice that a sub-committee of the PE City Council was formed to discuss the boycott with any person or body having an interest in the matter

Mr Bhana requested the relevant sub-committee, headed by Mr H Van Zyl Cilhe, to use every means within reach and all expert knowledge available to help end the boycott in Port Elizabeth

Mr Bhana said Port Elizabeth's economy was at its "lowest ebb"

The fact that businesses were not realising their normal turnovers would result in the retrenchment or dismissal of employees resulting in

"unfolded hardship" for families, he said

According to Mr Bhana, repercussions of the Port Elizabeth boycott, coupled to the country's general economic problems, would definitely have "far reaching implications" for the citizens of Port Elizabeth

"As it is, the Ford Motor Company has left Port Elizabeth. Do we want a similar situation to occur with the other major industrial undertakings in the city?"

"I reiterate my plea that the sub-committee of the City Council, together with all those organisations involved in the Port Elizabeth consumer boycott, should have a round table discussion in an effort to resolve this impasse"

IMC nominations called undemocratic

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The chairman of the Braelyn Residents' Association, Mr Kemal Obaray, yesterday condemned the nomination of three new members to the Indian Management Committee (IMC)

"This is a despicable way of perpetuating the management committee system which has been proved to be unwork-

able and unacceptable," Mr Obaray said

"How on earth can the government insist on broadening its idea of democracy by nominating people virtually unknown in the realm of civic affairs?"

"It will be interesting to see how these people sit around the make-believe horseshoe with professional council officials and decide the fate of the hundreds of people in the Braelyn area."

Mr Obaray was commenting on the nomination by the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw, of Mr James Lazarus, Mr Gente Natha and Mr Raj Moodley following the resignation in February of three members of the IMC.

Mr Obaray said: "I would also like to draw the attention of the authorities to the words of the former (IMC) chairman, Mr Mike Williams, who said at the time of his resignation that they took the action

'because we are not getting anywhere'

"Is that not proof to the authorities that the system of racial puppet bodies instead of genuine representation around the horseshoe, is an abysmal failure?"

"People of East London should not just sit back and accept this pathetic situation on the understanding that it does not affect them. It does affect them because it is their money which is going to pay these people."

"And they must take note that it is going to cost the city over R50 000 for the year to keep these coloured and Indian puppet bodies going"

Mr Obaray also called on the city council to take note of the situation

"It is just hoped they will make their feelings known when they go to Cape Town on July 29."

"If they do not do so, they will be party to per-

petuating an evil costly system"

The acting chairman of the IMC, Mr Edward Vengadajellum, welcomed the three nominations and said it would enable his committee to get on with the job of making the Indian voice heard in city council

"My colleague and I, Mr Billy Chetty, have been attending action committee meetings but we could not really have a say because we did not have a quorum to hold IMC meetings"

He asked where the Indian input into civic affairs would be if the IMC did not operate

"The residents' association is recognised but not recognised officially as the IMC which is a statutory body. Where will the residents' associations get the money to get the better roads and houses they said they would fight for? Of course they would have to go to the House of Delegates which they reject," he said

29/07/86 Mercury

Water supply brings relief to settlement

258

Mercury Reporter

THERE were sighs of relief yesterday among hundreds of families in the shack settlement of Welbedacht, near Pinetown, when for the first time in many decades they were provided with a water supply on their doorstep

Water tankers from the Development and Services Board were sent into the area after the families' plight was taken up with the House of Delegates

Mr Manilall Naranjee, House of Delegates MP for Mariannahill/Pinetown, told the Mercury yesterday that hundreds of Indian families in the remote area on the outskirts of Pinetown had been living without piped water. They relied on rain water for cooking and drinking while others obtained their water from streams

Pleased

'After their plight was brought to my notice I made strong representations in the House of Delegates for urgent assistance for these unfortunate families. For many decades they had been living without a piped water supply, no proper roads and no electricity

'I am pleased that the Government has earmarked about R3 000 000 for the upliftment of the area, and our first priority will be to provide a piped water supply to each home. But as a temporary measure, a tanker service will be provided to distribute water,' he said



A fresh supply of water was delivered to a number of families in the shack settlement of Welbedacht near Pinetown yesterday. Here, an employee of the Development and Services Board fills up the containers of residents while (from left) Mr J C Naidoo, an official of the board, Mr Manilall Naranjee, House of Delegates MP, and Mr C A S Hilligan, district manager of the board's North Coast division, look on.

22 Indian

Merc 12/8/60
places

declared

(258)
slums

Mercury Reporter

TWENTY-TWO Indian-owned properties in Durban have been declared slums by the House of Delegates

A spokesman for the 'own-affairs' Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture said the properties had been declared slums in terms of the Slum Clearance Act

The owners of each of the properties had been given enough time by the Slum Clearance Court to demolish all the buildings concerned

Some of the properties are at 75 Belmont Road, Red Hill, Durban, 2 Johanna Road, Sea Cow Lake, 4 Hoffman Place, Springfield, 19 Shenfield Place, Clare Estate, 48 Ganesh Road, Clairwood, 50 Persadh Road, Clairwood, 222 Effingham Road, Red Hill, 59 Hope Road, Overport, 26 Carlise Street, 30 Kennedy Road, Durban, and 39 Beaunoir Avenue, Jacobs

Mr Nizam Khan, House of Delegates MP for Isipingo and prominent Clairwood businessman, said yesterday that he was alarmed at the large number of properties declared slums by the House of Delegates

It is a sad reflection on the House. The authorities should be more lenient and allow the property owners to renovate their buildings instead of condemning them

The Durban City Council, which previously handled this, certainly appeared to have shown more sympathy

He said he intended to raise the issue in Parliament

Mr. CARTER SELEKE

Speaking to the *Sowetan* yesterday, Mr Seleke said he cannot be overjoyed by his release. He said he had left behind many elderly and young people who are being kept in prison for no valid reasons and should be freed.

"The state of emergency is no solution to the problems of our country. It failed in the 1960s and last year. The authorities know the problems and what the people want," he said.

MP in court

SOWETAN

Correspondent

HOUSE of delegates MP Mr Faiz Mohamed Khan appeared briefly in the Protea Magistrate's Court on Tuesday in connection with allegations of three counts of fraud arising out of a Lenasia Management Committee by-election last year.

No charges were put to him and he was not asked to plead.

He was provisionally remanded to the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on September 26.

Mr Khan, MP for Lenasia East, is out on his own recognisances.

He originally won the LMC by-election on June 12 last year, but the poll was declared null and void by the Rand Supreme Court following an application by his opponent, Mr Pregarson Padayachee.

Sowetan
258 257/86

Indian MP accused of election irregularities

By Inga Molzen

SMP 27/11/88 258

A member of the House of Delegates, Mr Faiz Mohamed Kahn, was not asked to plead in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday to alleged irregularities relating to his election to the Lenasia Management Committee last year.

Magistrate Mr T F Veldman extended bail of R10 000 to Mr Kahn (58) of Saffier Street, Lenasia Ext 5 and postponed the case to November 11.

Mr Kahn, a Progressive Independent Party representative, was a Ward 6 candidate in the management committee by-election on June 12 last year.

REGISTERED VOTERS

The State alleges that, directly or indirectly, Mr Kahn got Mr Sayed Iqbal Hoosen, Mr Goolam Ali Ebrahim and Mr Mohammed Hoosen Cholin, who were allegedly not entitled to vote in Ward 6, to vote on behalf of registered voters who did not cast their ballots.

On the charge sheet, Mr Ismail Suliman Dedat, Mr Ebrahim and Mr Samuel Moodley are listed as those registered voters. Mr Kahn, through false pretences or non-disclosure, allegedly induced Mr Albert Graham Collins, the returning officer for the election, the polling officers and another candidate, Mr P Pandayache, to believe the men were entitled to vote.

When you can't come

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UDW must fill 'plum' post amid growing tensions

Mercury Reporter

A SELECTION committee of the University of Durban-Westville is to meet today to find a suitable candidate for an important post at the university amid growing tensions between the House of Delegates and the university over Indian staffing

Mr P I Devan, the ruling National Peoples' Party spokesman on Education in the House of Delegates, told the Mercury yesterday that 51 applications had been received for the post of chief director of finance and administration, but the number had been short-listed to four

Hit back

'Three whites and an Indian are among the contenders for the plum post. In view of the recent uproar over by-passing of Indians in appointments to top posts it will be interesting to see how this key position is filled,' he added

Relations between the rector, Prof Jaap Greyling, and Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chief Minister of the House of Delegates, deteriorated further this week when Prof Greyling hit back at the politicians in a special newsletter, 11 000 copies of which were circulated among staff, parents of students and others

In the newsletter, Prof Greyling says 'In the past I

have refrained from involvement in the malicious debates concerning university affairs that seem to continually occupy the local ethnic Press and certain members of the House of Delegates

'I abhor politics and have been reluctant to get involved in it— partly to save politicians embarrassment and partly to maintain good working relationships

'The irresponsible statements and accusations made by politicians and reported mainly in the Indian newspapers are based on malicious gossip, incorrect information and fallacious arguments, fabricated for political expediency or with the deliberate intention of destroying the university'

Mr Devan hit back at Prof Greyling, saying that he had 'blundered by his outbursts in the newsletter'

'Politicians as well as other well-meaning members of the community have made it abundantly clear that they do not subscribe to the Indianisation of the university nor do they support white washed universities

'Their viewpoint is that all things being equal, Indians should be afforded preference at the only university where they could aspire for positions in the highest echelons,' he added

Hands off Isipingo, says MP

Mercury Reporter

THE House of Delegates MP for Isipingo, Mr Nizam Khan, said yesterday that he was strongly opposed to the all-Indian town of Isipingo forging links with the Amanzimtoti Town Council to form a single local authority.

Isipingo's Mayor, Mr Hassim Mahomed, supported Mr Khan, saying that he, too, did not believe the town's people were 'pre-

pared to give up their right to control their own affairs'

'We opted for autonomy because we did not get a fair deal when Isipingo was run by Amanzimtoti. Why should our people now throw away their independence?' he asked.

Mr Khan said the Government should return the Prospecton industrial complex to Isipingo.

'The fight for the return

of Prospecton will be continued in the House of Delegates when Parliament reopens next year,' he vowed.

The tug-o-war between Amanzimtoti and Isipingo over Prospecton took a new turn yesterday with the Isipingo Town Council calling on the Natal Provincial Administration to appoint a commission of inquiry into calls for the incorporation of Prospecton into

Isipingo

Amanzimtoti's Town Clerk, Mr Dave Ongley, confirmed that the council had agreed to a joint meeting with the Isipingo Town Council to discuss Prospecton.

Mr Mahomed said Isipingo would only consider attending if a proposition was made on the formation of a non-racial local authority with equal representation.

11/10/86 N/M (258)

Committee to earmark land for Indians

Mercury Reporter

THE acute shortage of residential land for Indians in Durban and the Transvaal was the subject of a meeting between the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates and Mr Piet Badenhorst, deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, in Durban this week

In a joint statement released yesterday, Mr Badenhorst and Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Minister's Council, described the meeting as 'very fruitful'

Mr Baldeo Dookie, own-affairs Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, said a special committee, representing the Departments of Constitutional Development and Planning, Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, House of Delegates, Durban City Council and the Province, had been formed to identify additional land for Indian housing.

Mr Dookie said it was expected the committee would find suitable land to continue housing development for the Indian

community before the completion of Phoenix, north of Durban, in about two years

'The housing situation for Indians in Durban is critical and additional land is urgently needed to cater for forward planning,' he said, adding that not even the completion of the Phoenix housing scheme was expected to alleviate the housing shortage

He said Mr Badenhorst and the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates had completed proposals for the identification of land to alleviate the 'very critical' housing shortage in Actonville on the East Rand

Speculators

'The Deputy Minister will, after holding investigations, take the necessary steps to advertise certain areas in the Transvaal for proclamation as group areas for Indians,' Mr Dookie added

He said in Durban they were looking at areas for Indian housing development, but he declined to divulge further information at this stage for fear of tipping off speculators

^{N/M}
NPP man (258)
13/11/86
wins election

MR ABDULLA Khan of the National People's Party won the Brickfield by-election for the House of Delegates last night. He polled 1 643 votes, against the 476 of Mr Ruben John, of Solidarity in a 12,97% poll

N/M 20/11/86

Reddy's position illogical, Court told

Court Reporter

IT WAS a 'logical impossibility' for Dr Jayaram Reddy to be both Solidarity Party leader and a minister in the National People's Party-dominated House of Delegates, a political scientist told a Supreme Court judge in Durban yesterday.

The hearing, before Mr Justice Nienaber, arises out of the assertion by four Solidarity MPs that the acceptance by Dr Reddy of the position of Minister of the Budget in the House of Delegates is contrary to a resolution adopted by Solidarity at its national congress earlier this year.

Representing the four MPs, Mr J Bristowe, SC, said Mr Reddy's position as opposition leader and Minister of Budget was 'unprecedented' and 'unusual' not only in South Africa but in the British system of parliament as well.

Mr Bristowe said a leader of the opposition may become a minister, but in parliamentary tradition usually abandoned his position as opposition leader.

Called to support this claim, Prof Robert Schrire from the University of Cape Town said it was a 'logical impossibility' and there was 'no precedent' for the leader of the opposition joining the Cabinet.

Mr Mahmoud Rajab, Mr Pat Thungaval Poovalingam, Mr Ramcharitar Mohangi, and Mr John Lyman are seeking an order declaring an agreement made between Dr Reddy and the National People's Party leader, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, to form a merger, null and void.

This agreement was known as the 'Declaration of unity of political purpose'.

Mr Bristowe told the Court that a temporary interdict had been granted against Solidarity earlier this year.

Separate

However, no interdict had been served against Dr Reddy from January 27 following his public assur-

ance that he would do nothing to implement a merger agreement.

Called to make a distinction between a merger and a coalition, Prof Schrire said a merger was defined as a unification of two formerly separate organisations which unite and become a new organisation.

A coalition was a temporary agreement between two or more political parties to co-operate within a political framework.

In his opinion as a political scientist, Prof Schrire said, the 'Declaration of political purpose' was clearly an 'ambiguous text of a coalition agreement'.

During January 1986 the National People's Party held the majority in the House of Delegates.

For this party to enter into a coalition there would be two possible reasons.

Firstly, it would strengthen the ruling party should there be a split and a danger of it becoming a minority.

Secondly, political leaders might feel competition between national parties could be to their detriment.

Under cross-examination by Mr H E Mall, SC, Prof Schrire conceded that a merger between the two opposition parties would be the logical step for a better bargaining power against other groups.

Representing the four MPs, Mr Bristowe was assisted by Mr M Pillemer, Mr H E Mall, assisted by Mr F Moosa, appeared for Dr Reddy.

The hearing continues today.

LIST/LYS P86/57

Entry No Inskrywing No	Publication or object Publikasie of voorwerp	Author or producer Skrwyer of voortbringer	Section 47 (2) Artikel 47 (2)
P86/08/91	<i>More The Official Doctors Joke Book</i>	Larry Wilde	(a)

GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 813 OF 1986

RESULT OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES BY-ELECTION —ELECTORAL DIVISION OF BRICKFIELD

In accordance with sections 108 and 109 of the Electoral Act, 1979 (Act 45 of 1979), the following particulars relating to the election of members of the House of Delegates for the Electoral Divisions of Brickfield held on 12 November 1986 are hereby published for general information

ALGEMENE KENNISGEWING

KENNISGEWING 813 VAN 1986

UITSLAG VAN TUSSENVERKIESING VIR DIE RAAD VAN AFGEVAARDIGDES —KIESAFDELING BRICKFIELD

Ooreenkomstig artikels 108 en 109 van die Kieswet, 1979 (Wet 45 van 1979), word die volgende besonderhede betreffende die verkiesing van lede van die Raad van Afgevaardigdes vir die kiesafdeling Brickfield gehou op 12 November 1986 hiermee vir algemene inligting gepubliseer

Electoral Division Kiesafdeling	(a) Name of person elected (b) Majority of votes of person elected (c) Date with effect from which declared elected (a) Naam van verkose persoon (b) Meerderheidsstemme van verkose persoon (c) Datum met ingang waarvan verkies verklaar	Votes polled for, and political party represented Stemme uitgebring en politieke party verteenwoordig		Number of ballot papers rejected Getal verworpe stembriewe	(a) Total number of votes polled (b) Polling percentage (a) Totale getal stemme uitgebring (b) Stempersentasie	Number of votes on voters' list Totale getal kiesers op kieserslys
		Candidate Kandidaat	Political party Politieke party			
Brickfield	(a) Abdulla Khan (b) 1 167 (c) 1986-11-12	A Khan 1 643 R S John 476	National Peoples Party/Nasionale Volksparty Solidarity	11	(a) 2 130 (b) 12,98	16 416

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Well, at least Mr Rajbansi has sense of humour



Mr AMICHAND Rajbansi

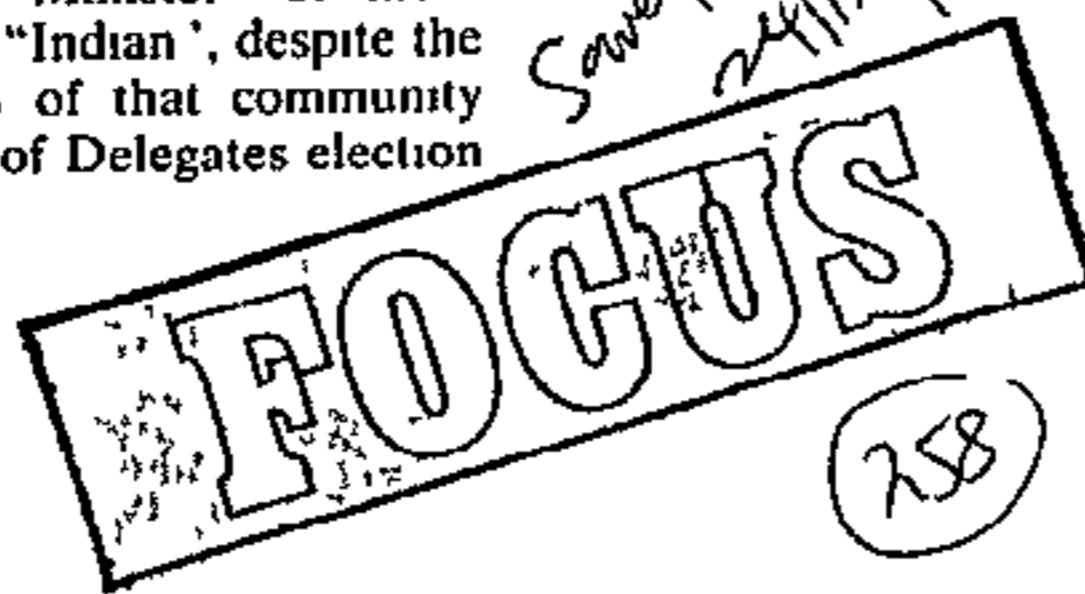
IN terms of government thinking Amichand Rajbansi is the 'Prime Minister' of those South Africans classified 'Indian', despite the fact that less than 15% of that community voted in the first House of Delegates election in 1984

On December 14 Mr Rajbansi addressed a public meeting in Lenasia, the largest 'Indian' group area outside Natal

Lenasia is the undisputed political stronghold of the Transvaal Indian Congress/United Democratic Front. The Transvaal vice-president of the UDF and VP of the TIC Dr Rashid Saloojee, after being detained under both states of emergency, has been silenced by the Government

He cannot address political meetings nor can he be quoted in the media. Three more TIC/UDF officials in Johannesburg were served restriction orders earlier this month

Rallies organised by extra Parliamentary organisations are regularly banned. And these groups can no longer call for boycotts



By AMEEN AKHALWAYA
Editor of the Indicator

Against this background a local mouthpiece of Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party (NPP) trumpeted that the 'PM' would draw 2 000 people to his Lenasia meeting

First, the meeting was advertised for the new Gandhi Hall in Lenasia. However, one or two members of the committee which hires out the hall are also TIC/UDF members and they promptly decided that Mr Rajbansi couldn't use it

So the venue was switched to the Lenasia Civic Centre. Now when it comes to those in power who deprive people of their civil liberties and regulate Press reporting I am among those black journalists who don't pretend to be objective. We may therefore be accused of suffering from tunnel vision

tee which hires out the hall are also TIC/UDF members and they promptly decided that Mr Rajbansi couldn't use it

So the venue was switched to the Lenasia Civic Centre

Now when it comes to those in power who deprive people of their civil liberties and regulate Press reporting I am among those black journalists who don't pretend to be objective. We may therefore be accused of suffering from tunnel vision

Multivision

But Mr Rajbansi may be suffering from multivision if he insists 400 people heard him speak at his Lenasia meeting

I wasn't invited to his do. In fact an NPP supporter advised me as a friend to stay away for reasons that can't be disclosed under the emergency regulations

All the same a staffer from my newspaper went to the hall at 3pm — the meeting was advertised to start at 2 30pm — to count the number of people present. Not more than

150, he said. "And most of them look like students opposed to Mr Rajbansi"

Twenty minutes later two women whose word I trust also went to the hall. They confirmed that 150 was the "maximum"

At 4pm, a local businessman whose honesty is beyond question reported that the majority of the audience were UDF and TIC supporters and they walked out in protest when Mr Rajbansi rose to speak. Fifty or so people remained to listen to Mr Rajbansi, he said

Blinded

Later asked how many people were there one of Mr Rajbansi's co-speakers said "I was nearly blinded by the television spotlights I couldn't see further than the first couple of rows"

An NPP supporter who felt there weren't more than 75 people in the hall said "When all those UDF guys stood up we thought they were going to give Rajbansi (Mr Rajbansi) a standing ovation. Instead they walked out"

Perhaps Mr Rajbansi's figure was right if one takes into account the many people who stayed in their vehicles outside the hall, one of them with a spanner in his hand

Assuming his figure of 400 is correct, it reinforces the view that the meeting was a flop when one considers his titles: national Cabinet Minister, chairman of the House of Delegates, Ministers Council leader of the NPP

UDF/TIC rallies at the same venue have attracted crowds of close to 2 000 with standing room only in the corridors, the lobby and on stage

But then one doubts if Mr Rajbansi would be too concerned if the majority snub or reject him. After all the name of the game in South Africa is minority rule

Meanwhile my newspaper together with at least one other 'alternative' newspaper — targets of Mr Rajbansi's Government's latest Press curbs — last week received a full colour card with a picture of Parliament on the cover and one of Mr Rajbansi, speaking on the phone inside

It said Mr and Mrs Rajbansi wished you and your family a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

Well at least Mr Rajbansi has a sense of humour

Some journalists (and their families) are not going to have a very happy Christmas because they live in fear of a R20 000 fine or 10 year jail sentence should they contravene the emergency regulations

Shut

Some don't know if there's going to be a New Year — never mind a prosperous New Year — if their papers are shut or they are fined and/or jailed

This being the season of goodwill however, we hope Mr Rajbansi too will have a Happy Christmas as he reflects the state of the country to which he and his government colleagues have contributed

We wish him a prosperous New Year too, and hope that the whopping salary increases he and his Parliamentary colleagues received this year will be reflected in the increases the millions of unemployed, under-employed or struggling workers will receive in the New Year

And for readers of the Sowetan, may your prayers be answered for a truly democratic South Africa in which justice and truth prevail



Political comment in this issue by J Latakgomo and A Klaaste. Sub editing headlines and posters by S Mathaku. All of 61 Commando Road, Industria West, Johannesburg

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Indian and coloured MPs fight shy of poll

COLOURED and Indian MPs do not want to go to the polls if a general election is called for white voters.

It is reliably learnt that the Ministers' Councils ("min-Cabinets") of both the coloured and Indian Houses have already discussed the possibility of a simultaneous election with whites.

By **NORMAN WEST**
Political Reporter

have nothing concrete to show for opting for conditional participation in the tricameral Parliament two years ago.

In fact, when the Labour Party of Cabinet Minister Alan Hendrickse, chairman of his Ministers' Council, recommended candidates for the first multi-racial executive committees of provincial councils in June, only nominated Labour Party

President's Council members were recommended — thus avoiding embarrassing by-elections.

It is widely expected that Mr Botha will make his announcement of an early election at the Cape congress of the National Party in East London tomorrow — and the most likely polling date is November 26.

According to Section 2 of the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act, the State President may dissolve the tricameral Parliament by

proclamation in the Government Gazette at any time.

But it is extremely unlikely, say informed sources, that the State President will plunge the coloured and Indian Houses into a bitter, if not disastrous, election against their will.

This is because they already face a serious credibility

crisis in their communities, and because of widespread rejection of, and cynicism about, the tricameral Parliament.

On the other hand, the State President is entitled constitutionally to proclaim individual elections, for example, for whites only.

The Transvaal Indian Con-

gress, a UDF affiliate, has meanwhile charged the parliamentary parties with being afraid to test their support and warned they would again call for a boycott of elections.

In a statement released this weekend, the TIC argued that even lower polls than in August, 1984, should be expected.

Nats still divided on date for key election

By **LESTER VENTER**
Political Correspondent

CAPE Nationalists go to the last of the season's policy-making congresses in East London tomorrow divided on two vital issues — the future of the Group Areas Act and the best strategic date for a general election.

Nat party leaders have left no doubt that the country is headed for an early parliamentary election — only the date remains unknown, but many senior Nationalists favour November 26.

If they have their way,

State President P W Botha's opening of the congress tomorrow night is the last feasible platform from which he can announce the election.

A top Nationalist confirmed this week that Mr Botha was "anxious" for an election, and was said to be "sensitive" to rightwing accusations that he did not have a mandate from whites for his reform strategy.

Whether or not Mr Botha announces an early election, the Cape Nats are set to clash over the burning issue of the Group Areas Act.

A motion from Maitland asks the Government to apply the Act more strictly, and motions from Tyger Valley and Durbanville ask for a reaffirmation of "own schools and own residential areas".

On the other hand, Stellenbosch delegates plan to raise the possibility of grey areas.

Samuels accused of 'sensation'

Mercury Reporter

THE row between the House of Delegates and the Teachers' Association of South Africa, Tasa, over 'political interference' in Indian education, took a new turn yesterday

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House, accused Tasa president Pat Samuels of trying 'to create a sensation to embarrass the House of Delegates with facts he will not be able to substantiate'

'In respect of the 1987 school calendar, it was Mr Samuels who took it to the politicians after he was not satisfied with the decision of the Executive Director and now he complains about political interference

'He is guilty of dragging the politicians into an administrative matter.

'The call for a judicial commission is one of his regular sensations, and I think Tasa should search itself and ask itself whether there is too much politics and less work on educational matters in Tasa itself'

'The fact that Mr Samuels

writes letters directly to the minister and not to the executive director gives a lie to his public stance about politicians interfering with day-to-day matters

'There are many teachers who are concerned about Tasa's political role and they have repeatedly requested us to recognise another teacher's body that will deal with the interest of teachers and education generally'

Purpose

He said the day-to-day administration of education was left in the hands of the head of the administration of education

'I think that teachers must now seriously examine Tasa's political role as compared to the purpose for which it was established'

Mr Samuels said it was a pity Mr Rajbansi had misunderstood Tasa's conference resolution, which basically attacked not only the House of Delegates but the tricameral parliamentary system

He said there had also been erosion of the Director of Education's powers

only 60 cm clearance on either side

The Winterberg, a Safmarine container vessel, was damaged when its bulbous bow was ripped open when it struck an object while coming into port late last week

Although it will give him more time to tend his roses, play bowls and travel, Mr Hansen, who was appointed chief dockmaster 18

fell over, have found attention under his guidance and he cannot count the number of times he was had to work through the night to get one repaired

The busiest time he can remember was during the Suez crisis when ships were queuing to get into the dry dock.

Mr Hansen's successor has not yet been named

Cosatu unions to mourn mine victims

JOHANNESBURG—Unions belonging to the Confederation of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) will remember tomorrow the miners who died in the Kinross disaster, the organisation said in a statement yesterday.

The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has called a day of mourning and their members nationally will not be going down the mines tomorrow

Some unions are pushing for a two-hour service

Cosatu said all unions were demanding that no worker suffer loss of pay or victimisation for taking part in commemoration activities

Soweto businessmen have agreed to close their stores 'in a show of solidarity' with the NUM day of mourning

In a statement, Mr Sydney

Mahlangu, secretary of the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industries, said all stores would in the area would close at 1 pm 'in a show of solidarity.' — (Sapa)

Martin far out ahead

CAPE TOWN—South African yachtsman John Martin is all on his own as he heads for Cape Town with the rest of the BOC Round-the-World Race fleet now well behind him.

Martin was 111 miles ahead of the second placed yacht on Friday, and has increased his lead to 277 miles over the past two days. According to the latest position report, Martin is just over 2 000 miles from Cape Town, the first race stop — (Sapa)

Minister repudiates Rajbansi on education

255
14/10/82

ORMANDE POLLOK
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—Mr F W de Klerk, Minister of National Education, has repudiated his Cabinet colleague and Chairman of the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, in almost unprecedented fashion

He has rejected as 'speculative mathematical projects' media reports attributed to Mr Rajbansi about large-scale financial cutbacks in white educa-

tion to finance equal education for all groups

He has committed the Government to at least maintaining present levels of education reached by the different educational authorities and said extra funds would have to be made available to achieve the Government's stated goal of equality.

Mr Rajbansi was quoted at the weekend as predicting large-scale cutbacks in white education, and Mr de Klerk's outspoken repudi-

ation, while not mentioning Mr Rajbansi by name, could well be the subject of heated exchanges at this week's Cabinet meeting

Mr de Klerk said in a statement last night that reports in a number of newspapers had created the impression that the Government was making massive cutbacks in some departments of education, which might have a destabilising effect on the provision of education and on the teaching profession

He wanted to ensure a proper perspective, he said

'The Government has not yet taken any firm decisions as to how it intends to attain its stated goal of equal provision of education for all population groups,' said Mr de Klerk.

What had been announced was that the subsidy formula was being finalised which would enable the Government to move towards its goal on an orderly and non-disruptive basis

'When this formula is finalised, particulars will be made known to all interested parties,' he said

Mr Rajbansi said in Durban last night that he had no quarrel with Mr de Klerk's statement

'What we highlighted were the problems the Indian Education Department is going to face in the light of money being allocated for education on a new formula basis in a programme to allocate more for the underdeveloped communities'

NIC's Meer says Delegates are 'creating illusion'

Mercury Reporter

THE proposed moves to cut spending on Indian education next year came under heavy fire from the Teachers' Association of South Africa and the Natal Indian Congress yesterday

In a hard-hitting statement Dr Farook Meer, executive member of the Natal Indian Congress, said an illusion was being created by the House of Delegates that by diverting funds from Indian education, the House was being magnanimous and engaging in a gesture of fair play

'Nothing could be further from the truth. The meagre savings from downgrading Indian education — itself in need of funds — will not solve the massive problem of black education

'At the same time the House of Delegates is placing the Indian community in a position where any protest by it can be misconstrued as refusal by Indians to make the sacrifices to black education, thereby encouraging an anti-Indian backlash,' he said

The truth was that plenty

of money was available without downgrading educational standards of any South African and 'we suggest other ways to finance education for all South Africans'

Not solve

He said that one education department should be established which would result in a large saving by avoiding the duplication of services. He also called for the scrapping of the House of Delegates and the House of Representatives

Teachers' Association president Mr Pat Samuels said the cutbacks would not help solve the problems in black education

'The amount of money saved through the cutback would be too small for the ever widening gap in black education

'I believe that the expanding black population will be such that it will take us right into the year 2020 before we could see any light at the end of the tunnel. For there to be any satisfactory resolution, the Government must look to funds from other sources

'A single ministry of education is absolutely necessary now,' he added

Mr Pat Poovalingam, of the opposition Solidarity Party in the House of Delegates, said last night that the reported drastic cut in the budget for Indian education was 'shocking and unacceptable'

'Solidarity has demanded upgrading of education for black children. No decent person will support the downgrading of education for Indian children. What Mr Rajbansi and his colleagues want to do is an absolute disgrace.

'Their proposal to dismiss hundreds of loyal and hard working Indian teachers is a gross betrayal of the community

'From the immediate point of view the millions of rand which the Government wants to waste on luxury houses for dozens of ministers and assistant ministers and in large pensions and handshakes after only two years as a minister should rather be used to upgrade education for black children'

Bigger classes, 'lower standards'

Mercury Reporter

MOVES by the House of Delegates to increase the pupil/teacher ratio in Indian schools would result in a considerable drop in education standards, Mr. Pat Samuels, president of the Teachers' Association of South Africa, warned last night.

He said the present pupil/teacher ratio in both the primary and secondary schools was 23 pupils to one teacher for each class, but he had been informed that the ratio would be increased to 43 to one in primary schools.

Although increasing the ratio would result in reduction in the number of teachers it would certainly lead to a considerable decline in standards.

He said an inspector of Indian Education had already informed principals in a certain area that the minimum number of pupils in primary schools would be increased to 36 a class and the maximum would be 43 pupils a class.

The pupil/teacher ratio in white schools was 16 to one in secondary schools and in primary schools it was 21 pupils to one teacher, he said.

'If the House of Delegates' plan for Indian education is carried out then I am afraid it is going to set back our education 25 years,' he warned.

Reprieve for teachers facing retrenchment

CAPC TIGS 23/10/86

228 258

Labour Reporter

THE 413 Indian teachers who faced retrenchment at the end of the year have been granted a reprieve, Mr Kasie Ramduth, Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, announced in Durban yesterday.

But the 291 unqualified teachers would be replaced by newly-qualified teachers fresh from college, he said in the wake of growing tension among teachers following the recent announcement of staff cuts.

A delegation from the Teachers' Association of South Africa, headed by its president, Mr Pat Samuels, is to hold an urgent meeting with Mr Ramduth in Durban today over the fate of the teachers.

Mr Ramduth also assured the community and the teaching fraternity that under no circumstances would the standard of Indian education be lowered as a result of the cutback in Indian education funding.

He said that "on behalf of the Ministers' Council I want to give the assurance that the council decided that not-

withstanding the effect of the new financing formula, not to retrench any teachers, although their retention will require us to find an additional R13 000 000 which is not budgeted for".

Mr Samuels said yesterday that he was surprised at the reversal of Mr Ramduth's decision to sack 700 teachers.

"It is absolutely clear that he gave no serious consideration to his first decision on cutbacks.

"We believe that as he has not enunciated a clear policy statement on cutbacks, teachers have no certainty about their future in their jobs.

"There is no guarantee that this cannot happen again in the near future.

"It is said that they still require R13 000 000 to maintain the status quo. We are concerned that if this is not found we will revert to the situation before the announcement."

He said the mass meeting of teachers planned for the MTSS Hall in Merbank tomorrow night would go ahead.

288 Sewefan 31/10/80

Choonara to quit?

LENASIA MP, Mr Abie Choonara, may resign from the House of Delegates in disillusionment over the tricameral parliamentary system.

Mr Choonara, Transvaal leader of the majority National People's

Party in the House of Delegates, was reported in the Indicator of Lenasia newspaper as saying he was "seriously" re-viewing his position

"I have not made a final decision yet, but I will be making an an-

nouncement in due course", he said

It was possible he would make the announcement at the NPP's Transvaal Congress in Johannesburg in November 16

Mr Choonara, signatory to the Freedom Charter in Kliptown 31 years ago, has made no secret of his unhappiness with the tricameral system

He said he did not wish to be a partner in apartheid, and has refused positions in the house of delegates hierarchy

Mr Choonara stressed his review of his position was based solely on political grounds, and had nothing to do with his health — Sapa

Terrorism trial witnesses describe Natal bombings

258

SMR
5/11/86

MARITZBURG — A policeman who guarded the home of leader of the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, last year, described in court yesterday how he heard a loud bang and, running to the front of the house, saw shattered glass and smoke

Constable Lionel Peters was one of a long list of witnesses giving evidence at the College Road trial of 12 alleged ANC members. All 12 have pleaded not guilty to the main charge of terrorism

Spate of bombings

In addition, some of them face a total of 22 alternate counts, including contraventions of the Arms and Ammunition Act and possession of publications disseminated by banned organisations. They have also pleaded not guilty to these counts

The 12, who include two doctors and a mother,

were allegedly part of a Durban group involved in a spate of bombings which rocked the city and its surrounds last year

The blasts culminated in the Amanzimtoti blast in which five people died.

Bombings with which the 12 were allegedly linked include the bomb at Mr Rajbansi's home, the blast at Grosvenor Girls' School in which two men died; blasts at supermarkets and a bakery and beachfront restaurant, and bombs at the Lamontville township administration offices and at the Chatsworth courthouse

The production foreman of Umlazi Bakery described in the court yesterday how, in the early hours of July 4, he ran outside after hearing an explosion and saw one of the meal silos was loose from its foundations

"The meal was burning and there was a fire at least 40 feet higher than the silo itself," the foreman,

Mr B Brandsma, said

The managers of several stores in Durban's busy West Street, which were all bombed on September 27 last year, also gave evidence.

Mr David England, former store manager of Game, told the court he had just closed the store for the night and was on the third floor of the building when he heard a "very loud noise"

He investigated and found the crockery section

The manager of central Checkers, Mr Michael Shadbolt and the assistant manager of central Spar, Mr Robert Suster said that in their stores there was an explosion in the pet food section, and "pet food was spattered all over the ceiling and floor"

The accused are Mrs Duduzile Buthelezi, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, Dr Vejaynand Ramlakan and Messrs Sibusiso Ndlanzi, Jude Francis, Ordway Msomi, Siphoh Bhila, Phumezo Nxaweni, Mapiki Dlomo, Bafu Nququ, Malusi Majola and Vusumuzi Mahlobo

The hearing continues.

— Sapa

'End boycotts by helping small man'

By DIRK VAN ZYL

OWNERS of businesses in central business districts (CBDs) should be prepared to help the "small man" to establish himself there if they wanted consumer boycotts to end

"It's not just a question of getting rid of apartheid in all spheres."

These views were expressed last night by the chairman of the House of Delegates Ministers' Council and member of the central Cabinet, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, at the annual report-back conference of the ruling National Peoples' Party in the PE City Hall

All the NPP Ministers were present, as well as the chairman of the House of Delegates and MP for Malabar, Mr Raman Bhana, who had to leave early because of a sudden death in his family

"Can you imagine if blacks in PE are owning shops and trading in the CBD — can there be a consumer boycott of businesses in the CBD?" Mr Rajbansi continued

All the Group Areas Act provisions should be lifted from CBDs

Referring to this week's Cabinet reshuffle, Mr Rajbansi said jokingly "I am still Minister of No Affairs"

He appealed for next month to be one of recon-

Bhana leaves report-back

Weekend Post Reporter

THE chairman of the House of Delegates, Mr Raman Bhana, MP for Malabar, was called from the stage at the National Peoples' Party's report-back meeting in the Port Elizabeth City Hall last night because of the sudden death of his mother-in-law in Cape Town.

He was sharing the platform with Indian Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amichand Rajbansi when his son, Mr Jagdish Bhana, brought the news Mr Bhana, who had already delivered his speech, then left for Cape Town.

ciliation between all South Africans

And he called on the "radicals" and parties participating in the system — but who shared the same ultimate goal of freedom from discrimination — to bury the hatchet and work together, even if at first for a trial period

"Each group has the democratic right to go their own way, but the insults are only retarding progress in South Africa"

Mr Rajbansi said that, while conceding that there had been failures during his party's participation, the tricameral Parliament had nevertheless "brought about some of the most far-reaching reforms since the Nats took over in 1948"

He added "And these are the words of none other than the Institute of Race Relations"

Mr Rajbansi said South

Africa would not be toppled by revolution, as had for instance happened in Iran and the Philippines, as the fundamental prerequisite of the majority of the members of the armed forces supporting such a movement was absent in SA

Mr Bhana said "I would recommend to those who call us sell-outs to read Hansard and see for themselves what we do for the future of South Africa"

While the opening of seven free trade areas in PE this week was welcome, it was a pity the Government had not gone as far as declaring all areas in PE open, he added

The NPP's PE branch chairman, Mr Jay Kathan, said the days of boycott politics were over. The party had decided to start a branch to express its aspirations and views in Parliament through its MP

Solidarity goes to court

STILL TO
BUS DAY
258
490

PRESIDENT P W Botha's appointing two opposition Solidarity MPs in the House of Delegates as Ministers in the National Peoples Party (NPP)-controlled Ministers Council is to come under close scrutiny in Durban's Supreme Court this week.

The Ministers concerned are Jayaram "JN" Reddy, Budget Minister and official opposition leader, and Ismail Kathrada, Health Services and Welfare Minister and Solidarity's treasurer.

A Solidarity group calling them-

selves "Loyalists" including MPs Pat Poovalingam, Mahmoud Rajab, John Lyman and Ramcharitar Mohangi, claim the acceptance by the two Ministers to serve in the NPP-controlled Ministers Council is contrary to a resolution adopted by Solidarity at its national congress in Durban last year.

The resolution, the group claimed, specifically barred Solidarity entering any merger, coalition or working arrangement with the NPP.

The case starts tomorrow. → Sapa.

SPAK
258
18/11/86

Solidarity postings fought by 'loyalists'

DURBAN — The appointment by the State President of two opposition Solidarity MPs in the House of Delegates as Ministers in the National People's Party-controlled Ministers Council is to come under scrutiny in the Supreme Court in Durban this week.

The Ministers concerned are Dr Jayaram "JN" Reddy, Minister of Budget and also leader of the official opposition, and Mr Ismail Kathrada, Minister of Health Services and Welfare and Solidarity's treasurer.

A group in Solidarity calling themselves "loyalists", including four MPs, Mr Pat Poovalingam, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, Mr John Lyman and Mr Ramcharitar Mohangi, are claiming the acceptance by the two Ministers is contrary to a resolution adopted at the Solidarity national congress in Durban.

The resolution specifically barred Solidarity entering into any merger, coalition or working arrangement with the NPP, headed by its leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

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Indian MPs settle dispute

Court Reporter

A R22 500 settlement by consent was reached in the Supreme Court, Durban, yesterday following a dispute between the leader of Solidarity, Dr Jayaram Reddy, and four Soli-darity MPs

The dispute, heard be-

fore Mr Justice Nienaber, arose from the acceptance by Dr Reddy of a post as minister in the National People's Party-dominated House of Delegates, while he was still Leader of the Opposition

Mr Mahmoud Rajab, Mr Pat Thungaval Poovalingam, Mr Ramcharitar Mohangi, and Mr John Lyman originally sought an order declaring as null and void an agreement made between Dr Reddy and the National People's Party leader, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, to form a merger

This agreement was known as the 'Declaration of unity of political purpose'

Mr J Bristowe SC, repre-

senting the four MPs, asked that an order be granted allowing the applicants leave to withdraw the present application as well as discharge any further interdicts

He also asked that another application arising from a similar dispute be withdrawn and discharged

Mr Justice Nienaber granted the orders by consent

An agreement of the settlement was that various branches of the parties will be asked to hold meetings

At these meetings a chairman, and delegates will be elected to the national congress to be held not later than January 17 and 18 next year

At this congress the unity agreement will be put to the congress as a motion to see if delegates will ratify it

Mr Justice Nienaber congratulated the parties and everyone concerned that

they were able to reach a settlement

Representing the four MPs, Mr Bristowe was assisted by Mr M Pillermer

Mr H E Mall, assisted by Mr F Moosa, appeared for Dr Reddy

NPP congress takes swipes at Government

(258) N/M 24/11/86

Political Reporter

THE National Peoples' Party took several swipes at the Government at its Natal congress in Durban yesterday but reaffirmed its commitment to working for change within the tricameral Parliament.

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, NPP leader and chief Minister in the House of Delegates, told the congress the NPP was part of the overall black struggle against apartheid and the tricameral system was an extension of that struggle.

Mr Rajbansi said the system would lose respectability if the President's Council (PC) continued to ignore the wishes of the majority of Parliament.

Asked if the NPP would take action if this happened again, Mr Rajbansi said he did not make threats, but felt very strongly

about the matter.

Referring to one of the congress resolutions calling for the immediate repeal of the Group Areas Act, Mr Rajbansi said the decision had to be taken nationally and not delegated to local authorities, because some municipalities were liberal but others were not.

Real power

Mr S Pachai, NPP chairman, said the NPP had influenced legislation through the parliamentary standing committees.

Mr P I Devan, NPP Natal chairman, said real power was still in the hands of the National Party.

He said on four occasions when the House of Delegates rejected legislation, the House of Assembly turned to the PC, which had a 'built-in' NP majority, and

the Bills became law.

'When it comes to real reform the PC blocks it.'

'There is an artificial majority in the PC comprising nominated members of the Government. To enjoy credibility, at least two-thirds of the members of the PC should be elected.'

The congress passed several resolutions including calling for the release of jailed ANC leader, Nelson Mandela, condemning sanctions, condemning violence and calling on the Government and black leaders to negotiate to get blacks into central government.

FIN MAIL 28/11/80
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

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Budging Reddy

It's as if Colin Eglin — while remaining Leader of the official Opposition — were to accept the post of finance minister in a National Party government. Such has been the unorthodox shuffle that has occurred in the (Indian) House of Delegates (HoD).

But while the court-room challenges to the "coalition" reached between Amichand Rajbansi's ruling National Peoples' Party (NPP) and the main opposition party, Solidarity, might be over, the dust is far from settled.

At their national congress on January 17,



Solidarity's Reddy ... in credibility gap

rank and file Solidarity members will be called on to test the validity of the controversial "declaration of unity and political purpose," which the two parties' leaders clinched.

This will give effect to an interim settlement reached in the Durban Supreme Court last week between opponents of the agreement and Solidarity's leadership.

Pat Poovalingham, one of four Solidarity MPs who have persistently challenged the agreement in court, was already savouring victory — though a little prematurely. He felt confident that once the document was held up for scrutiny in an open forum such as a national congress, where its legality and usefulness could be debated, the party would reject it.

This could be embarrassing for Solidarity leader Jayaram Reddy. In signing the "coal-

tion" agreement with Solidarity's former opponents, they distorted parliamentary convention by crossing the floor and accepting ministerial posts in the ruling NPP — while remaining in opposition.

Poovalingham believes Reddy will have three choices: to resign his post as HoD Minister of the Budget and return to Solidarity; to join the NPP outright, or to retain his ministerial portfolio as an independent.

Just why Reddy took his party into a coalition with the NPP in the first instance is not clear. The decision has already cost him much personally (he had to pay his own costs of the court action, plus those of the applicant — amounting to R22 500), not to mention the damage to his credibility.

Reddy also appears to have gone against the wishes of his party. At Solidarity's national congress earlier this year, a resolution was passed expressly forbidding any formal merger with the NPP. At the time, it was argued that, as effective power resides in the (white) House of Assembly, Indian interests could best be served by forging a "unity of purpose" between the principal parties in the HoD.

But, as UCT political scientist Robert Schrire pointed out in court, having the Leader of the Opposition in the HoD serve as a minister in the ruling party was a "logical impossibility" in terms of Westminster parliamentary procedure as most people understand it.

Reddy did not take the stand to defend his action — perhaps because of this incongruity. ■

Solidarity MPs fear party may split badly

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DD 11/2/86

DURBAN — The official opposition party in the House of Delegates, Solidarity, is heading for its delayed national congress — with many of its MPs fearing it will split badly.

Two opposing factions in the party have just come out of a protracted supreme court battle in Durban on a "unity" dispute, with costs escalating to about R100 000

The dispute arose over a unity agreement entered into by one of the factions led by the party leader, Dr Jayaram "JN" Reddy, with the ruling National Peoples Party led by the Chief Minister, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

The agreement signed earlier this year in the face of objection from the other Solidarity faction calling itself "loyalists" and led by the former national chairman, Mr Pat Poovalingam, paved the way for Dr Reddy and Solidarity's treasurer, Mr Ismail Kathrada, becoming ministers in the House of Delegates

The "loyalists," who also included three other MPs, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, Mr Ramcharitar Mohangi and Mr Vadivel "John" Iyman, withdrew their application on the second of the three days set aside for the court hearing against Dr Reddy, two MPs, Mr Kathrada and Mr Yunus Moolla, and the national chairman and President's Councillor, Mr Ismail Omar, last week

The four respondents agreed to resolve the dispute over coalition

with the NPP at Solidarity's national congress to be held in Durban on January 17 and to pay the "loyalists" R22 500

A senior Solidarity source said the total cost of the supreme court case had been estimated at about R100 000

The party's former chief whip, Mr Yunus Moolla, said it had not yet been decided how the four respondents would share the costs

"The case wasted a lot of money and time which could have been more profitably used

"One lesson to be learned from the case is that party differences should be resolved at congress," he said

Mr Moolla revealed that on the morning of the case last week, Mr Poovalingam's group had offered to withdraw the application if they were paid R80 000

"Dr Reddy felt he had offered to pay R15 000 in March this year and he would honour that commitment," Mr Moolla said.

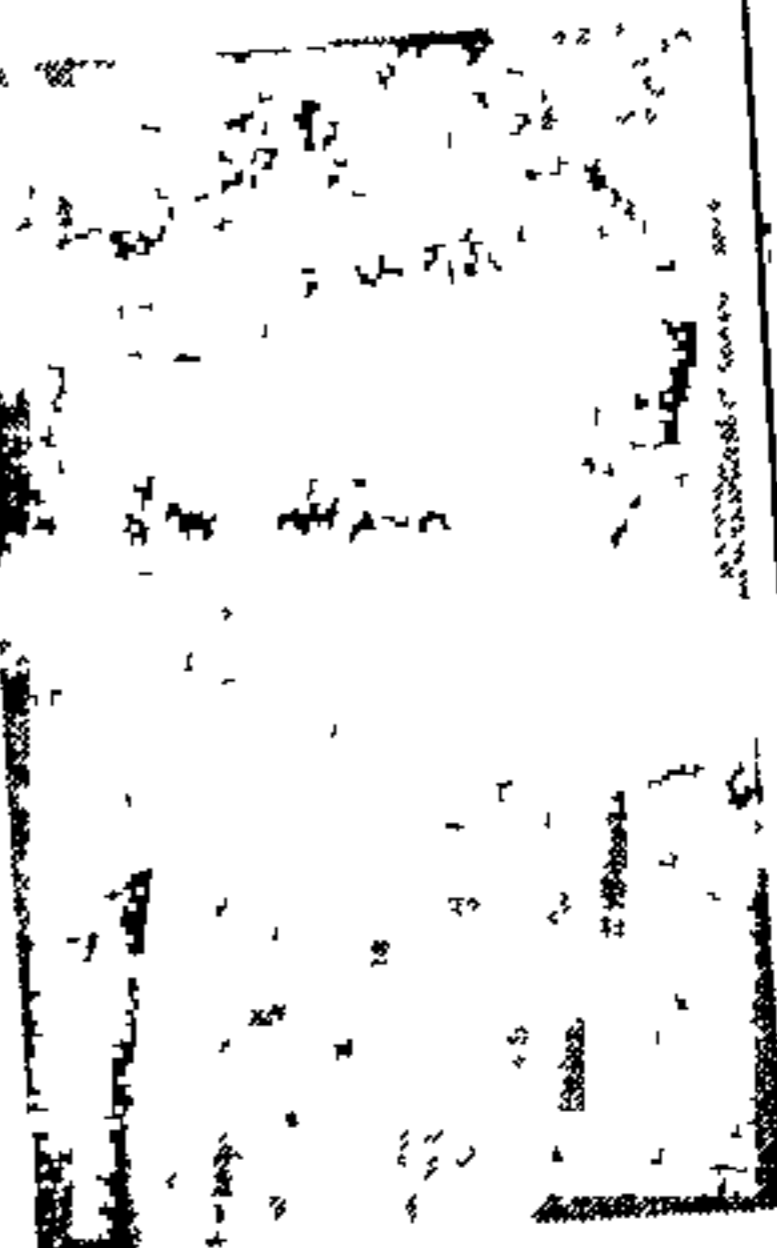
Mr Poovalingam said he "agreed entirely" that the money spent on the case was wasted

"It is most unfortunate. We begged Dr Reddy not to sign the unity agreement but he went ahead and created disunity in Solidarity"

Mr Poovalingam said the unity agreement and the appointment of the leader of the official opposition as a minister of the Indian mini cabinet



DR REDDY



MR RAJBANSI

exposed the House of Delegates to "ridicule"

The court case was a waste of money caused by the "so-called" unity agreement, he said

Mr Poovalingam said that if Mr Moolla "and his colleagues" had followed constitutional procedure and obtained the consent of congress or the national executive they would not have found themselves in difficulty

2 burnt
in gas
explosion

Mediator Rumpff
arrives in T'kei

Protests as 291 teachers are axed

Labour Reporter
A TOTAL of 291 Indian teachers employed by the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates were retrenched yesterday — sparking off a new wave of protest against the handling of Indian Education

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates and acting Minister of Education, said most of those retrenched were temporary teachers and

very few were qualified. 'In the case of qualified teachers on the temporary staff who were retrenched, the reasons are either poor performance or poor attendance. In one case there was forgery of a certificate which we discovered,' he said.

Mr Rajbansi said the retrenchments were unavoidable.

Lashing out at the House of Delegates, Dr Farouk Meer, a spokesman for the Natal Indian Congress, said

promises made in 1984 about upgrading Indian education had, predictably, failed to materialise.

'The community is now totally disillusioned with the House of Delegates. It is no more than a clearing house for the designs of the Nationalist Party. The community will not stand by idly while the House of Delegates wreaks havoc with Indian education,' he said.

Mr Rajbansi said 'I think Dr Farouk Meer must be ashamed of finding an escape route for unemployment occasioned by his stupid support for economic sanctions against South Africa.

'If anything that is swelling the unemployment queue it is through the efforts of people like Dr Farouk Meer, who is only fit to make Press statements.

'Five years ago everyone had forecast that there would be sufficient Indian teachers to meet the demand. Does Dr Meer not know the simple logic of supply and demand?'

'Normal'

'Why does he not complain about the limited quota for admission to the Medical School, as arguments have been put forward that there are too many Indian doctors?'

'The termination of teachers is a normal thing. A few years ago the services of 600 teachers were terminated. Where were the voices of Dr Farouk Meer and Mr Pat Samuels?'

'The Minister of Education and Culture gave an undertaking that no teacher on the permanent staff would lose his job and this undertaking has been honoured,' he said.

A delegation from the Teachers' Association of South Africa, headed by Mr Samuels, its president, was seeking an urgent meeting with Mr A K Singh, chief Executive Director of Indian Education, late yesterday.

Rajbansi says TIC walk-out was 'silly game'

Mercury Reporter

THE walk-out by youths from a meeting addressed by Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, in Lenasia at the weekend was an orchestrated move by the Transvaal Indian Congress to embarrass him, Mr Rajbansi said yesterday.

Responding to the walk-out from a meeting of the National People's Party, Mr Rajbansi said the planned protest action by TIC supporters failed miserably.

'The 100-odd youths thought that they would have constituted the majority and by walking out they would have effectively closed down the meeting,' he said.

The walk-out began when Mr Rajbansi was about to begin his address, reports our Johannesburg correspondent.

A spokesman for the TIC, Lenasia's largest political organisation, which is affiliated to the United Democratic Front and the Azanian People's Organisation, said the poor attendance at the NPP confirmed yet again the Indian community's rejection of the tricameral Parliament and those who chose to participate in it.

Mr Rajbansi said 'How could they say that they walked out because of my presence when they knew

in advance that I was the guest speaker?'

'I think that the TIC has been a bad loser in this silly game. I indicated that we are not there to fight the TIC which still prefers to keep its outdated apartheid name. I asked them to be honest and not adopt double standards.'

'When it comes to politics only they appear to be adopting high philosophies. When it comes to economic advantages where the blacks are left out they are prepared to grab, not caring for those who are left out.'

'I cited as an example that in central Johannesburg blacks were not allowed to open doctors' surgeries. We have never heard the Jags or the Saljees refusing to occupy their surgeries because blacks are kept out.'

'We have never heard demands from the TIC for Eldorado Park, Soweto and Lenasia to be one local authority.'

'We have never heard a demand from the TIC to open the schools in Lenasia for the children of Soweto.'

'I pointed out that everyone reserves the right to adopt their approaches and our different approaches must complement each others efforts.'

'The success of the NPP's meeting in Lenasia appears to be a blow for the TIC.'

R2 343 a day

That's what he gets for NOT turning up at Parliament!

By GEORGE MAHABEER
ABSENTEE MP Aboobaker Ismail has earned R2 343 a day in taxpayers' money — by staying away from Parliament

Mr Ismail, the MP for Durban Bay, has spent only 32 days in Parliament since assuming his seat in the House of Delegates last year.

Despite his absenteeism he has picked up more than R75 000 in salaries — an average of R2 343 a day

The wealthy director of companies has attended only nine of the 94 sittings in the House of Delegates' 1986 session.

Last year, Mr Ismail attended only 23 of the 95 Parliamentary sessions.

"I don't know the number of days I was present or absent — but I will not dispute the figures," Mr Ismail said.

He could not say how many times he had spoken in Parliament.

"But it's possible that it could have been on only two



MP ABOOBAKER ISMAIL

occasions

"I was forced to keep away from Parliament because of illness. But I am very fit now I feel so young that I could even kick a football," said 73-year-old Mr Ismail

But his regular absences led this week to a call for his resignation as an MP from the chairman of the Durban Bay constituency for Solidarity, Mr Ahmed Rafi.

"Mr Ismail must go. If what he says about his health is true, then he must resign immediately

"He must accept that, be-

cause of his health, he is not fit, physically, to represent the large constituency which includes Cato Manor, Clairwood and Merebank

"We believe that Mr Ismail holds a record for attending the least number of parliamentary meetings, and has also spoken the least

"He has attended one in every six meetings. He spoke once last year and once this year," said Mr Rafi

Mr Ismail said, that while he was away from Parliament on sick leave he had been "doing a lot of work" for his constituency

"I was very sick and under medical care. But my health has improved. I will take my seat in Parliament when it opens on August 18.

"I will not resign."

Mr Pat Poovalingam, MP for Reservoir Hills and former national chairman of Solidarity, said "The time has now come for Mr Ismail to decide whether he can really claim to represent the voters of Durban Bay."

Magawana

Lottery

Rajbansi hits back at NIC's resign call

Mercury Reporter

THE Chief Minister in the House of Delegates, Mr. Amichand Rajbansi, yesterday hit back at the Natal Indian Congress and urged NIC members to consider their own positions on the 'ethnic body' instead of worrying about the House of Delegates.

He was responding to a call by the NIC which — in an open letter to the Indian MPs signed by Dr Farouk Meer — urged them to resign from the tricameral Parliament and oppose the state of emergency.

Mr Rajbansi said that Dr Meer should first concentrate on his 'apartheid Indian congress' and added that Dr Meer still owed the House of Delegates an explanation why he opposed India's sporting and cultural contact with South Africa and yet was present at an international wrestling bout.

Dr Meer said in the letters that South Africa faced a 'crisis of grave proportions'.

'Its once thriving econo-

my is in shambles, vast numbers of people are unemployed and sanctions will only add to its woes'.

MPs should join the 'overwhelming majority of South Africans and the outside world' to reject apartheid and withdraw their support for the Government.

He said that since the House of Delegates had been established, white domination and control had been consolidated further and there was no powersharing.

Ban

Mr Pat Poovalingam, Solidarity's spokesman on constitutional affairs, said 'I note that the letter has been signed by Dr Meer, who does not believe in freedom of movement for people with whom he disagrees'.

'He and the NIC instigated the arbitrary and immoral ban on MPs visiting India and because of his activities I am denied the right to make religious pilgrimage to places of worship in India'.

Secret plan to halt Parliament

FORCES are plotting behind the scenes to bring the tricameral Parliament to a temporary halt, unless sufficient progress is made with reform

One of the options considered part of a secret plan is for all MPs in the House of Representatives, the House of Delegates and their representatives on the President's Council to withdraw from Parliament for at least one month as a mark of protest

This would force Parliament to a halt and at the

BY NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

same time demonstrate "our inherent power", said Durban attorney and member of the President's Council, 38-year-old Mr Ismail Omar, the man behind the plan

Mr Omar took an unprecedented step in SA political

history in July when he announced his withdrawal from the President's Council for the month of August

His action was in protest against a decision by the NP-dominated President's Council which decided to recommend that two controversial security bills, rejected by the House of Representatives and House of Delegates but passed by the House of Assembly only, should become law

Mr Omar, national chairman of the official Opposition Solidarity Party of Dr J. N. Reddy in the House of Delegates, confirmed yesterday he was also the author of a letter written to all political parties inviting them to a special meeting in Cape Town early in September to muster forces and work out joint strategy

He said the main purpose of the meeting would be to consider jointly withdrawing from Parliament and the PC for a limited period, so temporarily collapsing the tricameral system

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SUN TIMES 24/8/86

Rajbansi silent on his retirement

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Cabinet member Mr Amichand Rajbansi continued to play a cat-and-mouse game today over whether he is planning to quit politics

It now appears he told his caucus last week that he was considering quitting to relieve pressure on himself and family. Sources, however, say that he could step down at the next general election

Mr Rajbansi was not available for comment again today

If he goes, he will receive R228 000, a monthly pension of about R6 000 and a "gold" pass to fly free on SAA routes, internal and external, for life

Some sources see Mr Rajbansi's announcement as a tactic to draw sympathy from party ranks. He has been the target of Conservative Party criticism and the CP has used the "threatening letter" issue to embarrass the Government

Rajbansi payout raises union ire

● RAJBANSI

TRADE union federations have reacted with outrage to news of the massive "golden handshake" that the Chief Minister in the House of Delegates, Amichand Rajbansi, will receive when he quits politics. Frank Meintjies of the Congress of SA Trade Unions, Robbie Botha of the Trade Union Council of SA and Jimmy Zurich of the Federation of Sats Trade Unions see the payout as an abuse of public funds, particularly as Rajbansi has spent only two years in parliamentary politics.

Rajbansi will pocket a lump sum of R228 000 and will receive a tax-free monthly pension of more than R6 000 when he resigns at the end of this parliamentary term.

Meintjies said this excess was typical of government attempts to buy supporters and junior partners. Most South Africans were in desperate straits, yet recipients of these giant payouts responded re-

CLAIRE PICKARD-CAMBRIDGE

pressively to union demands for a living wage.

Botha said it was "distressing and shocking" that such monetary gain was available to politicians, particularly when there was "extreme doubt as to the effectiveness of their activities".

Zurich said the earnings and perks of politicians, particularly cabinet ministers, had reached outrageous levels which were out of proportion to any contribution they might make to the welfare of South Africans.

The fact that Rajbansi would be able to grab double his annual salary of R114 000 — after only two years in Parliament — would anger South Africans, especially the unemployed and the tens of thousands living on or below the breadline.

● See Page 10

CAG Times 3/9/86

Govt shows 'disdain'²⁵⁸ for teaching profession

One dismal story after another was told of the Department of Education's inability to administer its affairs.

No self-respecting profession could afford to be structurally associated with such a system

The last straw was reports of party political interference in educational matters. The impression was gained that education had become a tool in an unholy party political powerplay which had become an affront to the profession's integrity.

Formal communication

Withdrawal from the departmental structures does not mean UTASA is reneging on its important union functions. UTASA will continue to represent the interest of members with management, but will do so as an autonomous entity. It will continue to use departmental facilities and will persist in efforts to improve the professional standards of teachers and education at large.

We will wait for formal communication from the authorities. We will then convene a national executive council meeting and will decide on an adequate response.

It has always been the modus operandi of all professional teachers' bodies to conduct their affairs through the director of education and other officials. And to talk to the political heads of the department only when necessary.

How will the withdrawal of stop-order affect us? It will hurt us. The CTPA and UTASA are organizations which have helped to give our community back its pride and helped our teachers and students to regain courage and a strong and positive self-image. It helped us all to walk tall after our parents were ravaged and humiliated by apartheid. UTASA made our backs straight again. That is very precious to us.

If our high principles constitute a threat to people this gives us no reason to cover and crawl.

We demand justice and fair play. We must be treated with respect for our integrity and as equals and the days are long gone that we will be intimidated and humiliated.

We have 260 students studying with bursaries which come from our subscriptions. They might have to discontinue their studies because we cannot meet our obligations.

We have 14 people in our full-time employ. They have given wonderful service. They have families. We will have to tell them that we might not be able to employ them anymore.

Blow to the community

We have numerous Saturday and vacation projects for matriculants. Many teachers selflessly give their time. It costs money and if we can no longer afford it — we will stop them. We will tell our students to accept it with grace.

It is a bitter blow not to Sonn, Van den Heever, the CTPA or UTASA — it is an unprecedented blow to our community.

It is a sad day for the teaching profession. We might emerge poorer in material resources, but we will be much, much stronger in spirit.

We will look our people in the eyes and march with them towards justice. If we can march with shoes on our feet we will be glad, but if called upon to suffer oppression and walk with bare feet then we will do that.

Extracts from an address by MR FRANKLIN SONN, President, Cape Teachers' Professional Association



ACCORDING to reports the Ministers' Council of the House of Representatives has decided to withdraw the stop-order facilities of the Union of Teachers' Associations of South Africa (UTASA) and its affiliates.

It is the worst form of oppression any management can contemplate. It constitutes a blow to the viability of the organization.

This step will reverberate throughout the world and will in time be quoted in court cases and studies as an example of one of the most authoritarian and oppressive acts perpetrated against the trade unions or employee organizations anywhere in the Western world.

If the government is prepared to take such action it must reflect a disregard and disdain for the profession. It proves that as far as the government is concerned teachers are children who must behave themselves and if not, they must stand in the corner and their sweets taken away.

I have no desire to engage in street fights. It would be unworthy of the high office you have entrusted to me and will run contrary to the tradition of our organization and our profession's high ethical standards.

When I respond to newspaper statements reflecting the government's views and assaults on our organization, I do so in defence of the organization and our profession.

This is not the first time UTASA is under attack. We must stand firm on our principles and not be bullied. We are people of honour. We must treat others with honour and respect and demand they do the same. We must never cower or crawl. We must continue to walk tall.

Opted for withdrawal

UTASA's withdrawal from the departmental structures and committees was mooted at the George conference in 1984. In 1985 we were too busy with our own problems to attend to it and in 1986 it was brought up again. Almost a day was devoted to a calm and reasoned debate after which a division of the house was called, with the majority in favour of withdrawal.

When UTASA met on June 20 the presidents of the provincial units conveyed their respective mandates. Finally Transvaal, Natal and the Cape opted for withdrawal and the Free State expressed itself against it. However, the OFS made it clear that it considered UTASA unity more important than participation in departmental structures and while it disagreed with the majority stand, it would abide by the decision of conference.

The following are arguments and factors which led to the UTASA decision.

- The background of the state of emergency with all the sweeping powers accorded the police undoubtedly had a strong and negative effect.

- The constant reports of detained members and community leaders hardened the attitude.

- Conference clearly saw the eternal Catch-22 position of working within the structures in order to bring about change and facing the fact that a presence in these structures could lend credibility to the abhorrent 1986 model of apartheid education.

Finally conference considered it worth abandoning these structures even if it meant a sacrifice. It reaffirmed its commitment to the interests of the wider community, testified to its inalienable attachment to the community and generally agreed that if continued participation in departmental bodies was going to threaten this overriding affinity it had to be relinquished.

AS THE tricameral Parliament approaches its second anniversary, MPs are coming under increasing attack for not earning their R58 000 salaries and generous perks

And several House of Delegates members say report-backs to constituencies have been severely curbed by the threat of harassment by "radicals"

The Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC) has slammed salary increases for MPs, accusing many Indian and coloured MPs of being too scared to have report-back meetings and calling on them to resign. The TIC also alleges that the large salaries paid out ensure that few MPs would bother to effectively oppose National Party policies.

The allegations were put to four Lenasia MPs.

Faiz Khan (Lenasia East), who got 163 votes in the 1984 elections, confirmed that he had not held any report-back meetings. "My door is always open and many of my constituents come to see me at my place," he said, adding that if there was no threat of harassment, more

Report-backs hit by harassment — MPs

DIANNA GAMES

MPs would hold public report-back meetings

Reacting to the allegation that MPs did not earn their large salaries, Khan said it would not be possible to explain to outsiders that the amount was warranted without putting themselves in his place.

T S Collakoppen (Central Rand) said he had held two report-backs in the past two years. But, he said, many parts of his constituency were relatively new and developments had not warranted more frequent meetings.

Because of the size of his constituency — 13 pockets covering areas from Germiston to Lenasia's outskirts — he did not feel that he was overpaid. MPs were afraid of "radicals," he said, but claimed the hostility

was undeserved as MPs had entered the system to fight for people's rights and to dismantle apartheid.

Abie Choonara (National People's Party, Lenasia Central) said he could not respond to the allegations as it was party policy not to make public statements without the permission of NPP leader Amichand Rajbansi.

Dennis Pillay (Lenasia West) said he did not feel MPs salary increases were warranted in the present economic climate but said many projects — such as the building of an old age home and housing schemes — had been completed in his constituency.

His report-backs took the form of filtering information through the town council's management committee. He had no comment to make on the harassment of Indian and coloured MPs.

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A constitutional scramble over rents

By JEAN LE MAY

THERE is more than meets the eye in this week's fiasco about rent control in "coloured" and Indian areas.

Lapa Munnik, Minister of Communications and Public Works, announced that the House of Assembly's housing department would administer rent control as an agent for the other two houses.

On the face of it, it appears the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates simply did not get around to creating their own rent control boards and Munnik was eventually obliged to intervene because of mounting public protest.

Rents had gone up by as much as 400 percent in some areas of the Cape, according to the Woodstock Advice Office.

The mix-up is being described as a constitutional slip-up.

However there is considerable evidence that the responsible ministers

in the other two houses, David Curry and Baldeo Dookie, dug their heels in

Curry is on record as having told people who complained about increased rents that it would be "stupid" for the House of Representatives to create its own board

And Dookie, approached by representatives of the Durban Central Residents' Association, apparently said rent control boards were a general affair and nothing to do with him.

Moreover Frank Gerber, head of the white Department of Local Government, Housing and Public Works, has described reasons for the lapsing of rent control in "coloured" and Indian areas as "sensitive".

The "constitutional slip-up" happened early this year while the government was indulging in an orgy

of chopping up various government departments into "own affairs" and "general affairs"

All rent control boards were abolished, but were reconstituted only for whites by the House of Assembly's Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works, Amie Venter.

Separate boards should have been established for "coloured" people and Indians by the responsible Ministers in the other two houses, but this was never done.

Weekly Mail has been unable to contact either Curry or Dookie for comment, but insiders in both houses have confirmed they refused to set up their own rent control boards.

Their reasons for doing so may never be made public.

But at least, as one observer has commented, the taxpayer is spared the further proliferation of tricameral bureaucracy

Weekly Mail

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26/9/86

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But at least, as one observer has commented, the taxpayer is spared the further proliferation of tricameral bureaucracy.

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Move to stop MPs doubling on jobs defeated

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

ATTEMPTS to dislodge coloured and Indian MPs from their double jobs of MPs and members of management committees (mancoms) failed this week after the Minister of Local Government and Housing in the House of Representatives, Mr David Curry, threatened to resign his position on the Association of Management Committees (Assomac).

At the annual Assomac Congress a decision was also taken not to implement the terms of a motion adopted at last year's congress to disband because direct representation on town and city councils had not been achieved by the congress's deadline, which was this week.

Instrumental

At the same time, the continued functioning of segregated mancoms seems to clash with the sense of euphoria expressed by the leader of the Labour Party (LP), the Rev Allan Hendrickse, in Durban recently over the stand by Labour MPs against ethnicity-based local authorities.

Mr Hendrickse said in Durban recently that the LP had been instrumental in bringing the last session of Parliament to a premature and abrupt end because Labour MPs refused to co-operate with the Government on local government Bills.

The two Bills, introduced by Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, and now before the Standing Committee on Constitutional Development and Planning, will be tabled again at the committee meeting on October 20.

Vociferous

Meanwhile, coloured and Indian MPs and Progressive Federal Party MPs serving on the committee will meet in Durban before that date to draw up amended versions of the Heunis Bills which would blot out all reference to race.

Most coloured and Indian MPs are also members of the Coloured Management Committees (CMCs) and Indian Local Affairs Committees (LACs), affiliated to the Association of Management Committees (Assomac).

The congress was characterised by vociferous campaigning from the floor for MPs to step down as members of mancoms.

It was argued they could not be representatives of the grassroots communities and at the same time represent the Government.



STAR 16/4/86
258
Separate facilities row flares

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — The Conservative Party has accused the Government of breaking its promise to provide separate dining facilities for members of the different Houses

A row about the dining-room apartheid issue flared in the House of Assembly during yesterday's debate on Parliament's budget vote

Mr Daan van der Merwe (CP Rissik) said it appeared as if the three-chamber system of Parliament was dying and a "Third World system" rising "from its ruins."

Mr Tom Langley (CP Soutpansberg) said a "macabre comedy" was being experienced. The PFP, which had always been in the forefront of demands for open parliamentary facilities, was now silent.

It had run the "once-mighty National Party into the dust."

The NP — "like a flock of sheep" — had been led to the "cliff of integration."

The Government had allowed itself to be "trampled by a few coloured demonstrators."

Chief Whip of Parliament Mr Alex van Breda (NP Tygervallet), said it was "a tragic day" when there were recriminations about parliamentary facilities "at this stage."

Questions and answers

PARLIAMENT — It was estimated that 76 percent of television sets in the country were unlicensed at the end of 1985, at a loss of about R7,3 million to the SABC. Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha said yesterday in written reply to a question from Mr Dave Dalling (PFP Sandton)

A R281 147 flat has been bought in Cape Town for official accommodation for the Chairman of the Commission for Administration, said the Minister of Communications and Public Works, Dr Lapa Munnik in reply to a question by Mr Alf Widman (PFP Hillbrow).

A further R17 900 had been spent on modernisation of the flat at Twin Towers in Three Anchor Bay.

Three Defence Force members may have been made ill by the poison BHC, used against the locust plague. A ban was placed on the making of BHC in 1981, but the Government used a strategic supply kept in stock since 1974.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, confirmed yesterday that about 4 000 tons of BHC had been used in recent weeks.

Replying to questions by Mr Roger Hulley (PFP), Mr Wentzel said labourers applying the poison were issued with masks and dust goggles.

He said stocks of BHC were now virtually exhausted. Other products had become available and were being phased in.

General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, said no special protective equipment was issued to SADF personnel helping in the fight against locusts, but they did have protective overalls.

General Malan said "Three members showed symptoms of stomach cramps, coughing and headache, similar to 'flu, which may possibly have been caused by the poison"

When it comes to the National Intelligence Service, President P W Botha can keep a secret.

The PFP's Mr Mike Tarr asked the President yesterday about the authorised staff establishment of the NIS and how many people it employed.

But Mr Botha said the question concerned a security matter as defined in the Protection of Information Act.

"I am not prepared to discuss something which relates to the functions of the National Intelligence Service in public," Mr Botha said in a written reply.

A vessel was being built for the SADF at a cost of R76 million, the Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said in reply to a question by Mr John Malcomson (PFP Port Elizabeth Central).

The original estimate in 1982 had been R51 million but had now escalated to R76 million — Sapa

18/4/86

Plea for Indian schools holiday to mark June 16

Education Reporter

THE 7 000-strong Teachers' Association of South Africa (Tasa) has called on Indian education authorities to make the 10th anniversary of the Soweto schools uprising on June 16 a school holiday.

Black schools close for the winter holiday on June 6 and coloured schools on June 13, but Indian schools break up on June 27.

Mr. Pat Samuels, the president of Tasa, said the association — the officially recognised body representing Indian teachers — had put its request to the executive director of the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates on the following grounds:

- June 16 had become a significant day commemorating "the movement towards the realisation of the greater community's aspirations in education".

- Senior secondary pupils in black, coloured and Indian schools, as well as students at tertiary institutions, had "consistently indicated a need to show solidarity with one another and the greater community" in a move towards achieving a better education system.

- Because of this it was necessary to allow senior secondary pupils to demonstrate "by peaceful means" their collective needs within the context of the aspirations of the greater community.

Mr Samuels said he asked the executive director to "take note of the magnitude of the commemoration" anticipated for June 16 this year.

24 10

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Indian schools to stay open June 16

Education Reporter

THE Indian Minister's Council has rejected a request from the 10,000-strong Teachers' Association of South Africa that June 16 — the 10th anniversary of "Soweto Day 1976" — be declared a school holiday for pupils at Indian schools throughout the country.

The request was formulated and unanimously supported at a meeting of Tasa's general purposes committee on April 12 and sent to the executive director of the Indian Department of Education and Culture, Mr A K Singh.

The association said that June 16 had become a "significant day" for the commemoration of the movement "towards the realization of the greater community's aspirations in the field of education".

Yesterday, Mr Singh said that the five-member Ministers' Council, headed by Mr Amichand Rajbansi, had met on the

issue last week.

"The decision is that Indian schools will remain open on that day," he said. He would not elaborate.

Reacting to the outcome, Tasa's acting president, Mr Poobie Naicker, said from Durban that the decision was regretted.

"We now find our pupils in the peculiar situation that our white and Indian schools will be in session while the black and coloured schools will be in recess on June 16," he said.

Tasa said in its letter that black, coloured and Indian high school pupils and students at tertiary institutions had consistently indicated a need to show solidarity with each other and with the community.

"They want to achieve among the deprived peoples of the Republic an education programme that liberates individuals spiritually and materially."

THE

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WEEKLY MAIL

Volume 2, Number 22. FRIDAY JUNE 6 to THURSDAY JUNE 12, 1986

THE PAPER FOR A CHANGING SOUTH AFRICA

MPs block attempts to ram through Bills

Parliament's Young Turks challenge Le Grange Bills

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WEEKLY MAIL 6/6/86

BOOKLET INCLUDES THIS MANDELA PICTURE:



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By JEAN LE MAY in Cape Town and WEEKLY MAIL REPORTERS in Johannesburg and Durban
A SUDDEN surge of opposition by "Young Turks" among coloured and Indian MPs to the two security Bills now before Parliament indicates a leadership crisis for the two Ministers Without Portfolio, the Rev Allan Hendrickse and Amichand Rajbansi.

By deciding to send the two Bills back to the Standing Committee on Law and Order the (coloured) House of Representatives and the (Indian) House of Delegates have probably stymied Law and Order Minister Louis Le Grange's attempts to ram the Bills through parliament before June 16.

But even if the two Bills go back to the standing committee on Monday, there is a chance they could come up for debate again the following week, if they get through the committee in a mutually acceptable form. If they don't there could be another deadlock. And given the present mood of the Labour Party and the National People's Party caucuses this could be on the cards.

If that happens the Bills could still be sent to the President's Council. But then the government would, in effect, be bypassing parliament altogether — and the National Party would have to decide whether it can afford to do this in the present crisis situation.

The Bills are the Public Safety Amendment Bill, which would enable the Minister to declare "unrest areas", and the Internal Security Amendment Bill, which extends the present 14-day detention of Section 50 to 180 days on the order of a police officer above the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Le Grange's urgency to get the Bills passed, and his banning of indoor commemorative meetings up to the end of June, indicates that he expects an upsurge of violence at mid-month and has given rise to fears of an imminent clampdown on anti-apartheid organisations.

Earlier the Labour Party had earlier tabled several "softening" amendments dealing with access of detainees to relatives and lawyers, proposing judicial supervision of detainees and writing in as a safeguard on any indemnity which may be included in regulations which the Minister may gazette.

Solidarity, the opposition party in the House of Delegates, however, joined the Progressive Federal Party opposition in the House of Assembly in refusing to accept the principles of the two Bills.

Solidarity spokesmen said they would propose, when the Bills came up in the House of Delegates, that they should be read "this day six months" — that is, never. It is the strongest form of disapprobation possible, and a considerable body of MPs in both houses, and particularly in the House of Representatives, urged that line be taken.

The point was strongly put in caucus that the Labour Party and the National People's Party had gone into the tricameral system on the platform of destroying apartheid from within, and that what they had achieved so far had been minimal.

Although the two Bills were not apartheid Bills *per se*, speakers emphasised that if they got any support at all from the coloured and Indian houses, the credibility of MPs would sink lower than it had ever been and there would be no chance of restoring it.

JUNE 16 BANS

Lawyers plan to challenge ban in court **2**

WINTERVELD

The man who ordered police to shoot tells why **7**

WITS VIOLENCE

Three angry days as campus erupts **9**

THE FAR-RIGHT

The AWB's anti-semitic streak **11**

ca's It is only legal because information booklet is intended to show South Africans that it is folly to talk of negotiation with the ANC.
cal permission was given by the Department of Prisons. All other pictures, drawings or most representations of the man are still illegal.
The controversial Bureau of unbanning page 3

Young Turks challenge Bills

6/6/78 (258)
WEEKLY M.

● From PAGE 1

Faced with near-revolt in their caucuses, Hendrickse and Rajbansi apparently agreed on a joint strategy, which was to propose, as soon as the second reading debates came up in their respective houses, that the Bills should go back to the standing committees

There is a view that both were stalling for time and have hopes of persuading their caucuses to instruct members of standing committees to go along with amendments.

But considerable opposition to this course has built up — possibly thanks to the PFP, which proposed "this day six months" and fought the Bill through every stage of the second reading.

That Solidarity, whose leader Dr Jaagaram Reddy is a member of the Ministers Council in the House of Delegates, took the same line as the PFP has not gone unnoticed.

So the men in the middle are Hendrickse and Rajbansi.

The two Ministers Without Portfolio will come under considerable pressure from Cabinet colleagues. But that pressure will have to be weighed against pressure from their respective caucuses, which have the power to decide whether the two men will remain in office as chairmen

of Ministers Councils and hence *ex officio* as Cabinet Ministers.

This week also saw the launch of a major national "Stop the Le Grange Bills" campaign, launched at simultaneous press conferences around the country on Wednesday

The campaign will focus around a "day of action" on Monday, when meetings, pickets and other protests will be held around the country by a wide range of organisations.

Supporters of the campaign who issued statements this week included political, youth, church, trade union and journalistic organisations.

"The most serious setback in civil liberties for a long time," was how lawyer Nicholas Haysom described the new Bills at a press conference this week.

"These Bills will plunge this country into levels of police action we have not seen before," the Detainees Parents Support Committee said

"Whatever avenues of peaceful legitimate protest still remain are about to be blocked off completely with the introduction of the Public Safety and Internal Security Amendment Bills," it said

The DPSC, drawing on the

experience of the recent State of Emergency, listed four effects it thought the Public Safety Amendment Bill would have:

● Black communities will bear the brunt of the return of the intense repression of the Emergency: occupation of their townships by army and police, curfews, endless funerals and detentions

● White communities will see their sons in the continuing role of occupying and policing the townships

● Business communities could expect a further deterioration in the economy as township communities hit back with boycotts and work stoppages and international business loses further confidence in South Africa

● The media will face a repeat of the Emergency restrictions and harassment

In Durban, the Natal Indian Congress has turned down an invitation from Rajbansi to "advise the NPP" on possible amendments to the Bills.

Rajbansi had asked the NIC to formulate suggested amendments. He later received an NIC telegram, stressing the latter's disapproval of the Bills and calling for both to be scrapped

Advertisement

TIC slams two Houses

The Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC) has made a cutting attack on Members of the Houses of Representatives and Delegates for delaying, rather than rejecting, the new security laws

"The collaborators in the Indian and coloured Parliaments support the principle of detention That is why they have referred the Gestapo Bills to the Joint Standing Committee on Law and Order" reads a widely distributed TIC pamphlet.

"The Rajbansis and Hendrickses are trying to soften apartheid," the statement adds

The pamphlet outlines activities that will constitute a legal observance of June 16 — Youth Day — despite the Government's total ban on meetings commemorating the Soweto rising of 1976

It advises workers that they can press management for a paid holiday and urges employers, including housewives with domestic workers, to regard June 16 as a paid holiday

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22/6/86, S. NME (258)

Minister's son sues MP

THE son of the Minister of Education in the House of Delegates is claiming R25 000 from a Solidarity Party MP, Mr Cherry Mohangi, and three others over allegations made in a newspaper report

The Solidarity Party, the opposition party in the Indian House — and, in particular, Mr Pat Poovalingham, MP for Reservoir Hills, has made repeated requests for a judicial inquiry into the administration of the education and culture department of the House of Delegates, with emphasis on the allocation of

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

teaching posts and appointments

Some of these allegations, never substantiated despite challenges from the leader of the ruling National People's Party (NPP), Mr Amichand Rajbansi, have appeared in newspapers

Now a combined summons has been issued by Mr Rajeshwar Maharaj, a Durban history teacher and son of Education and Culture Minister Mr Kassipershad Ramduth, against Mr Ramchari-

tar "Cherry" Mohangi, the MP for Tongaat

This follows an interview Mr Mohangi gave to a Durban newspaper

Mr Mohangi confirmed he had instructed his legal counsel to give notice to Mr Maharaj's counsel of his intention to defend the case

The joint summons was directed at Mr Mohangi, a reporter, the editor of the newspaper, and the company that published and distributed it.

The disputed article appeared on April 9 this year

2/7/80 S. P. R.

MP resigns 'in disgust' after losing health post

258

DURBAN — An MP in the House of Delegates, Dr. Murugassen Padayachy, has quit the ruling National People's Party, further reducing its parliamentary majority

Dr. Padayachy said yesterday he had resigned from the party in disgust and disappointment at the party leader, Mr. Amichand Rajbansi, treating him "like a political pawn"

He was recently replaced as Minister of Health Services and Welfare by the State President at Mr. Rajbansi's request. He said this was done by Mr. Rajbansi as part of a deal to facilitate a working arrangement with the official opposition

His resignation reduces the NPP's parliamentary strength to 28

The party's national chairman, Mr. Somaroo Pacha, MP, for Natal Midlands, denied speculation that a meeting was being held in Durban on Wednesday to avoid more resignations

Mr. Pacha said the meeting was intended to restructure the party and decide on nominations for the vacant Brickfield seat in the House of Delegates — Sapa.

You can't buy loyalty with a fancy job'

Rajbansi hits at ex-Minister for 'sloppiness'

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, has lashed his former Health Minister, Dr Murgassen Padayachy, for sloppy handling of his portfolio

Dr Padayachy, MP for North Western Cape, has denied Mr Rajbansi's allegations

Dr Padayachy was dismissed as Minister of Health Services and Welfare by the State President in February on the advice of Mr Rajbansi

He was replaced by Mr Ismail Kathrada, one of two members of Solidarity to be elevated to the Ministers' Council when the opposition party formed a coalition with the governing National People's Party

Dr Padayachy resigned his NPP membership earlier this month, saying he was disgusted and disappointed by Mr Rajbansi, treating him like a political pawn

POSITION

He claimed he was relieved of his portfolio by Mr Rajbansi to facilitate the working relation-

652
15/7/86

The chairman of the House of Delegates Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, and his former Health Minister Dr Murgassen Padayachy, have been embroiled in an angry exchange of accusations and counter-accusations following Dr Padayachy's decision earlier this month to resign from the majority National People's Party. The accompanying reports reflect their respective views.

Mr Rajbansi said politicians had to accept that loyalty could not be bought with positions

"Some people believe that to be in an institution depends on what they can get out of it. They neglect what they can put into it," he said

Mr Rajbansi said Dr Padayachy had a one-track mind. He wanted a position and his membership of the party would depend on the position

He accused Dr Padayachy of sloppy management of the Health portfolio

"One should compare the progress we are making with

that department now with what was not done when he was the Minister

"What does one do with a man bent only on what he can get out of being a Minister and from being a Member of Parliament?"

"Just because he has a degree next to his name he believes he is automatically qualified to be a Minister

"Yet when it came to tackling certain problems in his portfolio his mind was a blank"

Mr Rajbansi accused Dr Padayachy of certain infringements of ministerial rules

His wife had run up exorbitant bills at the Maharani Hotel in Durban (Dr Padayachy's official Durban accommodation) while he was sick in bed in Kimberley for a week, he said

Dr Padayachy's wife had further used the ministerial limousine and driver to take her friends to Maritzburg at 2am

EXORBITANT

Exorbitant accounts had also been run up on Dr Padayachy's home phones, which the taxpayer had to meet

There had been numerous complaints about his handling of his portfolio from both Solidarity and NPP members

Dr Padayachy had further

Mr Rajbansi offered to step down for the sake of unity in House of Delegates

spent much of his time accepting invitations to fly all around the country with the result that his work suffered

"His department virtually ran without a Minister. Dr Padayachy thought he was on one big holiday"

Mr Rajbansi said he had a duty to protect taxpayers' money and he had done exactly that in Dr Padayachy's case

Dr Padayachy stated at an NPP caucus meeting in Durban last November that he was prepared to step down from his position as Minister for the sake of unity in the House of Delegates

Replying to Dr Padayachy's counter-allegations (see report on this page), Mr Rajbansi said he had not asked Dr Padayachy to be a candidate for the position on the Cape provincial executive

The entire party was aware that Dr Padayachy had offered himself to be considered for the

Ex-Minister Padayachy hits back at Rajbansi allegations

Former House of Delegates Health Minister Dr Murgassen Padayachy, replying to allegations about him by chairman of the Ministers' Council Mr Amichand Rajbansi (see report on this page), said it was typical of attacks made by Mr Rajbansi on people who did not toe the line or exposed his weaknesses.

He said Mr Rajbansi should be pitted for sinking so low. Some of the things he had been accused of were exactly what Mr Rajbansi had himself done

If ever there was somebody doing a job for what he could get out of it, it was Mr Rajbansi. His allegations were as if he was looking in a mirror at himself, Dr Padayachy said.

"But then this is the sort of treatment anyone who disagrees with Mr Rajbansi gets

"The thing that hurts me most is his attack on my wife. By dragging my wife into the argument this can be looked on as sinking to the lowest level possible," he said.

He added that if he wanted to sink to the same level he too could make claims about Mrs Rajbansi's use of official transport

Dr Padayachy said he was a leading person in his community who was highly regarded by many people of different population groups.

"The entire world is looking towards the success or otherwise of the experimental trimeral parliamentary system in South Africa. People like Mr Rajbansi at the helm leave much to be desired."

Dr Padayachy said his conscience was very clear with regard to the way he conducted himself as a Minister.

"Everything I did was above board and according to the regu-

lations for Ministers and their wives, especially the use of state vehicles as set out in the guide for Ministers."

He said that all Ministers based in Durban were receiving R1 000 a month for occupying their own homes. This was taxpayers' money

"There being no homes for two of us, we had to be accommodated at hotels, but only for lodging. I had to pay for all meals and all entertainment and this can be verified by the Maharami

"The occasional high volume of phone calls was in pursuit of my duties, especially at the height of the Inanda-Phoenix unrest

"Everyone knows that calls had to be made to different centres, advising where urgent relief supplies were to be sent."

Dr Padayachy said that in December he and his department produced a comprehensive 16-page report which detailed the work done throughout the year. A copy was posted to each member of the House of Delegates

He denied that he accepted invitations to fly around the country at the expense of his work. Whenever he travelled it was in

direct relation to his work

He challenged Mr Rajbansi to produce details of how he had flitted about the country needlessly

"I challenge Mr Rajbansi to prove how I handled my portfolio in a sloppy manner. The people who benefited from my department and who got relief should be the judge."

He said that a study of Hansard would show that Mr Rajbansi had frequently been labelled a liar. His latest allegations should be seen in this light

"Mr Rajbansi accuses me of incompetence, yet in February this year he sent me a letter in which he said, 'I wish to express very sincerely my deep gratitude for the tremendous understanding you have shown in respect of what has been done. I can assure you that because of this you have risen in my esteem of you'

"Subsequently, Mr Rajbansi asked me to be a candidate for the position of Leader of the House and only a fortnight ago he asked me whether I would serve as Exco member for the Cape if such a position was created.

"I have come to the conclusion that Mr Rajbansi suffers from a terrible complex

"I fail to see what my having a degree has to do with the whole matter. He does not seem to realise that in fact I have four degrees besides diplomas."

Dr Padayachy said the whole business had reminded him of the parting remarks by an MP in the House of Delegates shortly after the House adjourned for the recess, as reported in a Sunday newspaper, when it was said that Mr Rajbansi's debate had sunk to the gutter sewer level

level

OWN AFFAIRS

FIN HUM 258
28/1/80
Brown MPs' gauntlet

The majority coloured and Indian parties in Parliament have embarked on a new campaign to fight apartheid which could bring them into serious conflict with the National Party (NP) and the constitution.

Both the Labour Party (LP) and the National People's Party (NPP) are attempting to abolish racial discrimination in "own affairs" matters such as education and health services. They may even try to force a showdown on the Group Areas Act.

LP leader Allan Hendrickse last week ordered that schools under the jurisdiction of

the coloured Education Minister, Carter Ebrahim, be opened to all races, and that teachers be given permanent posts irrespective of race. Hendrickse says the plan is aimed at breaking down all racial barriers at educational institutions under his control.

The move is in direct conflict with the NP policy statement made by National Education Minister F W de Klerk during the No Confidence debate. De Klerk re-affirmed the party's commitment to racially separate schools and other institutions. During a debate in the House of Representatives this week, De Klerk clashed with jeering LP MPs and said the opening of schools to all races would not solve the country's problems.

The House of Delegates is scheduled to debate a series of motions in the next three weeks during which both the majority NPP and its new coalition partner, Solidarity, will urge government to scrap key apartheid measures, including the Group Areas Act.

How far either the NPP or the LP is prepared to go to emphasise their demands remains to be seen. So far their talk has been bold, but apart from the LP's confrontation with the NP over dining room apartheid in Parliament — an issue from which it backed down after two days — there has been no real action. But it could come soon. Last week some LP MPs, rashly perhaps, indicated that they may quit Parliament if the NP remained unwilling to compromise. ■

Row over low wages

5/11/80
25/1/80
Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — A heated row erupted in the House of Delegates yesterday over wages paid to 425 workers at the Indian administration's Durban headquarters

Solidarity Whip Mr Mohanlall Bandulalla, MP for Havenside, said some of the messengers, cleaners and tea-makers employed by the House of Delegates at its Malgate House offices earned as little as R130 a month

Speaking during the second reading debate on the Additional Appropriation Bill, he said the House was "not worried about the plight of people at grassroots level"

Indian MPs refused to help relief fund

Political Staff

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PARLIAMENT — The response of Indian MPs to an appeal for pledges of R500 each towards the Inanda-Phoenix Relief Fund was appalling, the Minister of Health Services and Welfare, *Mr Ismael Kathrada*, said yesterday.

During the second reading debate on the Additional Appropriation Bill Mr Kathrada said that, last year, a member of the House had tried to solicit pledges of R500 from each House of Delegates MP towards the fund.

The fund was set up to provide short-term as-

STAIR 28/2/86 assistance to refugees from the Inanda and Phoenix areas near Durban after trouble erupted last year.

Hundreds of people, many of them Indian, were rendered homeless.

Mr Kathrada said the MPs' response had been so poor that the member who had tried to obtain the pledges did not even wish to speak about it.

It was absolutely appalling, Mr Kathrada said.

Ordinary Indian MPs — like their white counterparts — presently receive minimum salaries of R27 000 plus a R16 000 non-taxable allowance.

Indian bid on Cedara

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — Indians could attend Cedara Agricultural College in Natal in future if an offer by the House of Delegates to build an Indian residence in the college grounds is approved.

The Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, announced yesterday that the House was offering to build the residence.

Applications by Indians to study at the college have continually been turned down on the grounds that there are no residence facilities for them.

"We'll build facilities," said Mr Rajbansi.

Hunger strikers reported to be in hospital

3/3/76
258
STAR

At least eight of the original 70 hunger strikers at Modderbee Prison near Springs are reported to have been taken to hospital. Police have confirmed this, according to a report in the *The Sowetan* today.

Community sources said two epileptics and two diabetics are among those in hospital.

A spokesman for the Department of Prison Services this morning confirmed that 54 detainees at Modderbee Prison were refusing meals this morning, taking the hunger strike into its second week.

The fast is being maintained by detainees held in terms of the emergency regulations in support of their demand for immediate release. Many of them have spent seven months behind bars without being charged.

When they started their fast, 49 United Democratic Front supporters indicated they intended the protest to last two weeks.

● A student at the University of the North, detained in Johannesburg since October, has been admitted to the Johannesburg Hospital. Miss Khetiwe Mboweni (25) is being held in terms of section 28 of the Internal Security Act. She is understood to be suffering from depression.

Police confirmed she is in hospital but declined to comment on her condition as this was "a confidential matter between doctor and patient".

Also in the Johannesburg Hospital is emergency detainee Mr Ronnie Swartz, who teaches at Kliptown, south of Johannesburg.

House of Delegates PRO dies

258

SAP
3/3/86

CAPE TOWN — The public relations officer at the House of Delegates, Durban educationist Mr Dama Nair (60), was yesterday found dead at his home in Pelikan Park.

Mr Nair joined the House of Delegates in 1985 after a successful career as secretary of the Teachers' Association of South Africa (Tasa) and was a well-known figure in the teaching profession particularly in Natal.

Commenting on his death, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, said:

"We will miss him very dearly. His history in the field of education has been an exemplary one."

He leaves a wife and four children.

A post mortem will be conducted to establish the cause of death — Sapa.

Afrikaans to remain
 at Indian schools
 Sapa 258
 CAPE TOWN — Afrikaans
 would remain a compulsory
 subject in all Indian schools, the
 Minister of Education and Cul-
 ture in the House of Delegates,
 said yesterday
 The president of the Teachers
 Association of South Africa had
 said children should not have to
 study a language with "little
 meaning or relevance" — Sapa

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Councils to promote culture among Indians

6/3/86
SPAR Staff Reporter

The House of Delegates' Department of Education and Culture is to set up a national and several regional councils to promote culture in the Indian community

The department's minister, Mr K Ramduth, said the draft regulations governing all the councils had been finalised

"With the establishment of these regional councils, culture will be promoted among the entire Indian community," he said.

Eleven regional councils, each consisting of nine members to be appointed by the minister, are to be established in the Transvaal, Cape Province and Natal

The councils' activities will be co-ordinated by a culture promotion sub-division. A school psychologist, Mr N Singh, will research and prepare proposals for an infrastructure for this division

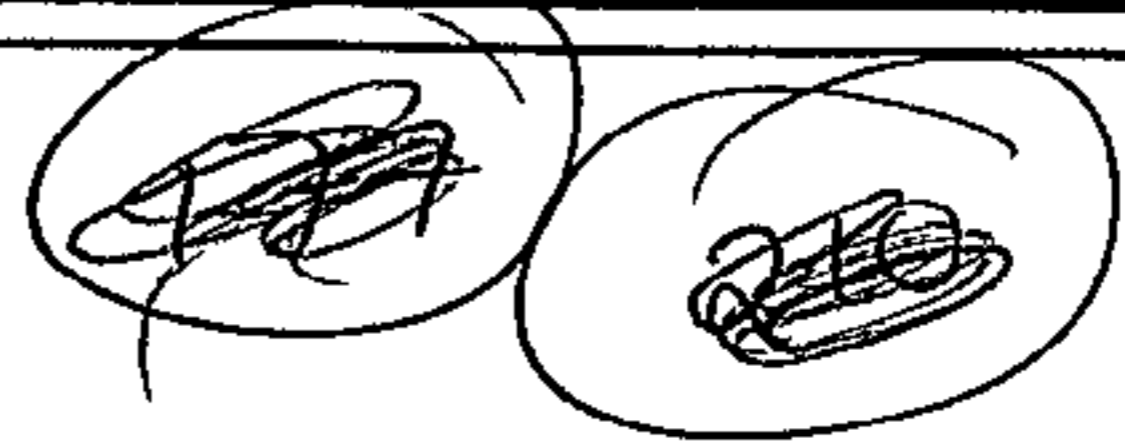
A series of meetings has also been planned with existing cultural organisations to identify suitable persons to occupy posts on these regional councils, explained Mr Ramduth

The councils are in keeping with the provisions of the Culture Promotion Act 35 of 1983

MINES' JOB BARS

Behind the talks

FIN MAIL
7/3/86



There have been major developments in the talks aimed at changing the discriminatory definition of a "scheduled person" in the Mines and Works Act. The definition bars blacks from obtaining certificates of competency to perform 13 key mining jobs.

Progress towards altering it in talks between the Chamber of Mines and registered mining unions has been blocked for several years by the delaying tactics employed by the rightwing Mineworkers' Union (MWU). But hopes were raised last year that government would exercise its authority to settle the issue when Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Danie Steyn set December 31 as the target date for the negotiations to be concluded.

Since the passing of that date, negotiations between the chamber and the unions on deracialising the "scheduled person" definition have continued. The prerequisites for this are agreement on establishing a mining industrial council and on security of employment for white workers.

The Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs (DMEA) has recently stepped in, but its actions so far appear to have appeased only the rightwing. According to information received by the *FM*, a senior official in the DMEA has produced a draft Bill which proposes the establishment of a statutory selection board which would have complete say on which workers will be eligible to qualify for five of the 13 "scheduled person" certificates.

The catch is in the make-up of the proposed board which would comprise.

- The Government Mining Engineer as chairman;
- Two nominees from the Manpower Department;
- Two DMEA officials;
- Two representatives of mine owners;
- Five people in possession of blasting certificates who have at least ten years' blasting experience, nominated by unions; and
- Two additional union nominees with at least ten year's experience who must hold either a Winding-Engine Driver's, Locomotive-Engine Driver's, Lampman's or Onsetter's certificate of competency.

The point is that most miners with these qualifications are members of the MWU and its two allies — the SA Technical Officials' Association (SATO) and the SA Engine Drivers', Firemen's and Operators' Association. They would therefore be likely to occupy all seven seats reserved for union representatives. MWU general secretary Arrie Paulus, observers say, is supremely confident that he would be able to control decisions made by a selection board, and thus block

the advancement of black miners. SATOA general secretary Henry Mallet-Veale has, however, denied that he would use the selection board to block black job advancement.

Most mining unions were angered last month when they discovered that they had been overlooked when the DMEA sent copies of the Bill to Paulus and the chamber. DMEA Director General Louw Alberts says the Bill was sent to Paulus in his capacity as chairman of the Council of Mining Unions (CMU) on the assumption that he would

FIN MAIL
LUNCH FOR ALL
7/3/86

The row over apartheid in a parliamentary dining room was resolved this week when it was opened to MPs of all races. The Speaker, Johan Greeff, announced the move after a meeting of Parliament's standing committee on rules and orders.

Last month coloured MPs protested against the "whites only" dining room. Some white MPs maintained the dining room was not racially segregated, but rather reserved for members of the House of Assembly.

The new ruling re-emphasises that the dining room can only be used by MPs. An adjacent dining room, where guests may be entertained, was opened to all MPs last year after a similar racial row.

distribute it.

The Bill is being opposed by the majority of the unions. Nevertheless, there is a school of thought in the mining industry which holds that it is not, in fact, a sop to the rightwing.

One source sees the Bill as a catalyst designed to lead to a speedy conclusion of the negotiations. This is, indeed, the DMEA's own explanation.

Alberts tells the *FM* that the Bill was drawn up as a basis for discussion, and that it is wrong to elevate it to "the status of a proposed final draft Bill ready for Parliament... It is an endeavour to solve an impasse which neither the employers nor employees could solve over the past four years. At no point in the discussions has the very concept of a selection board, as such, been finalised, and much less its constitution," he says.

Whatever the case, the appearance of the draft Bill has set the scene for a major clash. On one side there is the MWU and its allies. On the other are the majority of the unions

and the chamber. For them it has now become urgent that they reach an agreement on an industrial council and security of employment (with, or most probably without, the support of the MWU, SATOA and the Engine Drivers', Firemen's and Operators' Association) and present it to Steyn. This would probably pre-empt any further developments on the draft Bill.

And it seems that agreement is close to being achieved. A source tells the *FM* that an industrial council will be established and that a security of employment clause will be built into its agreement. This should placate the unions, and the Minister of Manpower will be asked to extend the agreement to cover non-chamber mines. If the MWU decides against participation in the industrial council, the clause will, nevertheless, cover its members.

One outstanding issue revolves around manning and training levels. The artisan unions fear a flooding of the market with skilled black labour, while employers strongly believe that manning levels remain their prerogative.

This will be a thorny issue to resolve. At the same time, though, there is an urgent desire on both sides to finally eliminate the last remaining bastion of job reservation in SA, and to show up Paulus as the cause of the interminable delays. These strong feelings may encourage both sides to compromise.

There is a final consideration — one which has been a major factor at the back of the minds of the actors in this ongoing drama. The powerful black National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has made dire threats about the consequences should 1986 not see the end of job reservation. No-one, apart from the extreme right, is prepared to face large-scale industrial unrest over this indefensible issue.

Paulus was unavailable for comment ■

PARLIAMENT

FIN MAIL
7/3/86

Another Rubicon

President P W Botha announced the lifting of the State of Emergency in a special address to Parliament this week. However, he said new measures would be introduced which in effect will provide security forces with powers similar to those which they will surrender when the emergency is lifted.

Botha also announced a date for the conditional implementation of the independence programme for Namibia in terms of UN Resolution 435, but it seems unlikely that it

Land allocation:
call for inquiry

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — Allegations of irregularities in the allocation of Indian land in Johannesburg have been made in a memorandum sent to the State President

The opposition Solidarity Party yesterday gave notice of a motion calling for the immediate appointment of a committee to investigate the claims.

Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills), giving notice on behalf of acting Solidarity leader Mr Yunus Moolla, said the allegations required further investigation as they impugned the integrity of the House of Delegates.

The allegations relate to the allocation of land in Lenasia South

Labour MPs
disagree
on Boesak

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — A Labour Party MP has dissociated himself from his Chief Whip's furious attack on what was termed Dr Allan Boesak's weak personal morality.

Chief whip Mr William Dietrich (LP, Bethelsdorp) attacked Dr Boesak — president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches — over his alleged affair with Miss Di Scott, then an employee of the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

The attack came unexpectedly in the middle of a House of Representatives debate on slavery, from which Mr Peter Mopp (LP, Border) dissociated himself.

"We must all be free and we must refrain from attacking each other," Mr Mopp said.

EXTRAVAGANT

Mr Dietrich said it was strange how those who denounced the political, economic and social evils of oppression, exploitation and injustice in such extravagant terms, were so weak in their personal morality.

Dr Boesak had campaigned around the world against "the wickedness of the South African system".

Yet this married father of two children had had an affair with a 30-year-old divorcee, he said.

Did his Bible and his conscience not tell him that he was sinning against God, his wife and children, as well as the woman involved? asked Mr Dietrich.

He then aggravated the situation by denying the affair for a month, against all the evidence.

Mr Dietrich also tackled the SACC and Miss Scott.

The SACC, he said, not only had no qualms about employing a divorcee (Miss Scott), but also put her in charge of its youth desk.

Bill aimed at aiding jobless starts a screaming session

12/3/86
3/25
Political Staff

deregulate industry

PARLIAMENT — There was uproar in the House of Delegates yesterday over an apparently uncontentious Bill aimed at helping the unemployed

Mr Ahmed Lambat (NPP, Acc-tonville) introduced a private member's Bill calling for the introduction of urgent measures to provide technical and vocational training to cope with the unemployment problem

The motion was loudly and vehemently attacked by Mr Gopi Munsook (Solidarity, Nominated), who went against the leader of his party by saying it would lead to industries being flooded with "half-baked" employees

The nominal leader of Solidarity, Budget Minister Mr J N Reddy, had advocated earlier that more semi-skilled workers be used in the place of skilled workers

However, Mr Munsook said this would cause chaos in industry

By supporting the Bill, members would be backing Draconian legislation that would give the State President the power to

This would make the President a dictator and would result in workers becoming slaves, he said

When industry was deregulated, the employer could pay what he liked, Mr Munsook maintained

Speaking amid frequent interjections, Mr Munsook said members would become stooges of the Government if they supported the Bill

After being asked by Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) to stop screaming, Mr Munsook accused members of being unconcerned about the plight of the working class

"Some of you are sitting on pots of money," he shouted

Mr Salaam Abram-Mayet (NPP, Nominated) accused Mr Munsook of being a communist, but withdrew the remark

The Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, agreed with Mr Munsook's argument that there was no sense in training people in skills for which openings did not exist

The motion was not put to the vote

14/1/86

Heated exchange of words

14/2/86
Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — A heated exchange of words took place in the House of Delegates yesterday after Opposition accusations that members were delaying a debate on alleged corruption.

The row occurred after Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amchand Rajbansi moved that the House adjourn.

Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) strongly objected, saying there were still 45 minutes left which could be used profitably.

There was no justification for MPs to be underemployed, especially when there was a matter of grave concern facing the House.

Mr Poovalingam said that issue was the allegation of corruption made by a Johannesburg property developer against the Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture administration.

He said "It seems some people are afraid of discussing it."

Amid interjections, Mr Rajbansi replied that the House believed in clean administration and public accountability.

He agreed that the House should do its best to use every minute available.

He gave an assurance that when the debate on alleged corruption came up on March 24, the issue would be debated at length.

Mr Rajbansi said "When we deal with corruption, we're going to deal with it properly."

Indian schools won't drop Afrikaans says minister

Mercury Reporter

THE Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, Mr Kassie Ramduth, has hit out at Mr Pat Samuels, president of the Teachers' Association of South Africa, for suggesting that Afrikaans be dropped as the second official language in Indian schools

Mr Ramduth said in a statement yesterday that Mr Samuels 'ought to have been mindful of the negative attitudes' his stance would be creating in the minds of pupils

'Afrikaans is a compulsory passing subject and pupils must not lose sight of this fact,' he said

Mr Samuels had stated

that in time to come Afrikaans would lose its value as a second official language and pupils should, therefore, not be forced to study a language 'which will have little meaning or relevance'

Mr Ramduth said he was confident that teachers would be 'more positive' in their approach to the teaching of Afrikaans

He said his department would not agree to dropping Afrikaans as a compulsory subject as long as it remained one of the official languages of the country

Mr Ramduth said he considered Mr Samuels's statement on Afrikaans 'highly irresponsible'

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MC

LIQUIDATIONS
12 R R Pillay

v Walfie Raabe (Pty)

blue

Indian MP calls for joint sittings on all the debates

19/3/76 SNOR
258
Political Staff
PARLIAMENT — A call was made in the House of Delegates yesterday for the holding of joint sittings of all three Houses of Parliament in all debates

The call was made by Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) in a Private Member's Motion

He argued Parliament would be able to function more efficiently and economically if the present cumbersome system of separate sittings was replaced by joint sittings

Mr Poovalingam said in the present system "the cabbage was boiled in the white chamber, boiled a bit more in the coloured chamber, and by the time it reached the House of Delegates it was one big, soggy mess"

"It is ridiculous, stupid and a wanton waste of time to have three separate debates on a single item of legislation, when you can have one debate"

He did not believe white Afrikaners still objected to having "Coolies and Hotnots" sitting next to them.

Mr Ahmed Lambat (NPP, Actonville) moved an amendment calling for the complete scrapping of the tricameral system and the creation of a single parliament representing all South Africans

The leader of the House of Assembly, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, noted in his reply to the debate that the creation of a single parliament for all had been a recurring theme

If put into effect, this would mean there would be no more Indians in Parliament, he said "Look at what has happened in the rest of Africa"

"SINGLE CHAMBER WILL NOT STOP UNREST"

Mr Poovalingam pointed out a member of the Kenyan Cabinet was Asian Mr Schoeman agreed it would be much easier to have a single chamber in Parliament

"But you know it's not practical I'm not a racist, I'm a realist," he said. Only a fool would believe unrest would stop under a single chamber, Mr Schoeman said.

The time allotted for the debate expired, and the motion lapsed
● Later in the afternoon the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, said he wanted to expand publication control committees to include members of all races.

Replying to the second-reading debate on the Publications Amendment Bill, Mr Botha said previous appeals to other races to serve on the committees had received a poor response

He urged members of the House to encourage people to serve on control committees. The Bill was supported unanimously.

Joint sittings . . . Solidarity MP
Mr Pat Poovalingam

PARLIAMENT

258 BODAY 25/5/86



REDDY

Reddy introduces budget

NEW Minister of the Budget in the House of Delegates J N Reddy introduced his budget for the 1986/7 financial year yesterday and gave a breakdown of how the Own Affairs allocation of R697m would be spent.

With an additional sum of about R11m, which was to be added to the estimates for improved pensions and allowances, the year's budget was 24% up.

Reddy said the money would be divided as follows

- Budget and Auxiliary Services — R8 796 000 (up 1,91% on last year),
- Local Government, Housing and Agriculture — R184 021 000 (up 45,87%),
- Education and Culture — R365 104 000

(up 13,45%);

□ Health Services and Welfare — R112 675 000 (up 6,79%);

□ Improvements of Conditions of Service — R26 635 000 (up 423,79%).

Reddy said he agreed with remarks made by President P W Botha at the opening of Parliament, when he said the new constitution had proved in a year that various communities could take part effectively and peacefully in joint decision-making at central level.

The General Budget — delivered last week by Finance Minister Barend du Plessis — had given special attention to the needs of the developing sectors of society, he said. — Sapa

Rajbansi is given challenge note during angry

26/3/86 Political Staff 510K
PARLIAMENT The House of Delegates was yesterday the scene of flaring tempers, claims and counter-claims of corruption, a walk-out by two Opposition MPs, and a written challenge from one MP to Cabinet Minister Mr Amichand Rajbansi to "meet me outside".

The fireworks — as one member later described one of the most heated debates in Parliament this year — began during the second-reading debate on the own affairs budget when Mr John Iyman (Solidarity Camperdown) accused the ruling National People's Party of providing jobs for pals in the House of Delegates administration.

This started a series of interjections from the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Rajbansi, who challenged Mr Iyman to name them
Mr Iyman also wanted to know why the NPP had refused

to support an Opposition call for an official probe into alleged improper land allocations in Lenasia South.

Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity Reservoir Hills) later took the Ministers' Council to task for overworking the administration's staff.

He also claimed employees were being used as speech-writers for certain Ministers.

"No other man writes my speeches!" shouted Mr Rajbansi. When he later rose to speak, Mr Rajbansi challenged Mr Mamoo Rajab (Solidarity Springfield) to help investigate claims of fictitious special votes that had allegedly been cast in the Springfield electoral division in the 1984 elections.

There were allegations of bribery, corruption and fraud in Springfield
He went on to castigate Mr Rajab for allegedly threatening him with assault one afternoon, and for using obscene language during

Flare-ups in House

the incident

At this point, Mr Rajab walked across the House and handed Mr Rajbansi a note.

Mr Rajbansi read out the contents. It said: "Meet me outside." Mr Rajbansi proceeded to elaborate on his claims of irregularities in Springfield, saying between 500 and 600 votes had been made on fictitious forms which had later been destroyed.
Mr Poovalingam interjected: "This is disgusting — you are a disgrace to the Cabinet."

A rapid series of retorts ensued, during which Mr Iyman announced that he was leaving the chamber. He was followed by Mr Cherry Mohangi (Solidarity Tongaat).
The interchange culminated in Mr Rajbansi thundering: "Who destroyed the documents?"
Acting Solidarity leader Mr Yunus Moolla appealed for members of the House to be united in their efforts to dismantle apartheid.

Mr Amichand Rajbansi
voting irregularities claimed

Mr John Iyman
accusations
of jobs for pals.

House splits on land deal allegations

WEEKLY MAIL
27/3/86
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By JEAN LE MAY

A SPLIT has developed in the Coalition Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates over allegations about the improper acquisition of land in Lenasia South.

Dr Jagaram Reddy, Minister of the Budget and leader of the opposition, Solidarity, told Weekly Mail that he supported a call made this week by his party for a select committee to investigate the allegations.

However the ruling National Peoples' Party refused to support the call.

"I believe that any allegation which impugns the integrity of members should be thoroughly investigated by a select committee," said Reddy.

The position is in fact comparable to that in the central cabinet, in which the two ministers without portfolio, Amichand Rajbansi and Rev Allan Hendrickse do not have to go along with cabinet decisions.

Rajbansi told the house there was no need for a select committee as there were no allegations against himself or the Minister of Local Government and Housing, Baldeo Dookie.

Moreover, the matter was being investigated by the police.

Pat Poovalingham (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) said the house "displayed a heart-warming confidence in the police."

"However the point of issue is whether Mr Rajbansi and Mr Dookie have something to hide."

"There are non-criminal aspects of the memorandum which are highly unethical and grossly improper," he said.

Weekly Mail reported last week that a memorandum was being investigated by police.

It contained allegations that "fictitious" utility companies formed by friends or relatives of NPP MPs were allocated stands in Lenasia South which were then resold at substantial profits.

It also alleged that donations had been made by one of the fictitious developers to "a political party."



Gericke ... preserving independence with a listing

crayfish a day. Midway through university, he joined fellow diving enthusiast and current MD of Darling & Hodgson's Underwater Construction, Harry Fuchs, to form Palinaurus Trawling. Its sole asset was a boat they had converted into SA's first refrigerated stern trawler.

Problems arose concerning exclusive fishing rights in the Tristan de Cunha area and they sold the vessel at a good profit to I & J Gericke was still in his early twenties and went back to finish his M Sc.

Then came a stint as personal assistant to Chris Griffith (a man reputed to eat nails for breakfast, he was so tough) at Anglo American. He learnt a lot and completed his MBA but working for a large corporation didn't suit him. A job with Bakke Industries (one of the big three in polystyrene packaging) followed, he launched Plastamid and learnt the basics for Sunpak.

He returned to university to study marine archaeology and undertook a study of marine archives in Amsterdam and London for a venture into deep sea salvaging. Sea Bed Enterprises was formed and large amounts of metal were raised and sold at good prices. This helped establish Sunpak, with 20% partner Kobus du Plessis, after their graduation. Again the accent was on technology.

"Polystyrene manufacture is difficult. We didn't want to go into something that anybody could start up tomorrow," Gericke explains.

Gericke sees the industry expanding in the direction of fast food and throw-away packages. The opening of new food stores is generating greater demand for fruit, vegetable and meat packaging; Gericke considers there is still room for considerable innovation.

Adopting a pragmatic approach, Gericke

believes less sophisticated standards will be required as standards of living fall. "We are looking at a country that is getting poorer, which means things will become more basic, including packaging." ■

ALEX VAN BREDA

Whipping boy

Alex van Breda, Chief Whip of Parliament and Nationalist MP for Tygervallei, sees himself as the "operations manager" of the tricameral system.

Van Breda's essential task is to co-ordinate debate and joint standing committee meetings of the three Houses of Parliament to ensure a continuity of business and the least possible inconvenience to either MPs or Cabinet ministers.

Trying to satisfy the demands of not only a "general" affairs Cabinet, but also three "own" affairs Ministers' Councils, as well as 308 fairly individualistic MPs, may seem unenviable, but Van Breda (55) enjoys it.

"The first year after the implementation of the tricameral system was obviously the most difficult. We were dealing with people who had no background or experience in parliamentary procedure. Effective communication was the key to success," he says.

Under the new constitution, "general affairs" legislation must be debated separately in all three Houses. The Cabinet minister responsible, or his deputy, must be present to hear the debates and reply.

Van Breda must co-ordinate the debates in collaboration with the leaders of the three Houses and the various party whips and try to keep everyone as happy as possible — a seemingly impossible task.

"It is important to get through to the whips that their Houses are not the only ones who need to be satisfied. Compromise is essential," he says.

He believes that at times his job is more "crisis management" than anything else, but

he enjoys the challenge despite the stress.

Constituency work must be slotted in after hours — not that there is much time, says Van Breda. Many nights are spent planning proceedings for the following few days and re-arranging schedules to fit in with the arrangements of Cabinet ministers. Van Breda estimates he spends an average of between 16 and 18 hours a day doing his job.

To assist him with his planning, he sits in on Cabinet meetings to get a better feel for legislative programming. He adopts a diplomatic approach when asked if a single chamber and joint debates would not be more practical.

"My reply would have to be of a political nature, but that is not my function. My primary job is to execute the work allocated to me and not to decide policy," he says.

He comments, however, that in his view, debates in a common chamber may in fact take longer than three separate and simultaneous discussions because of the greater demand there would be on debating time by all parties.

Van Breda also co-ordinates meetings of the 16 joint standing committees in Cape Town during the parliamentary session; and in Pretoria during the recess.

"The standing committees place a heavy load on MPs, particularly those from the smaller parties who must try to cover as much ground as possible," he says.

Van Breda's political background has equipped him well for his post. For six years before his appointment in 1984, he was the National Party (NP) chief whip. He was elected to parliament in 1966 after serving in the Cape Provincial Council for six years for the Vasco constituency.

Before entering public office, Van Breda worked as an administrative clerk for the NP from the age of 19. Later he was provincial secretary of the NP's youth league and was subsequently appointed senior NP organiser.

At the time of his election to parliament in 1966, he was the youngest Cape Nationalist MP. ■



Van Breda ... tricameral system's "operations manager"

PARLIAMENT 33



NPP stages walk-out

Members of the ruling National People's Party in the House of Delegates staged a walk-out yesterday, apparently in protest over a remark passed by Opposition MP Mr Pat Poovalingam recently

When Mr Poovalingam, the Solidarity MP for Reservoir Hills, rose to speak during yesterday's Budget debate, almost all the NPP MPs left the chamber.

Party members said afterwards that the walk-out was intended as a snub to Mr Poovalingam for saying a fortnight ago that Health Minister Mr Ismael Kathrada belonged in a piggery

DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Though the comment was withdrawn, Mr Kathrada — a member of Mr Poovalingam's own party — has taken exception to the remark and has written to party chairman Mr Ismail Omar for disciplinary measures to be taken

Mr Kathrada said last week that if no action were taken, he would reconsider his membership of Solidarity.

Party leaders are to discuss the issue this week

contempt

gal, and costs already incurred would be wasted

Mr Raw said the transport committee had asked for consultation with bodies which would be affected by the new system

He was speaking during the debate on the Transport Vote.

Solidarity, NPP hammer Budget

PARLIAMENT — Both the ruling National People's Party and the opposition Solidarity Party in the House of Delegates gave the Budget a sound hammering yesterday.

Mr Boetie Abramjee (NPP, Laudium) said the main cause of inflation was excess Government spending

Speaking during the second reading debate on the Budget, Mr Abramjee said the present economic climate had forced the private sector to cut back on expenditure. There was no reason why the Government should not do the same.

"But I realise that asking the Government to reduce expenditure is like asking the Mafia to fight crime"

'FAVOURS WEALTHY'

He told the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, that the Budget apparently favoured only the most powerful lobby group: the wealthy.

Mr John Iyman (Sol, Camperdown) moved an Opposition amendment saying the House refused to pass the Budget unless the Government formulated a clear declaration of intent pledging its commitment to the establishment of a society without group domination

Mr Iyman said it was appalling that Indian pupils living in King William's Town were having to travel more than 150 km daily to and from school in East London simply because the local white school did not admit other races.

Mr Somaroo Pachai (NPP, Natal Midlands) said the Budget was not only disappointing, but a "serious indictment" on the pace of reform.

Mr Kisten Moodley (Sol, Southern Natal) appealed to Mr du Plessis to tell his Cabinet colleagues he would no longer approve finance for segregated facilities.

— Political Staff.

only to convey the result of the discussions with the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning to the people of Moutse;

(iii) no action or counter-action regarding the incorporation of Moutse into Kwandebele shall be discussed;

(iv) no speaker shall be allowed to incite, instigate, intimidate or by any other means influence any person to oppose the incorporation of Moutse into Kwandebele; and

(v) the South African Police shall be allowed to attend the meeting

(b) The conditions were imposed, since the Magistrate, Moutse, according to him, had reason to believe the public peace would seriously be endangered, if the meeting were not held subjected to the conditions concerned.

(c) The South African Police, Syabuswa, recommended that the conditions be imposed

(6) Yes, the South African Police, Syabuswa, was consulted by the Magistrate, Moutse, in both instances.

(a) The South African Police was consulted on 28 November 1985 about the first meeting and on 3 December 1985 about the second meeting.

(b) The Magistrate, Moutse, consulted with the South African Police, Syabuswa for a report and recommendation in both instances.

(c) The Magistrate, Moutse, requested a report from the South African Police in order to be in a position to exercise his discre-

tion regarding the applications concerned

(d) After the Magistrate consulted the South African Police, he decided to refuse the first application and to approve the second application, subject to the conditions in 5(a) above.

(7) No

New Questions

Compulsory military service
HANS SPEDS 25/2/86
Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of Defence:†

(1) Whether the Government has taken a decision on compulsory military service for Coloured persons and Asians, if so, what decision,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE
Q. COL 157

(1) Yes.

(2) Last year during the debate on the Defence Vote I put it unambiguously that the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates would have to decide for themselves on National Service for their own people. This is still the Government's standpoint I also said that the Geldenhuis Committee was looking into the matter (Hansard column 6514) After thorough investigation and consideration of all the relevant factors the Committee came to the conclusion that on purely practical considerations, National Service for all population groups is not possible at the moment
The Committee is of the opinion that the enlistment of only volunteers from the Coloured and Indian population, is at present the only practical solution. The Committee therefore supports the present approach to

make the maximum use of the large number of Coloured and Indian volunteers

I endorse these views of the Committee. In this regard I want to point out that since 1979 until the present there has been a general growth of 352% in the Coloured ranks of the SA Army and 101% growth in Indian numbers in the SA Navy

†Dr W J SNYMAN: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, do we now have to accept that in the case of military service for Asians and Coloureds it is an own affair, on which they themselves can decide, while in the case of the Whites it is a general affair? Further arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, does the Government not envisage at all to give any future consideration whatsoever to the introduction of compulsory military service for the two race groups mentioned?

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I have just explained quite clearly to the hon member what the situation is and how we handle it. If the hon member now wants to make politics of this sensitive matter, which deals with the safety of our country, I resent him for doing that. I will not add to the reply that I have already furnished. [Interjections.]

Mr D J N MALCOMMESS Further arising out of the reply given by the hon the Deputy Minister—and it is now clear that the Coloureds and Indians will have their own Houses decide for them—what then is his intention as regards the Chinese people who do not have a separate House or even a vote in any House? [Interjections.]

†Mr S P BARNARD Mr Chairman, further arising out of the reply of the hon the Deputy Minister, can he inform the House whether the possibility will shortly arise that Whites will only be able to join voluntarily and that there will be no compulsory military service for Whites. Will the same choice that is given to the Coloureds and Indians therefore be given to the Whites of South Africa?

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER Mr Chairman, Whites can already join the Permanent

Force voluntarily. There is nothing to prevent that. I have just told the hon member for Langlaagte quite clearly—it seems to me he does not want to understand it—that this is, politically spoken, a sensitive matter.

†Mr S P BARNARD: Oh, man, go and tell that to a bunch of small kids!

†THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! If the hon member for Langlaagte wants to hear the reply to his question he must please give the hon the Deputy Minister the opportunity to reply to it

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER. Mr Chairman, we do not want to make a political football of the security of our country and I therefore appeal to hon members of the Conservative Party—very seriously—please not to do it. These volunteers of the other race groups do valuable work in the interest of our security and these hon members must please not spoil that

†Mr S P BARNARD They ostensibly do the valuable work but it is our Whites who die on the border! [Interjections.] But that of course is not a sacrifice!

†THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The hon member for Langlaagte will have to contain himself if he does not want me to order him to leave the House

†Dr W J SNYMAN: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the reply of the hon the Deputy Minister, can we therefore take it that military service is a general affair for Whites only while for the other groups it is an own affair? We want a clear reply to this, please.

†THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The hon member for Pietersburg must please resume his seat. I put the next question

Amanziboti hon member
HANS SPEDS 25/2/86
*2. Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order †

(1) Whether the South African Police has investigated or is investigating the

Q. COL 158

Indians may sit on
Immigration Board

PARLIAMENT — Indians may soon have a say in who may or may not settle in South Africa

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, has indicated he may bring Indians on to the Immigration Selection Board

Replying in the House of Delegates yesterday to the second reading debate on the Admission to and Residence in the Republic Amendment Bill, Mr Botha said there was nothing to stop him expanding the Board beyond its present five members

He was responding to a suggestion by the Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Rajbansi, in this regard — Political Staff

Rajbansi launches stinging attack on Solidarity 'loyalists'

258

Political Staff

STAR 18/2/86

PARLIAMENT — The simmering acrimony between the ruling National People's Party leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi and the four Solidarity loyalists reached boiling-point yesterday.

The 'loyalists' are those members of Solidarity opposed to the proposed NPP-Solidarity coalition.

In a biting attack on Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills), one of the four loyalists, Mr Rajbansi read out excerpts from the 10-year-old Wilson Commission, to which Mr Poovalingam was a signatory, saying the commission had recommended the continued racial division of Stanger.

Mr Rajbansi claimed this was evidence that the loyalists were loyal only to separate development and other forms of apartheid.

"It stinks," Mr Rajbansi said

"You do," interjected Mr Poovalingam. He was later forced to withdraw the remark.

Mr Poovalingam accused Mr Rajbansi of distorting the truth to create a false impression

Earlier in the afternoon another loyalist, Mr Mamoo Rajab (Solidarity, Springfield), attacked Mr Rajbansi for saying last week that Mahatma Gandhi would have been proud had he been alive to witness the scrapping of the ban on Indians living in the Free State and Northern Natal.

Speaking during the second reading debate on the Admission to and Residence in the Republic Amendment Bill, Mr Rajab said Gandhi's name was being used to buttress support for the removal of a measure which discriminated against a small section of the South African community, while the masses were still burdened.

Mr Somaroo Pachai (NPP, Natal Midlands) warned against waxing lyrical about a technical adjustment that did not address itself to the real problem facing the country.

"There is just no way our people can go into these areas and find land and business premises," he said.

There were no objections to the Bill, and it was read a second time



Mr Chris Heunis
invites discussion

Separate areas puts Heunis in hot spot

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, came under fire in the House of Delegates yesterday over the continued existence of the Group Areas Act.

Former Budget Minister Mr Boetie Abramjee (NPP, Laudium) led a motion calling on Mr Heunis to provide an equitable distribution of land for housing, agricultural, business, commercial and industrial purposes for all people.

The acting leader of the Opposition, Mr Yunus Moolla (Solidarity, Stanger), moved an amendment calling for the removal of all legislation restricting a person of any race from acquiring a property for any purpose.

He was backed by Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills), who said the Act had resulted in legalised robbery by depriving Coloured, Indian and black people of millions of rands of property.

Mr Mamoo Rajab (Solidarity, Springfield) said the Group Areas Act should follow the Mixed Marriages Act and Section 16 of the Immorality Act into oblivion.

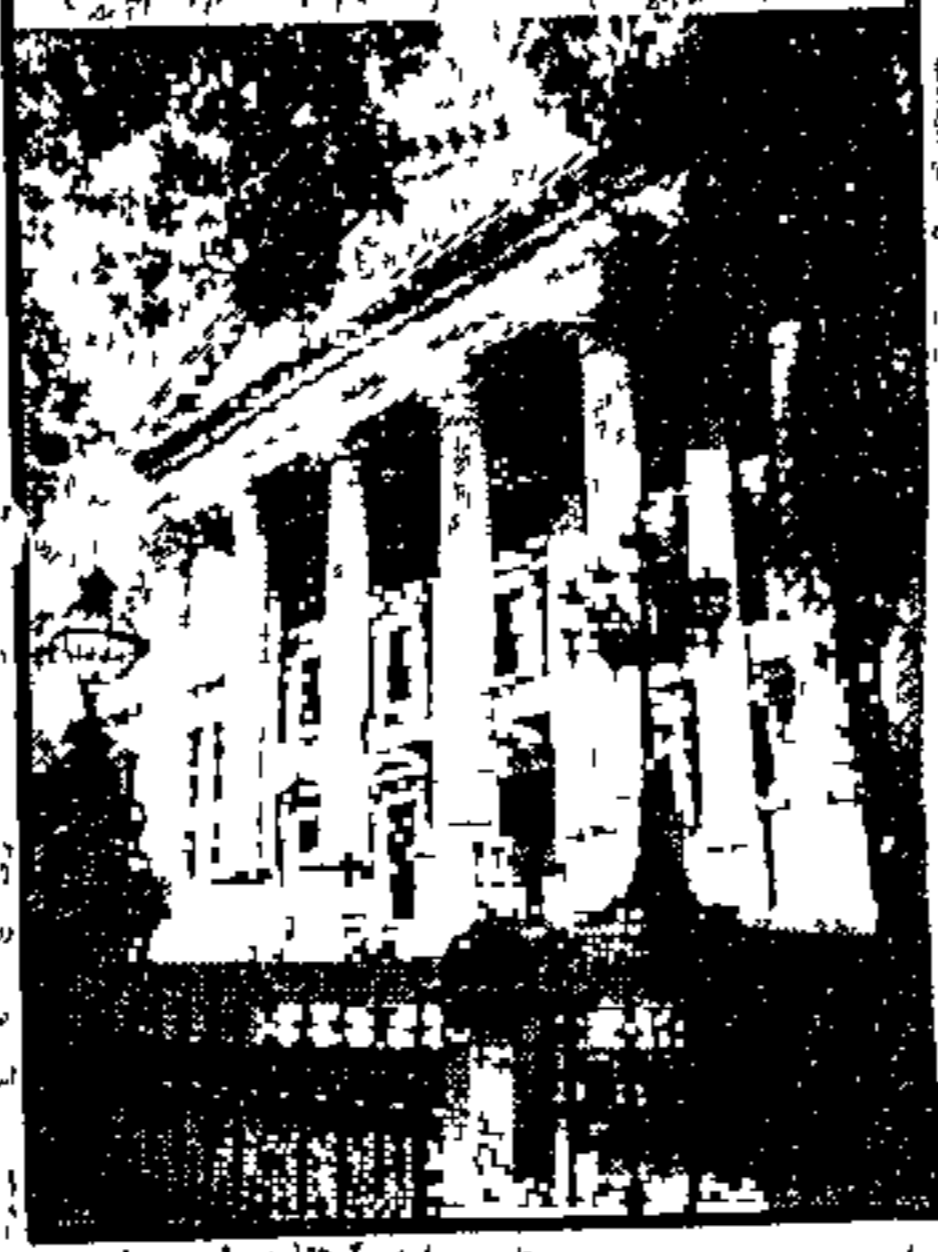
The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said there was no-one in the House who did not support the call for the scrapping of the Act.

The manner in which this act has been applied, has hurt us deeply and the wounds remain.

Mr Heunis said in reply to the debate that he did not believe in inequality of rights. He appealed to members of the House to take up his invitation to sit down with an open agenda and discuss alternatives.

Mr Heunis's time lapsed and the motion could not be put to the vote.

PARLIAMENT '86



Detainees die 'in every land'

STAR 258
19/2/86
Political Reporter

PARLIAMENT — Deaths in detention happened all over the world, Minister of Justice Mr Kobie Coetsee said in the House of Delegates yesterday.

It was indefensible that people should die. However, people should abide by the law, he said. He was speaking during the second reading debate on the Criminal Procedure Act Amendment Bill. Responding to an appeal made by Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) for an assurance that there would be no more deaths in detention, Mr Coetsee said he subscribed to the ideal of avoiding all such deaths.

But they happened all over the world, he said. He did not want to point fingers, but the United States had bombed a block of flats harbouring terrorists.

This had resulted in many untimely deaths, Mr Coetsee said.



Mr Jan van Zyl... "own affairs the greatest fraud"

Heated 'own affairs' debate

Retention of apartheid under attack

STAR 21/2/86



Mr Alf Widman... "birth of the reform baby just not on"

Political Staff

Govt will try to help local authorities

PARLIAMENT — The Government would go out of its way to ensure local authorities remained viable and that viability would be enhanced, the Minister of the Budget, Mr F W de Klerk said yesterday.

Replying to Second Reading debate on the House's Part Appropriation Bill, he said this enhancement, however, would not be done in a manner that would affect other interests

Referring to a suggestion by Mr Alf Widman (PFP, Hillbrow) that a municipal bank be created to aid ailing local authorities, he said he supposed this bank would make money available at subsidised low interest rates.

"Who must subsidise these low rates?" he asked

There was already a small fund available to municipalities in need, but the moment one began helping them in a bigger way, the taxpayer would suffer.

"Will the honorable member support increased taxation to pay for this?" he asked

Figures for wheat and maize imports

PARLIAMENT — A total of 95 958 tons of feed wheat and 228 382 tons of yellow maize was imported into South Africa last year, the Minister of Agricultural Economics and of Water Affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel, said yesterday in written reply to a question from Mr John Malcoff (PFP). — Sapa

PARLIAMENT — The whole concept of racially-based "own affairs" in Parliament has come under fire in the House of Assembly.

The National Party stood alone in its defence of the system during yesterday's second-reading debate on the white "own affairs" Mini-Budget.

It was marked by fresh attacks from the official Opposition on the continued adherence to apartheid policies such as race classification, and racial separation in schools and residential areas

The Minister of the Budget, Mr F W de Klerk, and other speakers on the Government side, defended the system on the grounds that it had been approved by a majority of the white electorate

SEPARATE SCHOOLS AND LIVING AREAS

Launching the Opposition's attack, Mr Alf Widman (PFP, Hillbrow) said Mr de Klerk had made it clear in the No-Confidence Debate that separate schools and residential areas, separate voters' rolls and the tricameral parliamentary system would remain

"So while the State President's speech was pregnant with possibilities at the opening of Parliament, the birth of the reform baby was just not on"

Mr Widman moved an amendment, calling on the House not to pass the second reading unless and until the Ministers' Council undertook to

- Improve efficiency in its administration in order to uplift the standard and quality of life of all concerned
- Review sources of revenue for local authorities
- Remove all racial restrictions on admission to educational institutions
- Ensure the provision of adequate housing and the protection of those in need

ASSURANCE ON SOVEREIGNTY

Mr Jan van Zyl (CP, Sunnyside) condemned the "own affairs" system as "the greatest fraud and bluff one can get".

He moved an amendment calling on the House to decline to pass the second-reading unless the Government gave an assurance that the sovereignty of the "white Parliament" would be restored

Mr Derrick Watterson (NRP, Umbilo) said his party would oppose the Bill on the grounds that it was not properly motivated. He said that while he still supported the constitution, he believed the system of "own affairs" could not work in respect of local government and hospital services.

Mr Louis Stoffberg (HNP, Sasolburg) rejected the "own affairs" system on the grounds that whites were being impoverished in order to provide benefits to other race groups. For the first time since the 1930s thousands of white children were going to school hungry

There had been a "gross mismanagement" of South Africa's finances by the Government, he said

Privatisation probe goes on

PARLIAMENT — Investigations were being carried out in every government department into ways in which privatisation could be implemented without affecting efficiency, the Minister of the Budget in the House of Assembly, Mr F W de Klerk, said yesterday.

Replying to debate in the second reading of the House's Part Appropriation Bill, he said the Commission for Administration was conducting a similar investigation

Privatisation would have financial advantages for the State, but was not something that could be done quickly.

It had to be tackled carefully and planned thoroughly.

"We don't want to throw the baby out with the bathwater," he said. — Sapa.

Indian schools 'just as open'

PARLIAMENT — Indian schools are just as open to other races as Coloured schools, the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday.

During the mini-budget debate, Mr Rajbansi said he wished to make clear there was no difference between the Houses of Delegates and Representatives on policy regarding open education.

All recent applications from blacks for admission to Indian schools had been approved

'NP not against free association'

Whites ^{STAR}
want own ^{2/2/86}
identity, ²⁵⁸
says FW



Mr F W de Klerk

PARLIAMENT — There could be no doubt that the majority of white voters supported the concept of own schools and living areas, the Minister of the Budget, Mr F W de Klerk, said today.

Replying to Second Reading debate on the House's Part Appropriation Bill, he said this was the reason why the National Party was in government, and that there were so few members in the opposition benches.

Members of the NP were not against association between people of different racial groups.

In his speech at the opening of Parliament the State President had given a long list of areas in which association took place without hindrance.

There was free association in sport and with the amendment to the Liquor Act, in hotels.

All this had occurred under the rule of the NP.

The Government did not want to "cut people off" from one another, as long as a group's existence as a group, and its security, was not threatened.

In the 1983 referendum the white group had said it wanted differentiation of groups and own living areas but that it was prepared to associate in Parliament.

"We sit together in the Cabinet, but group security is safeguarded. This was the reason for the overwhelming 'yes'-vote"

The voters had said they were prepared to accept voluntary association across a wide terrain as long as they could continue to regulate those issues fundamental to their own group identity and that they established their own community life.

The Bill was read a second time after a division. — Sapa

Coloured schools ^{2/2/86 STAR}
now open to all

PARLIAMENT — The opening of coloured schools to all races has been made official.

Mr Carter Ebrahim, Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Representatives, announced in the House yesterday that all schools in his department would immediately be classified as open.

No pupils will be rejected on grounds of race, colour or belief. The only restriction will be the availability of classroom accommodation — Political Staff.



Coloureds seek R532-m ^{STAR}
more in Mini-Budget ²⁵⁸

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — A Mini-Budget of R532 million for coloured own affairs was presented to the House of Representatives by the Minister of the Budget, the Rev Andrew Julies.

The amount, an increase of 33 percent over last year's Mini-Budget, is needed to tide over the finances of the House of Representatives' four departments from the end of the present financial year in March, until the main Budget was approved in June.

Education and Culture will receive R267,2 million, Health and Welfare R163,8 million, Local Government, Housing and Agriculture R97,2 million, and the Budget department R3,8 million.

Mr Arthur Booysen, leader of the opposition Freedom Party, rejected the Mini-Budget. He said that when the last one was presented he sympathised with the Minister of the Budget because he had not compiled it himself.

But now the Minister had himself presented a discriminatory and insulting Budget which could never lead the coloured people out of their suffering.

Mr Cecil Kippen (LP, Durban Suburbs) said the own affairs con-

cept was a disaster. The only group who find it viable are the whites, because they control the inflow and outflow of cash.

Chairman Mr Philip Sanders interrupted to rule that the principle of own affairs could not be discussed in the debate.

Most of the debate consisted of members pleading parochially for more money to be diverted to the material problems of their constituencies.

BEGGED

For instance, Mr Cecil Herandien (LP, Macassar) begged for subsidies for the squatters of Blikkiesdorp, whose shacks he said were worse than those of Crossroads.

"We are not ungrateful when we say the budget is not enough. But this is an increase on last year, and as long as there is movement, there is hope."

Opposition to Indian budget

Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — The R242-million mini-budget debate in the House of Delegates went ahead yesterday with scarcely a whimper of protest from the opposition Solidarity.

Last year the budget produced fiery allegations from Solidarity against the then Budget Minister, Mr Boetie Abramjee of the ruling National People's Party, and a strongly-worded amendment opposing the own affairs Part Appropriation Bill was moved.

But now, as the result of a re-shuffle, a member of the Opposition, former Solidarity leader Mr J N Reddy is Minister of the Budget.

So when Mr Reddy introduced the Bill yesterday, Solidarity members were constrained from moving an opposing amendment.

Instead, acting leader Mr Yunus Moolla (Solidarity, Stanger) spoke of the need to put up a united front, and appealed to Mr Reddy to use his post effectively.

Mr Reddy said in his speech that he wished to congratulate the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, for the courageous actions he had

taken to prevent the destruction of the country's economy.

He pointed out that he had been appointed as Budget Minister only after the money-cake had already been sliced. But he was confident that the House of Delegates had got the largest possible slice of the cake.

The Bill provides


- R131 035 000 for Education and Culture,
- R68 820 000 for Local Government, Housing and Agriculture,
- R39 070 000 for Health Services and Welfare;
- R3 075 000 for Budgetary and Auxiliary Services

This totals R242 million — an increase of 39 percent over last year's R174-million budget.

Mr Reddy said the increase was for the streamlining of various departments and the provision of extra schools, houses and community services.

The former Budget Minister, Mr Boetie Abramjee (NPP, Laudium), who was sacked by President P W Botha last year, congratulated his successor. He appealed to Mr Reddy to do his utmost to help bring about equal pensions for all races.

Call to spell out new education policy

STAR 4/2/86 (258) 
PARLIAMENT — A claim by the Government in a newspaper advertisement that it was committed to “one education policy” for all was questioned by Mr R S Nowbath (NPP, Nominated) during the No-Confidence Debate yesterday

He wanted to know what the State President, Mr P W Botha, meant when he spoke of one education policy

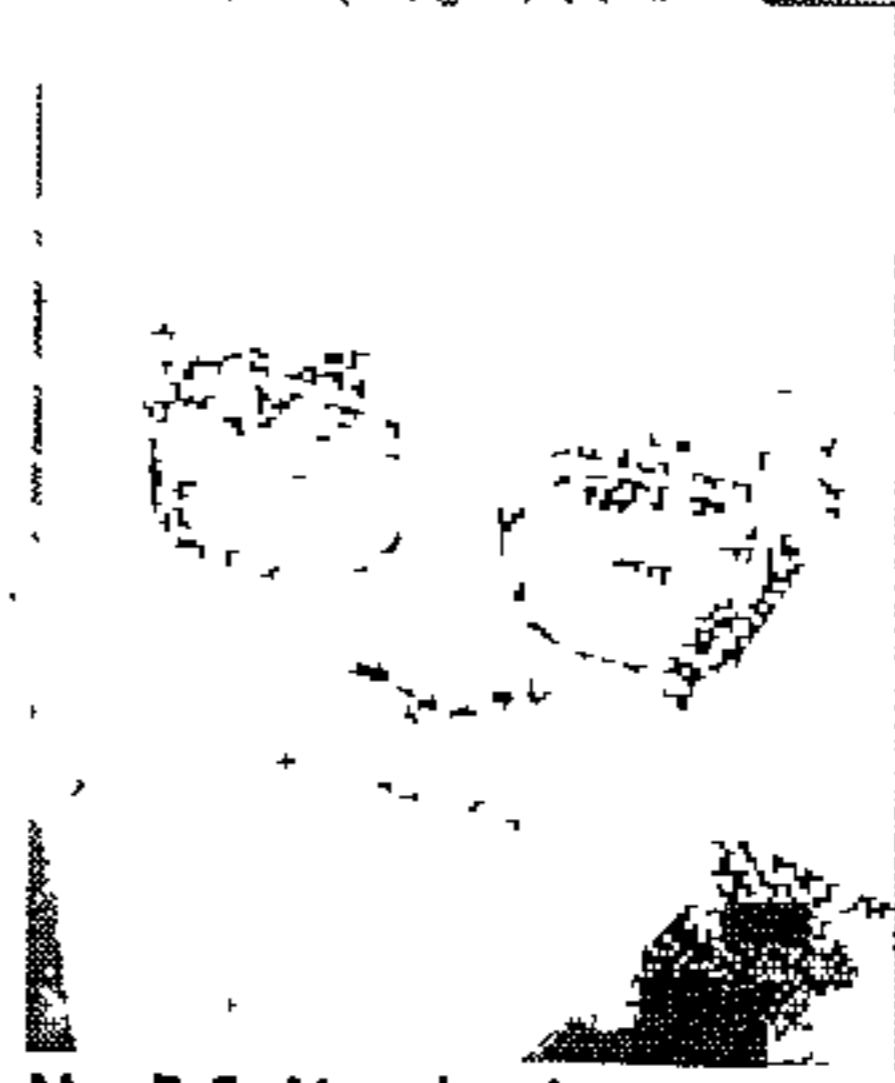
“Does he mean one system? Is he going to overthrow the entire present national policy on education?”

“Is he introducing new measures in conformity with what he has now said?”

If not, the State President’s speech at the opening of Parliament was meaningless, Mr Nowbath said Blacks in particular were demanding an education without reference to ethnicity

The Government’s White Paper on education recommended four separate education ministries “Is the Government now going to kick these recommendations out of the back door?” he asked

He called on Mr Botha to “elucidate in no uncertain terms” what he meant by “one education policy” — Sapa.



Mr R S Nowbath(NPP)
‘What does Mr Botha mean?’

Theology document a call to murder — MP

STAR 6/2/86

PARLIAMENT — The Kairos document on liberation theology signed by general secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) Dr Beyers Naude was a call to revolution, murder and even high treason, Mr J W Meiring (NP, Paarl) said in the No-Confidence Debate yesterday.

Mr Meiring said the document, released last year, had been compiled by "seven nameless theologians" and financed by the SACC.

It was undoubtedly the most radical document from the hands of churchmen in South Africa. The problem was that many outside the country saw it as the official view of the church here.

The document made God into a political God and talked of salvation in terms of freedom from political repression, not in terms of "what we know it as", a personal thing, he said.

The Government's reform initiatives were not mentioned in it at all.

The harshest criticism in the Kairos document was of what it called "State theology", citing among other things the "blasphemous use of God's name in the preamble to the new Constitution".

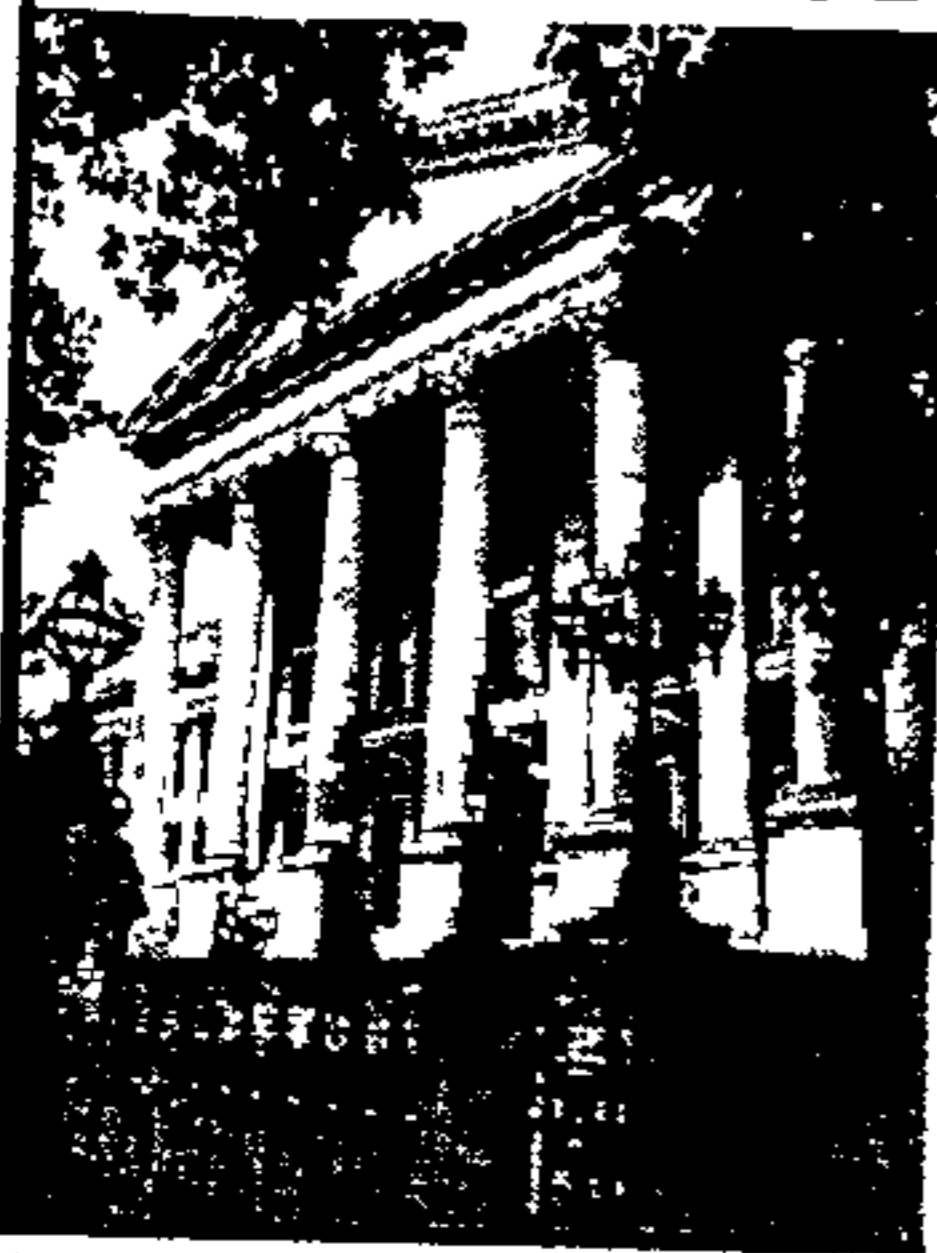
The document, in spite of its advocacy of violence, did however have at least one advantage: it forced people to search their own consciences. "It is so easy to say we were put here in



Mr J W Meiring, National Party MP for Paarl.

South Africa by a higher hand and given a calling, so we do not have to care about others. There must always be a quid pro quo. Every citizen must do all he can to improve relations between races" — Sapa

PARLIAMENT '86



Committee to settle dining row

STAR 6/2/86

PARLIAMENT — A special joint committee of all three Houses of Parliament is to decide if the controversial segregated House of Assembly dining room should be open to MPs of all races.

The Speaker of Parliament, Mr Johan Greeff, convened the joint meeting to prevent the issue being "blown up into something of national and international proportions".

Mr Greeff appealed to MPs to observe the existing arrangements pending the decision of a joint meeting of the committees on Standing Rules and Orders of the three Houses.

He reiterated his claim that the refusal to serve coloured MPs had nothing to do with race or colour. It was designed to ensure privacy for Members of Parliament.

Rev Allan Hendrickse, chairman of the House of Representatives, one of the MPs refused service, rejected the Speaker's statement but added that his caucus had already decided to "stop exerting pressure for our right as Members of Parliament". They had decided to leave it up to other caucuses to decide. — Political Staff.

Solidarity MPs turn on NPP and their own leader

STAR 6/2/86

Political Staff STAR 258 6/2/86
National People's Party (NPP) leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi was scathingly attacked by one of the rebel opposition MPs in the House of Delegates yesterday.

Mr Mamoo Rajab (Solidarity, Springfield) said Mr Rajbansi's apparent inability to do anything about removing apartheid, in spite of being a Cabinet Minister, must make it difficult for him to sleep at night.

Mr Rajab is one of four Solidarity MPs who have brought an interdict against the leader of their party, Mr J N Reddy, in a bid to prevent the proposed NPP-Solidarity coalition.

Mr Rajab said Mr Rajbansi should accept vicarious responsibility for the passing of apartheid laws. He (Mr Rajbansi) sat on the most powerful body in the country with the same Min-

isters who pushed through apartheid legislation, "caring not who was demeaned and who was hurt".

He would be held responsible for the decisions of the Cabinet, and although this perception might be unfair, "we must remember history was never strong on fairness", Mr Rajab said.

Earlier, Mr Gopi Munsook (Solidarity, Nominated) went against Mr Reddy by lambasting the Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI). Mr Reddy had praised the FCI in his speech for adding its voice to the anti-apartheid lobby.

Mr Munsook denounced the FCI and Assocom as white capitalists who had never before worried about the plight of blacks.

"Suddenly everyone who never lifted a finger is on the bandwagon shouting 'change'", he said.

Plan to protect farm workers

STAR 6/2/86

PARLIAMENT — The Labour Party is to introduce legislation this session to protect farm workers and domestic servants who have no union protection.

The party announced this after the Minister of Manpower, Mr Piet du Plessis, said that no new legislation on this matter was planned for this session.

"The Minister of Manpower must make it clear that he is speaking of behalf of the National Party, and not of Parliament in general and the Labour Party in particular," a spokesman said in a statement.

"Our farm workers have been continually overworked, underpaid and abused and the old tot system is still very much in use."

Mr Petrus Meyer (LP, Vredendal) told the House that neither farm workers nor domestics were defined as workers under the Manpower Act. — Political Staff.

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C.M. Times 6/2/86
Boycott a great weapon'

HOUSE OF DELEGATES — The boycott and the strike were the greatest weapons workers had to force change in South Africa, Mr G Munsook (Sol Nominated) said in the no confidence debate.

He said white organizations like the Federated Chamber of Industries and Assocom had "enjoyed the cream" of the country and had promoted whites and foreigners over black people.

However, now that the United Democratic Front and the Congress of South African Trade Unions were established, white capitalists realized their days of power were over. — Sapa

C.M. Times 6/2/86
258
New ministers for Indian House soon

Political Reporter

HOUSE OF DELEGATES — Major changes to the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates are expected to be announced soon

The changes involve the filling of the post of the former Minister of the Budget, Mr Boetie Abramjee, who was fired by President P W Botha last year, and the possibility that another minister in the House will be replaced

This follows talks earlier this year between the leader of the opposition Solidarity Party, Dr J N Reddy, and the leader of the ruling

National Peoples' Party (NPP), Mr Amichand Rajbansi, over closer co-operation

Several Solidarity MPs in favour of the move said co-operation between the two parties will help to block legislation that emphasizes ethnicity.

Post

Dr Reddy is expected to be given the post of Minister of the Budget

The present Minister of Health Services and Welfare, Dr Murugasen Padayachy, is expected to be replaced by the Solidarity MP for Verulam, Mr Ismail Kathrada

Rajbansi rejects the need for opposition party in Delegates

PARLIAMENT — There could be no opposition party in the House of Delegates, the Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday.

Speaking during the No Confidence debate, he said all Members of the House were entitled to be free of apartheid. Differences lay not in policy but in personalities.

However, there had to be a "type" of opposition because it fulfilled the dual roles of ensuring the accountability of the governing party and of keeping that party on its toes.

Pointing out that opposition members had praised President P W Botha during the debate, he said since September last year the Cabinet had initiated more "reform processes" than ever before.

Mr Rajbansi said he would stand by Mr Botha's reform initiatives until he was let down. He said he had faith and confidence in his chosen stand and he and the House would do everything possible to help Mr Botha to "move the reform train faster"

Mr Botha's sincere and honest attempts to bring about peace and harmony and to bring about socio-economic upliftment in South Africa were beyond question.

Not a single piece of legislation passed by Mr Botha was in any way discriminatory and it was wrong for anyone to label the present Botha Cabinet anything but reformist.

Mr Botha's speech at the opening of Parliament had "definitely put the country on a new constitutional course" and his intention to secure South Africa as one nation was not only of tremendous significance but also in line with radicals' demands.

He thought a federal system of government was a possible solution to South Africa's political problems. — Sapa.

SABC unveils new stations

By Sue Dobson

The South African Broadcasting Corporation yesterday announced its second major TV 1 schedule change of the past six months

The changes and the launch of two new radio stations, Radio 2000 and Radio Metro, were announced by the director general of the corporation, Mr Riaan Eksteen, who said because of the rationalisation carried out by the corporation recently it was possible to re-allocate transmitters to new services

An SABC spokesman said last night staff members whose posts had been cancelled through the rationalisation process could apply for posts in the new radio stations

The introduction of the Intelsat satellite "transponder" on July 1 means the SABC can offer Simulcasting

- simultaneous transmission on television of the dubbed material, while the original soundtrack is broadcast on radio

"Network/Network" is to be rescheduled to a later slot and from April 1 there will be a daily 15-minute news bulletin at 5 45 pm The main bulletin will be between 8 pm and 8 30 pm

Teledata, the SABC's information service launched in the Witwatersrand area last year, will be available to viewers countrywide on the In Vision or Open System from March 1.

Announcing the launch of two radio stations, Mr Eksteen said Radio 2000 would broadcast educational programmes, while Radio Metro, broadcasting mainly in English to a black urban audience, would feature news and entertainment.

Church Services

METHODIST

CENTRAL METHODIST
Cnr Pritchard and Smal St. 8 30 am Holy Communion, 9 30 am Rev Peter Storey, 7 pm Rev David Newby. Worker's Worship Wed at 1 15 pm

PRESBYTERIAN

ST COLUMBA'S, 45 Lurgan Rd, Parkview. Ministers - The Rev Dr Alan Maker and The Rev Granville Morgan. The Revs Marcus and Nancy Hess Organist - Mr N Kriel. 8 am Preacher the Rev Herbert Chikomo. 9 30 am Preacher the Rev Herbert Chikomo. 9 30 am Sunday School 7 30 pm Preacher the Rev Dr Alan Maker

THE SALVATION ARMY

THE SALVATION ARMY JOHANNESBURG CITY CORPS 121 Rissik St, Braamfontein. Sunday services 11 am and 6 30 pm. Everybody welcome. Enquiries 616-6924

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 31 Streatley Ave, cnr Lothbury Rd, Auckland Park. Enquiries to 646-9602. Sunday February 9th, 8 pm Video talk by Krishnamurti. Subject: The Nature of the Mind. A dialogue and discussion

Saturday Prayer

by JOY ANDERSON



This is the time of harvest,
So may I think today
About the "seeds" I'm sowing
What will I reap one day?
Eventually the time will come
When Heavenly reapers make
A judgment on each living soul
The thought of that day
Should make me now prepare
To set aright the wrongs I've done
And turn to God in prayer

Teachers reject exam date call

By Chris More

More than 200 Soweto teachers yesterday rejected a circular in which the Deputy Minister of Education and Training, Mr Sam de Beer, challenged the Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee to publicly support the examination date set by his department

The decision was taken at a heated meeting called by the Soweto branch of the National Educational Union of South Africa

The meeting resolved that teachers should not be involved in the examinations which are due to begin on Monday

The Divisional Commissioner of Soweto Police, Brigadier J C Coetzee, yesterday banned a closed consultative meeting of the SPCC, the Soweto Students' Congress and the Soweto Principals' Council, which was scheduled for tomorrow

Pupils affected by infectious disease

CAPE TOWN - Hundreds of primary school children at three schools fell victim to an infectious disease this week. One of the schools had to be temporarily closed down

Floreat Primary school in Steenberg was closed for a week after 249 of its pupils took ill

"Symptoms include abdominal cramps, sore throats, headaches and occasional weakness in patients' arms or legs," Dr Reg Coogan, Cape Town's Medical Officer of Health, said

Headmasters had been advised to send ill children home immediately to stop the disease from spreading - Sapa

WIZARD OF ID



cer and Adrian Fr reports from Rove
anything from leather
munny sells its wares
goods to health products.

Clergyman says 'police informer'

A Mamelodi clergyman, Dr Nico Smith, saved an alleged police informer from a group of angry mourners during a weekend of violence in Pretoria, in which a 16-year-old youth was killed and 54 people arrested.

Dr Smith, chairman of the Pretoria Council of Churches, saved a man from a crowd of mourners who threatened to set him alight.

Dr Smith was called to the scene and pleaded with the mob not to harm the man. He appealed to the mourners to show respect for the dead.

Police confirmed George Moima (16) of Atteridgeville was shot dead when police dispersed stone-throwers after the funeral of another unrest victim on Saturday.

Fifty-four people were arrested after the funeral of a Mamelodi youth yesterday afternoon — Pretoria Bureau

Police shot at and vehicles bombed

PRETORIA — A bus was extensively damaged in Soweto when it was set on fire, police said yesterday.

At Clermont, near Durban, a shot was fired at a police vehicle and stones and petrol bombs were thrown at police and private vehicles causing extensive damage, police said.

The crowd was dispersed with teargas and shotgun fire but no injuries were reported. — Sapa

Kaunda is in hospital

LUSAKA — President Kenneth Kaunda has been admitted to the University of Zambia teaching hospital for what was officially described as a routine medical checkup.

He was admitted on Friday. No statement has been made on when he will leave the hospital. — The Star's Africa News Service.

Lightning kills bike club official

WELKOM — The chairman of the Goldfields Motocross Club, Mr Stanley Hodge (40), of Riebeeckstad, was killed by lightning at a club race on Saturday afternoon.

Attempts to revive him failed and he was certified dead on arrival at the Welkom Provincial Hospital — Own Correspondent

Top posts for Indian MPs

CAPE TOWN — The State President, Mr P W Botha, is expected to announce the appointment of two new Indian Own Affairs Ministers to the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates today.

Sources in the House of Delegates yesterday said the MPs, Dr J N Reddy, leader of Solidarity, the official opposition in the House of Delegates, and Mr Ismail Kathrada, Solidarity MP for Verulam, had been informed about their new jobs — Sapa

More good rains forecast

Many parts of the country had good rains at the weekend, and roads were washed away in some areas of Natal.

A spokesman for the Weather Bureau said good showers fell last night and some places recorded more than 20 mm by 8 am today.

More cloudy and warm weather is forecast for the Johannesburg/Pretoria area today and tomorrow, with maximum temperatures of 25 to 29 degC — Pretoria Bureau

SA envoy leaves Spain

MADRID — South Africa's military attaché left Spain on Saturday in line with an order by the Socialist Government issued on January 17.

The Foreign Ministry said Spain was following other European Community member countries because of the South African Government's apartheid policies.

Spain has boycotted arms sales to South Africa but other diplomatic and commercial relations have remained unaffected — Sapa-Reuter

Guard your tongues, politicians told

PARLIAMENT — The Leader of the Official Opposition in the House of Delegates, Dr J N Reddy, said today South Africa's political leaders should be careful how they articulated what they wished to say in order not to harm the country

Speaking in the Part Appropriation debate, he said that following the Rubicon speech in Durban last August by the State President, Mr P.W Botha, the value of the rand had declined and South Africa had been plunged into a crisis

"We welcome Mr Botha's opening of Parliament speech with the hope that it is going to help those abroad who want to help us", he said

"What we say and how we say it is very important to avoid a repetition of what had happened in 1985," he said

Also speaking in the debate, former Budget Minister Mr Boetie Abramjee (NPP, Laudium), said he considered the State President's public criticism of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, for his remark that a black president in South Africa was possible, as a "step backward" — Sapa



Dr Reddy: "How we say it is very important".

STAR 11/2/88
258

Removal
rumours
scotched

Rumours of plans to re-settle the Indian community of Palm Ridge, Germiston, in another area, have been dispelled by authorities

The House of Delegates' Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr Baldeo Dookie, said such rumours were false.

He said Palm Ridge had already been declared Germiston's new area, and Indians from the old area, Germiston's Asiatic Bazaar, were being resettled there

People had started moving to Palm Ridge towards the end of 1984

The Minister recently held a meeting with the House of Delegates' National People's Party MP for Central Rand, Mr S Collakoppen, Germiston's municipality, and the Germiston Indian Consultative Committee concerning development of the area

Members at the meeting resolved that Palm Ridge had to be developed in phases to provide adequate facilities and amenities for the residents

At present, 44 homes are occupied and a further 130 will be ready by March this year

Private enterprises have also started development in the area

A clash over open schools seems likely

E. Post 13/2/88

858

By DIRK VAN ZYL

CAPE TOWN.— A head-on clash could be on the cards between the coloured and Indian "own affairs" Ministers' Councils and the National Party Government on the question of racial segregation in schools and other educational institutions

The majority Labour Party (LP) in the coloured House of Representatives and the majority National People's Party (NPP) in the Indian House of Delegates are firmly committed to open educational

During last week's no-confidence debate in the House of Assembly, both the Minister of National

Education, Mr F W de

institutions However, last week senior NP Ministers stated emphatically in the white House of Assembly that the NP's policy remained segregated Government schools.

Spokesmen for both the LP and NPP reiterated today that their parties remained committed to ending apartheid, and were in favour of a single, non-racial department of education for all races Klerk, and the Minister of Education and Training, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, stressed racial separation in education as NP policy

However, this week the Minister of Education and

Culture in the coloured Ministers' Council, Mr Carter Ebrahim, emphatically declared that open schools was the LP's established policy.

No detailed comment was available from the Indian education administration, but it also favours open education

A spokesman for Mr De Klerk said the Minister did not wish to comment until he had met Mr Ebrahim to discuss the matter

Arrangements for a meeting were being made

Mr De Klerk had no plans at this stage to meet the relevant Indian Minister, Mr Kosie Ramduth, he added

Scrap racist health laws — Barnard

PARLIAMENT — The South African Medical Association would be kicked out of its world body "as sure as I am standing here" if the Government persisted with its division of the country's health services on racial lines, Dr Marius Barnard (PFP, Parktown) said yesterday. *STAR 13/2/86 (258)*

Speaking in the Second Reading Debate on the Part Appropriation Bill, he said the "Own Affairs" policy as applied to health had caused members of the South African medical profession great difficulty overseas

They were unable to "sell it" he said, and it was not in accordance with the Geneva Convention which was "totally against" racial discrimination

Dr Barnard asked the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, to use his influence to ensure that the health services were united under one administration

Dr Barnard said that with the scrapping of the Mixed Marriages Act, it was possible for a black man to marry a white woman. If she conceived, it was possible the wife would choose to go to the (white) Johannesburg General Hospital for the confinement

It was accepted by the medical profession as desirable that the husband be present during the final stages of labour. Should this black husband faint during this process and get concussion, or cut his head, he would have to be taken to a black hospital for treatment.

And when the baby was born, as a coloured it would have to go to the Coronation Hospital

"I ask the Minister, is apartheid outdated in South Africa?"

"Everyone" in the medical profession was against the separation of health care into own affairs, which was also very expensive.



'World body will bar SA' — Dr Marius Barnard.

Delegates laud Minister of Justice

PARLIAMENT — The Minister of Justice, Mr Robie Coetsee, drew praise from both sides of the House of Delegates yesterday. *STAR 13/2/86 (258)*

The leader of the ruling National People's Party, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said he was proud to be part of the reformist Cabinet. Speaking during the second reading debate on the Special Courts for Blacks Abolition Bill, Mr Rajbansi said he was proud of being associated with Cabinet colleagues of the calibre of Mr Coetsee.

The actions of Mr Coetsee confirmed the independence of South Africa's judiciary, which had the greatest respect both nationally and internationally, he said

Mr Coetsee was also praised by Mr Pat Poovalingam (Solidarity, Reservoir Hills) for the swift action he had taken following the controversial showing of a videotape depicting scenes of unrest to Durban magistrates

Replying to the debate, Mr Coetsee said he wished to take the opportunity to thank those concerned with the videotape showing for their co-operation following the intervention of the Judge-President of Natal

He also thanked the Press for their objective handling of the videotape issue

Defence details misused — Malan

PARLIAMENT — Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan has refused to provide particulars of national servicemen who failed to report for duty. *STAR 13/2/86 (258)*

In a written reply to a question by Mr Philip Myburgh (PFP, Wynberg), the Minister said the information supplied last year had been "misused by a certain organisation which campaigns for the discontinuation of national service"

He could not answer the second part of the question, which requested the number of prosecutions and convictions of servicemen who had failed to report for the January 1985 and 1986 intakes as the information was not readily available

In reply to another question, the Minister said 211 white women volunteers had been accepted for national service. Of the 4 010 coloured volunteers, 1 847 were accommodated while 297 of 667 Asian volunteers were accepted. There were no black volunteers — Sapa

Moolla to head Indian opposition

PARLIAMENT — Solidarity's Chief Whip, Mr Yunus Moolla (Stanga), has been named as the acting Leader of the Opposition in the House of Delegates. *STAR 13/2/86 (258)*

Mr Moolla takes over from Mr JN Reddy, who was sworn in as the new Minister of the Budget on Monday.

Mr Ismael Kathrada (Verulam) took over the Health Services and Welfare portfolio

Govt to spend R2,2-m
on ministerial homes

DURBAN — The Government is to spend R2,2-million on houses in Durban, probably for the House of Delegates Ministers Council

The issue is to be raised in Parliament today by New Republic Party MP Mr Derrick Watterson, who said if houses were built for all five members each would cost R457,570. — Political Staff

14/2/86
Bill aims
to end
BUSOKY
258

OFS bars on race

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
— A Bill aimed at opening the Free State to Indians and at removing discriminatory measures from immigration laws was introduced in the House of Delegates yesterday by Minister of Home Affairs Stoffel Botha.

He said the measures were irrefutable proof of government's commitment to removing discriminatory laws from the statute book.

Botha said it had been argued that one should not tamper with legislation of such long standing. There were those who believed the removal of preferential immigration laws would "open the floodgates" to immigrants. This was not so.

The criteria for admission of immigrants remained the same apart from the removal of discriminatory measures.

He stressed, however, that government policy remained one of "selective immigration" with the aim of supplementing SA labour requirements.
— Sapa.

Mahatma Gandhi would have been proud of Bill — Rajbansi

Political Staff
STAR 14/2/86 (258)
PARLIAMENT

Mahatma Gandhi would have been proud had he been alive today, the Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday

He was speaking during the second reading debate on the Admission to and Residence in the Republic Amendment Bill which, if passed, will enable Indians to live in the Free State and Northern Natal

The Bill also provides for the scrapping of racial restrictions on immigration

Introducing the debate, the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, said the Government had committed itself to removing discriminatory and offensive measures from the statute book.

Mr Rajbansi said the Bill signified the dawning of a new era in South Africa

He expressed his sincere appreciation to Mr Botha for responding so positively to calls for the removal of legislation which had such a disadvantageous effect on the Indian community

"This is indeed an historic day for all of us. Abhorrence of these discriminatory measures goes back to the grand old days of Mahatma Gandhi

"If Gandhi and his contemporaries had been alive today they would have been very proud of the event," Mr Rajbansi said

However, the problem of the Group Areas Act still remained. The removal of the ban on Indians living in the Free State and Northern Natal would not have practical meaning until the Group Areas Act was removed, he said

Mr Rajbansi also urged the Government to make the Immigration Selection Board multi-racial.

U/ARGAS 15/2/82

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'No need for luxury homes'

Weekend Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — As all members of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates were from Natal, there was no need for the Government to build luxury homes for them at Cato Manor, Durban, the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said today.

Mr Rajbansi said he would ask the Government today not to proceed with plans to build mansions costing nearly R2-million for him and his Ministers in Cato Manor.

"What must be remembered is that the Indian community got back only 50 percent of the land requested in Cato Manor. There is not enough land there to build homes for Ministers.

"There is a problem with eccha shale in some parts of the area and plans to build a training hospital and a college of education are also on the boards, plus the provision of homes for affected people.

Security risk

"Since all the Indian Ministers are from Natal, they could live at their own homes during the recess. There is no need to build special homes for them," said Mr Rajbansi.

He added that he was aware that his living in Chatsworth was a security risk. However, he was prepared to take that risk.

"I come from the poor masses and my roots are there and I have no intentions of leaving the people who put me into office. All my other Ministers feel the same way," said Mr Rajbansi.

The newly-appointed Minister of Budget and Auxiliary Services, Dr J N Reddy, supported Mr Rajbansi's decision.

Solidarity MPs in no-confidence move on Rajbansi

CAPE TOWN — Four dissident Solidarity MPs in the House of Delegates are to call for a vote of no-confidence in the House's Chief Minister, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, and his Minister's Council in the no-confidence debate which starts today

The four — Mr Pat Poovalingam, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, Mr Ramcharitar Mohangi and Mr John Lyman — planned to propose two no-confidence motions, one in the Cabinet and the other in the Minister's Council headed by Mr Rajbansi

Solidarity leader Dr J N Reddy, who has struck a coalition pact with Mr Rajbansi's ruling National People's Party, has given notice of his

no-confidence motion, which makes no reference to the Minister's Council or Mr Rajbansi

Solidarity's Chief Whip, Mr Yunus Moolla, said last night that the party caucus, which meets tomorrow, was not likely to condone the planned action of the dissidents

Solidarity and the NPP signed a declaration of unity a fortnight ago pledging mutual support and co-operation, but the four MPs refused to accept the arrangement, saying it was unconstitutional

In a Supreme Court action, the four dissidents and other party members succeeded in preventing Dr Reddy from implementing the unity pact

Unlike last year's motion, Dr Reddy's motion today will be confined to attacking apartheid measures, according to the text of the motion which has been released

Party members said yesterday that the four MPs' motion of no confidence in the Cabinet would put Dr Reddy in a tight spot, as the dissidents had simply taken over Dr Reddy's own no-confidence motion of last year.

If Dr Reddy and his Solidarity supporters voted with the dissidents, it would be a vote of no confidence in the Cabinet, of which Mr Rajbansi — their partner in the unity pact — was a member

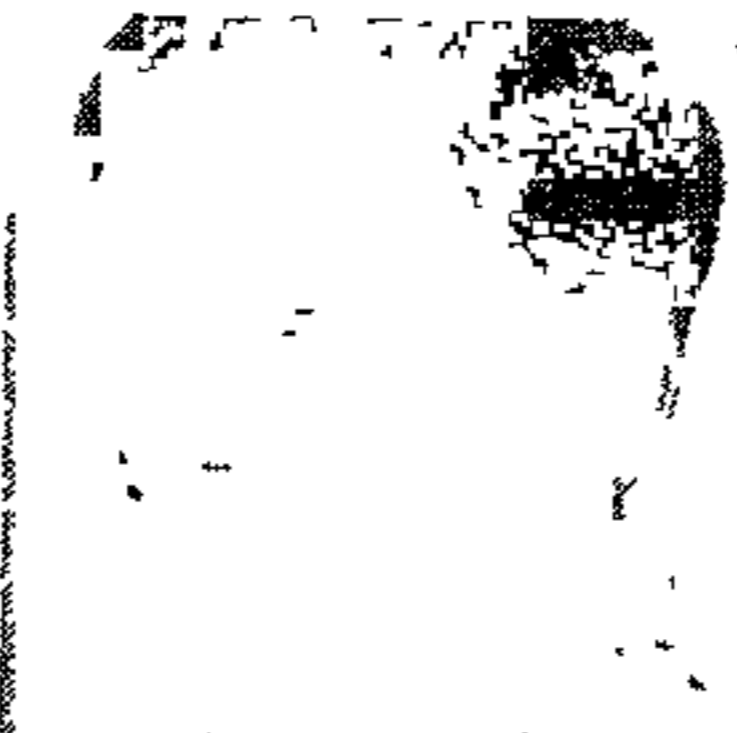
In a further development, a proposed meeting of Solidarity's national executive was yesterday blocked by other dissident Solidarity members through a Supreme Court interdict

One of the applicants, Mr Virisami Naidoo, said Dr Reddy had only told him of the meeting on Monday, and he was surprised at the "very short notice" given

He said the agenda for the meeting related to the coalition talks between Dr Reddy and Mr Rajbansi, but this issue had been held in abeyance following the court order restraining Solidarity from forming the coalition — Sapa



Mr Pat Poovalingam
... two motions



Dr J N Reddy
... tight spot

Reddy praises Botha's speech

WEDNESDAY, 4/2/86 (258)

HOUSE OF DELEGATES — In the light of President P W Botha's speech at the opening of Parliament on Friday, it was a correct decision for the Solidarity Party to take part in the tricameral Parliament, the party leader said yesterday.

Jayaram ("JN") Reddy, leader of the official Opposition in the House of Delegates, said that even though Indians had been in Parliament for only a year, Botha's speech gave cause for satisfaction.

"But we need an accelerated programme of legislative enactment to give effect to the government's intentions," he said.

The reformist tone of Botha's speech was partly the result of participation in Parliament by the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates, he said.

Botha had taken the first steps on a challenging journey and he needed to be helped on his way by all people, regardless of their political affiliations, Reddy said.

Reddy, moving his motion of no confidence in the government, said SA's problem was not only one of minorities but also one of resolving the vast disparities between First and Third World economic development levels among various groups and regions.

"We have a mixture of the formal and informal sectors of the economy, with the white sector — and only a small proportion of the black community — participating in the formal sector," he said — Sapa

Botha gives new hope — Ramduth

PARLIAMENT — President Botha's new-deal speech brought new hope for South Africa, Mr. Kassie Ramduth, Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, said yesterday.

Speaking in the No-Confidence debate, he said Mr Botha's address at the opening of Parliament was a wind of change.

"How fresh and healthy it will be is still to be seen, but I am optimistic that Mr Botha's plans would be put into practical form," he said.

Mr Ramduth said all traces of apartheid, including the Group Areas Act, had to be removed.

Mr Botha was a bold man, and all South Africans should help him to implement his plans — Sapa

Call to remove

all race laws

HOUSE OF DELE-

GATES — Leader of the official opposition in the House of Delegates Jayaram Reddy called yesterday on government to remove all discriminatory legislation from the Statute Book

He said it was important to clearly articulate the intention to scrap discriminatory legislation — Sapa

Threat to lead House out of Parliament

PARLIAMENT 25/2/86
The Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr. Amichand Rajbansi, said today he would lead the House out of the tricameral Parliament if its demands were not met.

Speaking in the Second Reading debate on Additional Appropriation Bill, he said "I am not going to tolerate anyone riding roughshod over this House."

Mr Rajbansi listed three grievances raised in the House last year

- The second access road to Chatsworth township.

- The future of Clairwood, Durban, as a residential area for Indians.

- Abolition of a discriminatory means test for pensions

Unless the Government agreed to these requests made by the House, he would lead it out.

One day the House would refuse to administer anything that was discriminatory, he said — Sapa

'No evidence' to back petrol-bomb allegation

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TO 9
73

Education Reporter

CABINET Minister Mr Amichand Rajbansi says he has "no evidence" to substantiate his allegation that pupils at troubled Rylands High School in Athlone are making petrol bombs at the school.

But he says information from pupils convinced him that firebombs were made at the school "during the height of the schools boycott"

He claimed this week that "quite a few" had been made

Police liaison officer Captain Jan Calitz said police had received information that petrol bombs were being made at the school last week

A search of the premises disclosed no sign of this but a number of "subversive" pamphlets were seized

He said police had received "similar information" during the boycott of classes last year. No incidents of petrol-bombings at Rylands were reported last year

Rylands pupils have denied Mr Rajbansi's allegations

Mr Rajbansi, leader of the National People's Party, was reported in a Sunday newspaper as claiming there was "complete lawlessness" at Rylands and that pupils were making "petrol bombs and coffins"



In a statement, the Rylands Student Representative Council said the accusations were made "for the sole purpose of justifying immoral and unethical actions against students" — a reference to an incident last week when police entered the school premises and compelled pupils to enter their classrooms

They denied making petrol bombs and said the only coffin made at the school was constructed about four months ago as a protest symbolising the death of apartheid.

CAPE
Times
12/1/86

'No job' for second head at school

Education Reporter

A RYLANDS primary school teacher has been told he cannot stay on in his present capacity in Cape Town following the downgrading of the school — but his attorney has accused the Indian education authorities of "trying to get rid" of his client.

Mr Thumba Pillay, an attorney acting on behalf of Mr K Ernest, of Bellmore Primary School, confirmed this week that Mr Ernest would take court action if an "option" he was given was not reconsidered.

He was offered an option to take up a post at one of seven schools in either Natal, Transvaal or the Eastern Cape after the Indian Department of Education and Culture downgraded the school last year.

The downgrading provides for only one head of department and as the second head of department at the school, Mr Ernest was told in a telex message last Friday by the executive director that there was no vacancy available for him in Cape Town.

"In our view the downgrading of the school was done contrary to the regulations of the Indian Education Act and is being used as a means of trying to get rid of Mr Ernest, who has been in the Western Cape for 10 years," Mr Pillay said.

He said Mr Ernest had telexed the department saying he would not take up the transferral option and that if they did not reconsider the position "he would certainly seek redress in a Durban court", Mr Pillay said.

The acting chief director of the Department of Education and Culture, House of Delegates, Mr Panday, said from Durban this week he had no comment to make on the matter.

NPP and ^{STAR} Solidarity ⁽²⁵⁸⁾ signing ^{17/1/86} merger today

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The two major parties in the House of Delegates were planning to sign a formal coalition agreement at a ceremony in Durban today.

The leader of the National Peoples' Party (NPP) and chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr. Amichand Rajbansi, said the negotiations with Solidarity had been concluded successfully and that the "unity document", stating common policy principles and policies, could now be ratified.

"All that is left is for me to decide on the composition of the Ministers' Council, the setting up of a joint caucus committee of five members from each party, and to finalise our joint arrangement on the parliamentary standing committees

SNIPING

"We will also have joint meetings of our various study groups," Mr. Rajbansi said.

Solidarity and the NPP have decided to form a coalition to "unite against apartheid".

Much of the debate in the House of Delegates during the last session of Parliament was taken up by sniping at each other.

It is not clear how the coalition will affect the composition of the Ministers' Council, the highest executive in Indian affairs.

Mr. Rajbansi said earlier this week that he had been mandated to reallocate seats on the council on a proportional basis. Solidarity leader Mr. J. N. Reddy is widely expected to be appointed as Minister of the Budget.

CAPE SCHOOLS CRISIS

Boycotters firm

The crisis at coloured schools in Cape Town headed for a crunch as the *FM* went to press; thousands of pupils and teachers firmly resolved not to go back at the start of the new term on Wednesday, January 15.

Although coloured education officials said they expected no trouble, student leaders appeared set to pick up their six-month school boycott and anti-apartheid activism where they left off at the end of last year.

In what could be a taste of things to come, 14 teachers at the Indian high school in the Cape Town suburb of Rylands were persuaded by colleagues, parents and pupils to quit their posts earlier this week. The 14 were regarded as "scabs" for filling positions left vacant by teachers who were sacked last year for defying the Indian education authorities and backing pupils' demands.

An appeal was made this week by Cape Professional Teachers' Union chairman, Franklin Sonn, to pupils to return to school. Sonn said while he remained sympathetic to

the pupils' struggle, methods other than a school boycott had to be found to promote their cause.

A resolution to the schools crisis has not been made any easier by the hardline attitude of coloured Education Minister, Carter Ebrahim. Obviously buoyed after winning a court case earlier this month in which teachers tried to have his directives on exams invalidated, Ebrahim vowed to smash resistance to his authority at the schools. He told the Labour Party's congress in Goodwood that order would be restored at the schools "come what may." Ebrahim said the court ruling proved his authority and was a warning to those "who believe they have the authority to challenge the Minister."

Confrontation

Cape coloured schools closed in chaos last year following nearly six months of boycotts and exam disruption. Ebrahim claimed at Goodwood that the boycott had been a "colossal failure" and said it was part of the "onslaught" by the "enemies of this country" to make schools ungovernable. In future, he said, schools will be controlled by parents and teachers under a system to be devised and — by implication — controlled by his party.

Judging by the equally tough line being adopted by pupils, there seems little doubt that Ebrahim's new approach will lead to violent confrontation. ■

DURBAN — The signing of a unity declaration between Solidarity, the official opposition in the House of Delegates, and the ruling National People's Party has been postponed "to a later date", NPP Leader Mr. Amichand Rajbansi's office said last night.

The signing was originally set to be signed at 3 pm today. Delegations from the two parties will meet in Durban today see if "loose ends" can be sorted out before signatures are put to a declaration.

Mr. Ismail Omar, Solidarity's national chairman, said both sides would have to agree to a draft declaration to work together.

He denied that the signing was being delayed because of a threat by some Solidarity branch members to seek a court interdict to prevent Solidarity and the NPP getting together.

"We will oppose any such court application because we have the majority of Solidarity's branches, members and MPs behind us," he said.

Mr. Anand Chetty, chairman of Solidarity's Springfield branch, said yesterday that legal notices had been sent to the party's 15 MPs of the m-

Indian parties delay unity deal

S.P.A.K.
16/1/86
258

tion to go to court unless they furnished written undertakings that they would not be associated with any coalition.

Mr. Chetty said the MPs had alternatively been asked for an undertaking that they would not use the Solidarity name in any arrangement with the NPP. He added that the NPP had been described in a Solidarity congress resolution in October as a "supporter of the Nationalist Government's policy of apartheid".

Mr. Chetty said any move for an alliance or coalition with the NPP would be contrary to the spirit of the decision taken at the congress.

Mr. Chetty said the Solidarity MPs had until Monday to give the undertaking — Sapa

Cape Times 15/1/86
**New Rylands
teachers
questioned**

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Staff Reporter

THE 14 replacement teachers who left the Rylands Senior Secondary School premises after members of the local community converged at the school were back at school yesterday

Sources at the school said that after the new teachers, all from Durban, left the school on Monday they met at a nearby primary school

Police later arrived and told the new teachers to wait at the primary school. They were questioned along with the vice-principal and asked to give an account of what happened

'Nobody is talking to them'

"Written statements were taken from them and the teachers were told by police to return to school today (Tuesday)," one source said

He said that the new teachers were isolated at school yesterday and were "sitting on one side of the staffroom with the other teachers on the opposite side Nobody is talking to them"

He said the replacement teachers would return today but that members of the Rylands community would also be present to ask whether their demands had been met.

Police deny 'ordering' teachers

Replying to allegations that police had taken affidavits from 14 teachers in connection with possible intimidation charges, Captain Jan Calitz, a police liaison officer for the Western Cape said

"Statements were taken from several teachers on Monday afternoon"

He would not specify from which teachers the statements were taken

Captain Calitz denied that police had "ordered" the 14 teachers back to school

"They returned to school of their own accord the same day The police issued no instructions that they should return to teach either that day or on future days"

14/1/80
**Ignore
boycott
call
Rajbansi**

DURBAN — The Chief Minister of the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, yesterday urged Indian parents and pupils in the Transvaal to ignore calls to boycott classes and said handbills urging boycott were "full of untruths"

He said education was the community's "greatest salvation" and the best weapon to fight injustice. Indian schools reopen today

Rejecting a boycott slogan, "Liberation before education", Mr Rajbansi, a member of the State President's main cabinet, said "certain leaders" advocating class boycott had their children enrolled in white private schools

He said Indian education had improved under the control of the House of Delegates, which had budgeted a record R320 million for education. "Boycott leaders are envious because we have achieved the best matriculation results in our history from a qualitative point of view" — Sapa



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Sizes 2-8
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**Back to
School**

COUNTESS

NPP-Solidarity parties set to 'unite against apartheid'

STAR 14/1/86

#258

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By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The two largest parties in the Indian House of Delegates are close to forming a formal coalition "united against apartheid".

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House and leader of the National Peoples' Party (NPP), said yesterday his party had unanimously decided at a meeting last Friday that coalition arrangements with the opposition Solidarity be accepted and implemented subject to both the negotiating teams meeting again to draw up a "unity document", which should be produced on Thursday.

"We are also arranging the establishment of a committee of both parties to deal with matters in Parliament.

"I have a mandate to share the executive of the Ministers' Council with Solidarity on a proportional basis," Mr Rajbansi said.

The two parties have been negotiating a coalition for some time.

The NPP is in a position to govern without forming a coal-

tion, but its leadership feels that it is in the interests of the community and reform to consolidate forces.

It has been suggested that not all Solidarity members are happy about teaming up with the NPP, and some MPs may break away to join the Progressive Federal Party.

It is not clear how Mr Rajbansi intends reconstituting the five-man Ministers' Council. The only vacancy on the executive is the Budget portfolio after the dismissal of Mr Ebrahim Abramjee by the State President last year.

EXPANDED

It is widely expected that Mr JN Reddy, the leader of Solidarity, will fill the post.

If the Council is to be reconstituted on a proportional basis it must be expanded or else one of the other incumbent NPP Ministers will have to make way for a Solidarity man.

Mr Rajbansi said that while he was in favour of expanding the Council, because of the workload on his administration, the matter was out of his hands (only the State President may appoint Ministers).

14 'scab' teachers forced to quit school

CAP6 Times 14/1/86

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By YAZEED FAKIER
Education Reporter

THE Rylands Senior Secondary School term got off to a turbulent start yesterday when a community delegation of more than 300 parents, sacked teachers and pupils succeeded in persuading 14 replacement teachers to leave the school.

The school's Parent Teachers Students Association (PTSA) said the new teachers' presence at the school was "immoral to say the least"

"They cannot escape the tag of scabs because the dismissal of our teachers is an unjust act. We hope the department takes note of the degree of feeling in the community and desists from foolhardy schemes of dictatorial and authoritarian power"

Eleven teachers were dismissed last year as the final term ended

Yesterday's action started about 8am when 300 members of the com-

munity — including the 11 dismissed teachers — held a mass meeting at the school and handed a letter to the deputy principal, Mr I E Moosa

The letter, signed by "concerned parents of Rylands" and addressed to the executive director of the Department of Education and Culture, House of Delegates, labelled the sackings "a repressive act of gross injustice"

The parents said the community had full confidence in the dismissed teachers

"Their association with our children and our community has been

highly reputable. We will not stand idly by watching them being ripped from our community and we do not want them replaced"

The community also gave "fair warning that we will oppose your measures until this matter has been amicably resolved"

The meeting then decided to confront the replacement teachers and sent a delegation into the staffroom to ask the new teachers to meet them. The teachers at first refused but relented when community members said they would go in and meet them

"They looked shocked and tense," said a source at the school

Students expressed their displeasure with the new teachers and said they wanted their teachers reinstated.

"They had no objection to them being in Cape Town, but they did object to them being at Rylands, taking the place of people who

ROMENS
SUMMER SELL-OUT
NOW ON
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To page 2



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From page 1

have the respect of the community, and teaching our children," the source said

The community members demanded that the teachers leave the school, but one of them argued that she had been sent by the department and had bursary obligations

When another community member replied that many of the sacked teachers also had bursary obligations, the teachers decided that in view of the severity of anti-feeling, they would leave

They were allowed time to draw up letters to the department setting out the circumstances and their rea-

sons for leaving the school

"It was quite a dramatic turnabout," the source said, adding that Indian pupils were to start school today but would start school tomorrow with the majority of pupils under the Department of Education and Culture, House of Representatives

The spokesman said the parents would hand over a letter of protest to Mr Moosa every week

Neither the Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Kassie Ramduth, nor the executive director, Mr A K Singh, were available for comment at their Durban offices yesterday

● A court action involving the 11 dismissed teachers will be heard on February 19 in Durban

ARGUES 13/1/86 28

Parents want fired teachers reinstated

Education Reporter

MORE than 300 parents and pupils gathered at Rylands High School today to protest against the dismissal of 11 teachers.

In another development, 22 teachers dismissed from coloured schools handed in letters to the Department of Education and Culture, House of Representatives, asking that their posts for 1986 be confirmed.

In a letter handed to the vice-principal, Mr I E Moosa, Rylands parents called on the executive director of the Department of Education and Culture, House of Delegates, to reinstate the teachers, saying they did not want them replaced.

Teachers were due back at coloured and Indian schools today. Pupils are due to return on Wednesday.

The letter warned that parents would "not stand idly by" while teachers were "ripped away" from the community and said parents would oppose any measures by the department before the matter was "amicably resolved".

The teachers, all temporary staff, were dismissed last year when another 11 teachers at the school were told they had been transferred to the Transvaal and Natal.

The transferred teachers were later reinstated in an out-of-court settlement with Indian

education authorities, but the fate of the 11 dismissed teachers has not been decided.

A spokesman for the parents, Mr Moosa Kaprey, said today "We did not come here seeking confrontation but out of concern for our children's education and in protest against the teachers' dismissal."

Several dismissed teachers arrived for work as usual at the Rylands school today, where 18 newly appointed teachers, mainly from Durban and the Transvaal, also reported for duty.

"We do not recognise our dismissal so it's business as usual as far as we are concerned," one of the dismissed teachers said.

Twenty-two teachers dismissed last year from nine schools in the greater Cape Town area went to the offices of the Department of Education and Culture, House of Representatives, today to submit letters asking that their teaching posts for this year be confirmed.

● More reports, Pages 2 and 5.

NPP and Solidarity 'to sign pact today'

Mercury Reporter

THE signing of the 'unity pact' between the National People's Party and Solidarity in the House of Delegates is expected to take place at the Malgate Building in Durban today at 10 a.m.

This was announced late yesterday by a spokesman for Mr Amichand Rajbansi's office after a lengthy meeting between representatives of both parties.

The unity declaration was to have been signed yesterday but was stalled after some Solidarity members threatened to seek a Supreme Court interdict to stop it.

Mr Ismail Omar, national chairman of Solidarity, said his party was not deterred by threats of litigation and was going ahead with its plans.

Sources in the House of Delegates yesterday predicted that the NPP-Solidarity coalition would result in Solidarity leader Dr J N Reddy being appointed Minister of Local Government and Housing, and Mr Ismail Kathrada being made Minister of the Budget in place of Mr Boetie Abramjee who was sacked by President Botha for leaking information on the Mossel Bay gas find.

Solidarity MP rejects unity talks with NPP

Mercury Reporter
MR. PAT. Poovalingam,
Durban lawyer and oppo-
sition Solidarity MP for
Reservoir Hills, yester-
day said he was opposed
to the current unity talks
between his party and the
ruling National People's
Party because the con-
gress of Solidarity decid-
ed against any merger,
coalition or arrangement
with the NPP.

Anyone who now forms
an alliance or a relation-
ship with the NPP be-
comes tainted, he said.

Representation in Par-
liament was a new ex-
perience for Indians and
at all times we in Soli-
darity claimed we intend-
ed to use Parliament as a
platform to fight apart-
heid and not play the Na-
tionalists' game of pro-
moting parochial, racial
or ethnic interests.

One of the reasons why
the decision was taken
was because the NPP sup-
ported apartheid as
evidenced by its conduct
over the regional services
councils which entrench
apartheid, he said.

'Ya baas'

Mr Poovalingam said he
was surprised that in the
first place bargaining ap-
peared to be going on in
regard to the sharing of
posts.

Another reason I am
opposed to the talks is
that since the coalition
has been initiated by a
Nationalist Cabinet min-
ister surely he must have
reasons of his own.

He obviously wants a
House of Delegates which
will be ya baas and we
must not fall into a trap,
he said.

Mr Poovalingam also
confirmed that he had
been approached by a top
Government official
whom he could not name
for ethical reasons to
find out if he would ac-
cept an appointment as
Ambassador to Mauritius
with purview in Asian
countries.

I rejected the offer in

the present circum-
stances, but will consider
it an honour to accept if
President Botha first
made a public declara-
tion that apartheid will
be dismantled, he said.
Mr Poovalingam denied
that he and Mr Mahmoud
Rajab, Solidarity MP for
Springfield, had refused
to be party to unity talks
because there are no
posts for us.

Real opposition to
apartheid could never
happen if MPs merely
tried to get ministerial or
new regional services
council posts for them-
selves, their friends or
their relatives, he said.

4/1/88
Mercury

Talks planned on Indian education

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Mercury Reporter

THE TEACHERS' Association of South Africa, mouthpiece of more than 6 000 Indian teachers, plans to hold urgent talks with the new executive director of Indian Education, Mr A K Singh, to look at various matters affecting teachers and pupils

TASA president Pat Samuels said several problems would have to be resolved before Indian schools reopened on January 14

'There is a need for greater freedom and responsibility for the teacher in the classroom,' he said, adding that if a teacher had more freedom in teaching, his or her production level would increase because they would be a lot more happier

He said at present teachers were subjected to intense supervision and control in spite of their qualifications

'We are hoping to get the go-ahead by starting at the bottom, and if we

fail we will just have to get teachers to act on their own,' he said

Another problem they hoped to resolve was the curriculum content of syllabuses and its relevance to the youth of today

'The present content has been designed to suit whites and we have to see how it affects Indian pupils,' he said

Mr Samuels said his association was also concerned with the recent leak of the matric examination results and hoped to establish who controlled Indian education

'We are opposed to any interference in education by politicians and will go all out to stop it,' he said

Strike ends

JOHANNESBURG—More than 900 black miners have ended a four-day strike at Duvha Colliery, near Witbank, after the mine's management gave the undertaking that 28 workers arrested and convicted for disturbing the peace would not lose their jobs — (Sapa)

PUBLIC SECTOR GOVT. - ASIAN AFFAIRS

1987

JANUARY - DECEMBER.

Solidarity expels four rebel MPs

17/1/87 (258) N/14

Mercury Reporter

FOUR MPs were expelled from the Solidarity Party yesterday after they and about 100 supporters staged a walk-out at a stormy national congress of the party in Durban.

Mr Pat Poovalingam, MP for Reservoir Hills, who led the protest, said later that the four would form a new opposition party which would work in association with the Progressive Federal Party.

The walk-out came during an uproar after Mr Poovalingam said the meeting was packed with 'bogus

and fraudulent delegates'. The remark came during a heated debate over the party's 'unity pact' with the ruling National People's Party in the House of Delegates.

In spite of angry demands from the packed audience for Mr Poovalingam to withdraw the remark, he refused, and accused the NPP of helping to bring the 'bogus delegates' to the meeting.

He then left the meeting, followed by MPs Mr Mamoo Rajab (Springfield), secretary of the party, Mr John Iyman (Camperdown), Mr S Mohangi (Tongaat) and

about 100 supporters.

As the protesting MPs left the auditorium of the Athlone Hotel, Mr Ismail Kathrada, Minister of Health Services and Welfare, proposed a motion calling for the expulsion of the four for taking the party's leader, Dr J N Reddy, to court to contest the validity of the pact with the NPP.

The resolution was unanimously accepted by the remaining 700 delegates. The meeting also called on the four to resign the parliamentary seats which they had contested under the Solidarity ticket.

It also unanimously resolved to accept the unity pact with the NPP, which resulted in Solidarity leader Dr Reddy and Mr Kathrada being appointed to the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates.

Mr Kathrada said the four should also be made to pay the party the cost of the court proceedings, which amounted to more than R100 000.

The four MPs challenged

the unity pact in the Supreme Court last year on the grounds that Dr Reddy was not empowered by the congress to forge a working link with the NPP in terms of a resolution passed at the last congress. But the dispute was settled out of court and the Judge ruled that the differences be settled at the party's congress.

Mr Poovalingam told the Mercury last night that the four MPs would form a new opposition party in the House of Delegates when Parliament reopened at the end of the month.

He said the new party would aim at attracting workers and would work in close association with the PFP.

The party would invite the several independent MPs in the House of Delegates to join its four founder-members, he said.

NPP/Labour caucus to discuss curbs

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Mercury Reporter

THE state of emergency and the Press curbs would be discussed later this month at a joint caucus of the National People's Party in the House of Delegates and the Labour Party in the House of Representatives, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, leader of the NPP, said in Chatsworth yesterday

Speaking to about 1 000 people at the NPP's Durban South regional congress, he said the NPP and the LP would 'try to adjust their stand' regarding the emergency regulations. He did not elaborate on what steps they would take

Mr Rajbansi, who is also a minister without portfolio in President Botha's Cabinet, said this year things would be different for the House of Delegates. 'We've overcome our teething troubles and personality clashes are a thing of the past'

Share

Joint caucuses between the NPP and the Labour Party were expected to combine the strength of Indians and coloureds in Parliament to ensure political direction towards the inclusion of all race groups in Parliament

'We are going to strive for every race group to have a share in the country's wealth,' he said, adding that they would not allow discrimination in land valuations as a result of the Group Areas Act

'If the situation arises where we are forced to buy land at a premium price, then we may have to abandon our pragmatic approach and tell the people to do what is being done in Hillbrow'

Support

He was referring to Indians and coloureds occupying whites' homes in Hillbrow, Johannesburg

Turning to the Group Areas Act, Mr Rajbansi said many people were against the scrapping of the Act, and attempts to have border strips between Indian and black areas removed also failed to get the support of Indians

'If the people, who appear in the public to be supporters of the UDF, are honest and true to their principles, then let them openly declare their support for the scrapping of the border strips between Indian and black areas,' he said

Solidarity rebels to work closely with PFP

Mercury Reporter

SOUTH Africa's newest Indian political grouping — a breakaway from the Solidarity Party — will probably be called the Progressive Reform Party

Durban attorney and House of Delegates MP for Reservoir Hills, Mr Pat Poovalingam, who headed the walk-out from Solidarity's stormy national congress at the weekend said

yesterday the new party, which would be formed shortly before the opening of Parliament, would work closely with the Progressive Federal Party

'We are only forming a new party because the PFP has a decision on its books against participation in the House of Delegates, but we are going to ask the PFP to take the necessary steps to permit us to become fully-fledged members,' he said

Reddy lauds Indaba

Mercury Reporter

DR J N Reddy, who was re-elected national leader of Solidarity Party in the House of Delegates, said yesterday that the Kwa-Zulu/Natal Indaba's proposals for power-sharing could be a watershed for a new South Africa

He said he regarded the Indaba as one of the most significant events in South African history

Expelled MPs 'still opposed to unity pact'

Mercury Reporter

REBEL Solidarity MPs expelled from the party at the weekend following their mass walk-out from the party's national congress, said yesterday they were still opposed to the 'unity pact' with the ruling National People's Party

Mr Mamoo Rajab, MP for Springfield and national secretary of Solidarity at the time of the expulsion,

said they were against the pact because it created a coalition which would result in a one-party chamber in the House of Delegates and would also silence any opposition in the House

'We believe that an effective opposition is the only guarantee of clean administration and we intend to remain the effective opposition in the House of Delegates,' he said

We'll be effective opposition, vow Solidarity rebels

2011/187 (258) SMM

DURBAN — Breakaway Solidarity MPs would ensure the new political party they were forming would emerge as the "only effective opposition" in the House of Delegates, party stalwart Mr Pat Poovalingam said in Durban yesterday.

Mr Poovalingam, MP for Reservoir Hills, and three other MPs, were expelled yesterday after they walked out of the Solidarity congress in opposition to a "unity pact" which Solidarity leader, Dr Jayaram "JN" Reddy, negotiated with Mr Amichand Rajbansi, leader of the ruling National People's Party (NPP).

As a result of the pact, Dr Reddy was appointed Minister of the Budget and Mr Ismail Kathrada was made Minister of Health Services and Welfare while still retaining their opposition roles.

Mr Poovalingam said yesterday "Solidarity, the official opposition, is now a married partner of the ruling NPP — and one can't expect the wife to argue with the husband.

"So we will now do the work of the official opposition even though we do not yet have the status of official opposition."

Mr Poovalingam, a lawyer, and his breakaway colleagues, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, MP for Springfield, Mr John Vadivelu Iyman, MP for Camperdown and Mr Ramcharitar "Cherry" Mohangi, MP for Tongaat, met in Durban yesterday to formulate plans for launching the new party.

The party's name has not yet been chosen, but it is understood the group will settle for Progressive Reform Party (PRP).

Mr Poovalingam said membership would be open to anyone subscribing to its principles which were similar to those of the Progressive Federal Party (PFP), with which the new party intended forming a close relationship.

"We are going to be a party fully committed to fighting apartheid all the way," he said.

Commenting on Mr Poovalingam's statement, Mr Ray Swart, the PFP's Natal leader, said "The PFP shares common ideals and is always willing to work with those opposing the National Party." — Sapa.

Deadlock over press report

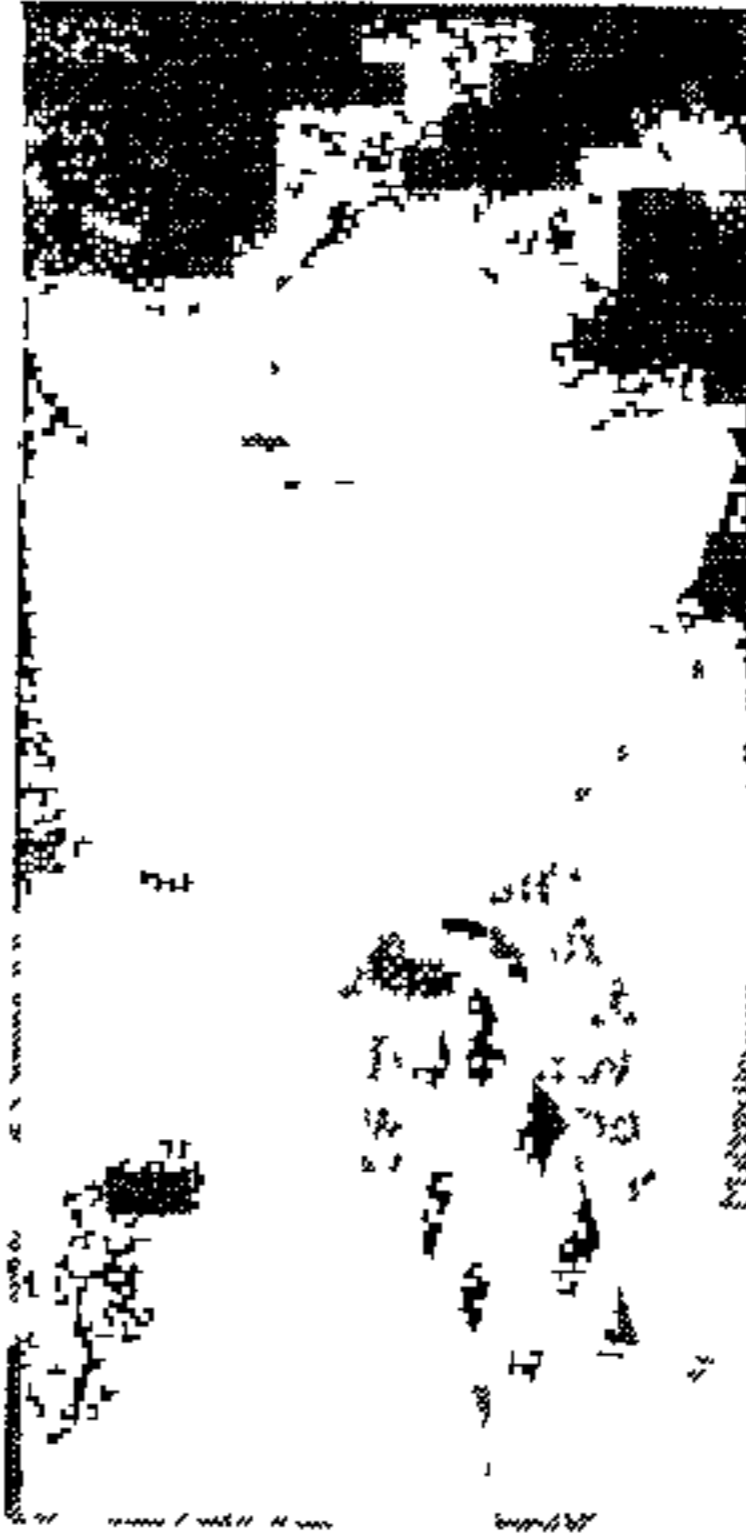
Dispatch Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — The official Nationalist mouthpiece in the Cape, Die Burger, and the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, appear to be deadlocked over a demand by him for a correction of a front-page report last week

The report, of a Labour Party caucus meeting at which the Reverend Allan Hendrickse is alleged to have said that Mr Rajbansi had promised to leave the Cabinet if Mr Hendrickse was dismissed or forced to resign over the Port Elizabeth swimming affair, got Mr Rajbansi into hot water with the State President, Mr P W Botha

tried unsuccessfully since Wednesday last week to contact Mr Rajbansi to establish what was incorrect about the report

The newspaper said yesterday "Die Burger accepts now that, unless Mr Rajbansi makes contact, he cannot or will not indicate what was wrong and that the report was correct as far as it concerned him as it was correct in other cardinal aspects

"Die Burger also accepts the apologies of Mr Rajbansi's officials that he 'was not available' or 'did not have a chance' to react to Die Burger's inquiries"



MR RAJBANSI

Both he and Mr Hendrickse were warned that, unless the matter was suitably settled, Parliament would be dissolved and they would face an election

Mr Rajbansi then wrote to Die Burger saying nobody from the newspaper had approached him and the report was incorrect. He demanded a correction in the next issue of the newspaper

Die Burger reported yesterday that it had

Mine concealed with Bibles, terror trial told

SMK 23/1/84 Own Correspondent
MARITZBURG — Two people dressed in church
going suits, carrying a mine hidden with two Bibles,
lasted the home of the chairman of the Ministers'
Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Raj-
bansi, the terrorism trial in the Supreme Court was
old yesterday.

A witness, "D", who cannot be named and who has
been warned as an accomplice, admitted placing the
mine, which had been camouflaged with grass.

"D" said: "One of the people of the ANC cell we
have formed carried the mine with Bibles under his
left arm. We walked, followed by two more cell
members dressed in track suits. They were bouncing
ball. As we approached the wall of the house the
one person pulled out the detonator.

"As we walked, one of the persons behind us threw
the ball, and shouted and asked us to pass the ball.

258
"As they called for the ball they turned, and I
placed the mine next to the wall and threw the ball
back.

"We walked on to a car that was waiting for us.
The next day I phoned accused Dr Vejaynand Indur-
jith Ramlakan, and he congratulated me and said
that the guys were very happy about the explosion."

"D" said Dr Ramlakan had given him the choice
of using a mini-limpet or a bigger limpet.

"I said I would prefer to use a bigger charge as it
would be more effective.

"However, Lincoln (commander of Umkhonto we
Sizwe) said that I should use the smaller charge be-
cause the whole purpose of the Rajbansi bombing was
political.

"I then decided to use the mini-limpet because Lin-
coln was the commander."

The hearing continues.

Now Soweto pupils apply to Lenasia schools

SCORES of pupils from Soweto have applied to be enrolled at high schools in Lenasia, but their applications are being held up by the 'Indian' education department, according to Lenasia's *The Indicator*

It is understood that up to 300 pupils have applied, and while local high schools are prepared to accept them, principals have been told to refer the applications to the department

The Transvaal Indian Congress has slammed the hold-up, saying the "permit system is intended to strictly control the access of African students to local schools"

It has urged principals to admit the pupils unconditionally, promising to support them and saying they would not be breaking any law

Principals are not allowed to comment, but teachers told *The Indicator* the schools had decided in principle to accept African pupils from standards six to eight.

They encounter red tape

"Because of the differences in syllabi it would be very difficult for matric students to adapt", one of them said

"The department sent a circular to schools asking that applications from African children be referred to it. It is asking principals to do its dirty work"

Questions

The Indicator put several questions on the applications, and other matters relating to education, to the House of Delegates authorities last Thursday. A spokesman said replies would be given by Friday afternoon, but at the time of going to press on Sunday evening, no statement had been received

'Indian' education is in turmoil over the sacking of scores of teachers as part of the government's plan to slash spending on it

One of the questions related to the employment of about 40 newly qualified teachers from Lenasia. As far as could be ascertained only five have been given posts — outside Lenasia

At the same time, teachers say there are vacancies at several primary and high schools. Some need up to nine teachers and are in a chaotic state as a result

Because schools are unable to cope timetables have been held back, they say

Some teachers made redundant in certain schools were taken on at other schools where there were larger shortages. This caused a lot of dissatisfaction, because they had to be separated from their families

One principal described the situation as ludicrous

A teacher claims some newly qualified teachers have been sent letters by the department informing them they are on the waiting list and will be offered jobs "as and when" vacancies become available. "But there are many vacancies," the teacher said

Some, who had spent up to four years at university, are looking around for other jobs but the prospects are bleak as they join the queues along with thousands of matriculants

Last year, when the House of Delegates announced plans to slash spending on education, the move caused an uproar as many teachers stood to lose their jobs or faced teaching larger classes.

Sowetna 29/1/87



No blacks for Indian schools

258 DD
30/1/87

Dispatch Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG

Hundreds of black pupils who have applied for entrance to Indian schools will not be admitted, the Minister of Indian Education in the House of Delegates, Mr K Ramduth, said yesterday

Up to 300 pupils from Soweto have applied to be admitted to six high schools in Lenasia, according to a spokesman for the Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC). A number of applications have also been made to Indian schools in Pretoria and Actonville, Be-

noni, he said

He said headmasters had referred the applications 11 days ago to the Indian education department for its approval but no response had been forthcoming

He said "The House of Delegate leaders are dishonest by claiming early last year that 'Indian' schools have been opened to all races"

Further, he said, in view of their open policy statement, the Indian education department had no excuse for not preparing itself for receiving these applications

Posts

for 365

Indian

teachers

Mercury Reporter

ABOUT 365 newly qualified Indian teachers were likely to be appointed 'within the next few days', Mr Kassie Ramduth, Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, announced yesterday.

He said additional teachers would be appointed as and when their services were required — raising the hopes of about 500 graduates who have not found jobs.

'Teachers are being appointed as the subject needs of the department are being identified. At present the situation at schools is such that no school will be without its required number of teachers based on authorised class units.

'Dwindling enrolments at certain schools have necessitated the transfer of teachers to areas where their services are required,' he said.

Singh is strict on black kids

By S'BU MNGADI

CONTROVERSIAL guidelines aimed at curbing the admission of applicants at Indian schools countrywide were revealed in a House of Delegates circular marked "Strictly Confidential" this week

In the circular, Indian Education executive director AK Singh made it extremely difficult for sympathetic principals to admit black pupils to their schools without discriminating against them

This comes in the wake of criticism by the Transvaal Indian Congress that the House of Delegates was applying a "permit system" to control the admission of black pupils to several schools where scores of them had applied.

"We urge principals to admit these pupils unconditionally. We will give them whole-hearted support as they would not be breaking any law," a TIC spokesman said at the weekend

Meanwhile, Indian principals have referred applications to Singh for approval. And his response this week was the circular, which asked them to ensure that all the necessary documents were attached to the applications before being submitted to him for consideration

The principals must give an undertaking that the instructions would be carried out

"Under no circumstances must a black pupil be admitted - even provisionally, without prior approval from the department," said Singh

Certain conditions and guidelines must be adhered to when admitting black pupils. These include preference at all times to be given to Indian pupils and the character of the school must not be prejudiced as a result of the admission of any black pupils

Political comment and newsbills by ZB Molefe headlines and subediting by Jon Swift all of 204 Elliot Street Ext, Johannesburg

Admission will be difficult for African kids

MIXED

SCHOOLS

CURBS

Sowetan 2/11/87 (258)

Boycott at SABC — Page 2

Don't forget the Sow ball box Frid-



REFEREE Collin Knott during his stay in hospital

REGULATIONS that make it extremely difficult for African children to be admitted to Indian schools have been issued by the authorities in charge of education in the Indian community.

The schools are controlled by the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates. The guidelines come in the wake of an increased number of applications from African pupils seeking admission to Indian schools in Natal and Transvaal earlier this year.

Principals

A circular marked 'strictly confidential' was circulated among Indian primary and secondary school principals in which executive director Mr Arjun 'AK' Singh, called on principals to make sure that Form HDE 5 (application for admission) was completed in all respects.

Mr Singh also asked principals to ensure that all documents relating to the applications were at-

SOWETAN CORRESPONDENT

tached to the applications before being submitted to him for consideration.

Under no circumstances must a black pupil be admitted, even provisionally, without prior approval from the department," Mr Singh said.

The principals have been asked to give an undertaking that the instructions would be carried out. They have been asked to apply certain principles and conditions when admitting black pupils.

- Among these are
- The character of the school must not be prejudiced as a result of the admission of any black pupil
- Preference at all times must be given to Indian pupils

To Page 2

Page 2

Curb on mixed schools

From Page 1

- Accommodation and other facilities for black pupils must be available — but only after provision for Indian pupils has been made.
- Pupils must reside within reasonable travelling distance of the school where admission is sought.
- Available schooling facilities in the area where the pupils reside must also be taken into account before consideration for admission is given.
- The principal must decide whether the pupil can be easily assimilated into the relevant class, taking into account the pupil's physical stature.
- The principal must also establish whether the pupil is adequately prepared for placement in the correct standard in order to ensure that the pupil is not disadvantaged in any way.
- If a principal considers it necessary to retard a pupil, the parent of such pupil must be consulted.
- Pupils must not be more than two years older than the average age of classmates.

field
TES
TAMBERS

THEY asked us to vote for them on the undertaking that they were going into the Tricameral Parliament to dismantle apartheid. The majority of coloured and Indian people didn't believe them. But that doesn't lessen the shock caused by the strictly confidential circular the Department of Indian Education has sent to principals on the question of admitting African children to schools it controls.

The circular reflects the "non-white mentality" Steve Biko and his associates warned us about nearly two decades ago. It shows that the Indian education authorities are suffering from the *us and them* syndrome. It reflects voluntary acceptance of what our white masters have been trying to drum into us — *us* being Indians and *them* people classified African.

The character of the school must not be prejudiced as a result of the admission of any black pupil," says the circular.

Does that mean the Indian authorities don't regard themselves as black? If not do they accept that they are non-whites, not good enough to be whites?

Character

What do they mean by "the character of the school must not be prejudiced"? What character does a school have? Does it take on the "character" of its pupils, teachers, principal, cleaners? If so, how in a school of 1000 pupils can there be uniformity of character? If there is does that mean pupils and staff are brain-washed into having a uniform, recognisable character? To become good adults who will accept the implementation of apartheid in the guise of fighting it?

"Preference at all times must be given to Indian pupils," says the circular.

Here again the authorities are using the *us and them* argument, *our school and their school*.

But weren't those politicians going into parliament to fight for a non-racial South Africa

Learning the lessons of apartheid

where people are people and not *us and them*?

The same can be said for the authorities' requirement that "accommodation and other facilities for black pupils must be available — but only after provision for Indian pupils has been made".

They're learning the Nats' language very quickly. Isn't that the same argument the Nats use to justify separate public amenities, group areas, and the quota and permit systems at universities?

Condition

Listen to this condition: "The principal must decide whether the pupil is easily assimilated into the relevant class, taking into account the pupil's physical stature."

Do principals take into account whether Indian pupils can be easily assimilated? Every class and every school anywhere in the world, will have "problem children who don't conform to requirements."

And what physical stature" do the authorities talk about? That each pupil in a class

must be of the same size, height, weight, sex, colour, have the same length of hair? It sounds like something straight out of the race classification handbook.

Shocking

Are the authorities perhaps trying to produce classes of children who look and think alike, as the movie *Boys From Brazil* so shockingly portrayed?

What if a pupil is too tall, or short, or fat or thin, or dark or fair? What if a pupil has a physical disability?

"Pupils must not be more than two years older than the average age of his prospective classmates or shall not be above the "upper age limit as prescribed by the handbook for principals," says the circular.

Well, because of the appalling lack of facilities and because of socio-economic conditions, many African children start schooling later than Indian children. I don't know what the position in schools is now, but when I attended school under the Transvaal Education Department, we had pupils who were several years older than the average.

English

Some of the older pupils had come from India, did not know a word of English or Afrikaans, but were sound intelligent pupils in all respects, so it didn't take them long to catch up.

No one dreamed of having those pupils turned away on the basis of their age or physical stature.

If one has to put limits on ages, one should logically go all the way and apply it to universities.

Political comment in this issue by J Lategomo and A Klaaste. Sub editing, headlines and posters by S Matlhaku. All of 61 Commando Road, Industria West, Johannesburg.

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FOCUS

Comment by AMEEN AKHALWAYA



So anyone over the age of 20 would be refused admission.

Additional teaching staff will not be provided as a result of the admission of black pupils," says the circular.

Now that's another breathtaking one for its sheer racism.

Remember how late last year the apartheid apologists were telling us that spending on Indian education was being slashed so that African education could be upgraded? Remember how Mr Amichand Rajbansi was accusing the radicals?

His government has sacked hundreds of teachers because it claims it wants to upgrade African education. But if African pupils want to attend so-called Indian schools to upgrade their education, no additional teachers will be provided. *Us and them* again, a classic case of robbing Peter to pay Paul to stay away from *us*.

Logic

"Pupils shall be catered for out of the annual monetary allocations of the schools concerned."

That kind of logic means that it is *our* money. But *our* spending does not match the amounts spent on white children. It is being reduced so it can be spent on *them* — Africans.

But when *them* think it should be spent on *them* in *our* schools, the Government suddenly has no more money available.

By the logic, if we want *our* children to go to the best available schools and universities, we must not cry when the whites turn *us* away.

But the *non whites* went into the system promising *us* they were going to fight apartheid.

They claim they control *own* affairs but if that is so they should practise what they preach, and say *Indians* and *Africans* and *coloured* and whites are the *own* affair of South Africa.

But if they believe that only *Indians* are their affair, then they are practising apartheid — and should not try to pull a fast one on *us*.

Pupils", says the circular, must reside within reasonable travelling distance of the school where admission is sought. Available schooling facilities in the areas where the pupil resides must also be taken into account before consideration of admission is given.

The *us and them* "non white syndrome" is reflected here in all its glory. There are *Indian* pupils from country areas who find accommodation and attend school in urban areas.

Had it not been for the *us and them* syndrome from which the *Indian* authorities are suffering, those small town pupils first choice would be the nearest *white* school.

"Why doesn't the apartheid fighting House of Delegates demand that *Indian* pupils be admitted to schools nearest their homes?"

There are *Indian* schools in the smaller towns, but parents prefer to send the children to the major centres for various reasons. Has any principal ever checked out if all his pupils are bona fide residents of his particular area?

Preference

If residential qualifications are that important, why are *Indian*, *coloured* and *African* students from Johannesburg, for example, not given preference in admission to Wits or Rand Afrikaans University?

Why should any white student from outside Johannesburg get into Wits and RAU ahead of them?

Why? Because that is what the Government had decreed in implementing apartheid — and the *Indian* education authorities use the same logic.

And yet they told us they were going to fight apartheid — how utterly disgraceful.



Row looms over admission of blacks to Indian schools

Star 19/12/77
(258)

By Sol Makgabutlane, Education Reporter

A major political row is threatening to break out as the Indian Department of Education quietly looks for a way to handle the sensitive issue of the increasing number of applications by black pupils to attend Indian schools.

At the same time, 30 organisations have placed advertisements in newspapers calling for the unconditional acceptance of children of all races into Indian schools.

More than 300 black children, anxious to escape the crises that have plagued black schools in the past two years, are still awaiting the outcome of their applications to Indian schools — four weeks after Indian schools reopened.

All applications are being referred to Indian education authorities' headquarters in Durban.

CLEAR STATEMENT

Mr Pat Samuels, leader of 5 000 Indian teachers throughout South Africa, said: "We need to tell black parents clearly where we stand. In order to do this we need a clear policy statement from the Minister (of Education), Mr Kassie Ramduth."

Mr Samuels, president of the Teachers' Association of South Africa, said the delay in approving or rejecting the applications exposed principals to being seen as "agents of the system".

Mr Ramduth was unavailable for comment last night but Mr A K Singh, executive director in the Department of Education and Culture, pointed out that the Indian Education Minister had approved "in principle" the admission of black pupils into Indian schools.

"The department has issued clear guidelines to principals for the admission of black pupils to schools under its control. The availability of accommodation and the need to create additional class units will to a large extent govern such admissions."

Adding that first preference would be given to Indian pupils, Mr Singh claimed that some black pupils had already been accepted by some schools, although he declined to say which.

Mr Samuels said it appeared Mr Ramduth did not have a clear policy on the admission of other races. "Double talk and ambiguities are not helping principals."

He said the only answer to the crisis was for the Government to scrap ethnic education and replace it with one education system.

Mr Samuels said while principals were "quite happy" to accept black pupils their hands were tied by tough conditions that included not asking for money to accommodate an increased pupil population.

"As it is we cannot handle an influx of pupils with our present resources."

Mr Ameen Akhalwaya, a Lenasia community leader who also edits *The Indicator*, said of the Indian education authorities "They are learning the Nats' language very quickly. They told us they were going to fight apartheid. How utterly disgraceful."

Mr Ismail Momoniat, spokesman for the Transvaal Indian Congress, said: "Black applicants to Indian schools have still received no firm reply from the House of Delegates. This is irresponsible and unethical."

SCHOOLS PUZZLE

258



It's all in the head
WITH-IT beauty, Jabulile Mnguni (22), of Soweto, works as a top hairstylist in Joburg. She loves music and going out with good people.

NO pupil from neighbouring Soweto has yet been given Government approval to enrol at a high school in the Indian township of Lenasia — more than six weeks after the start of the school year.

The delay in processing the applications has aroused widespread controversy in the Indian community.

The Transvaal Indian Congress this week published a full page advertisement in the Lenasia newspaper, *The Indicator*, calling on schools to be opened to all.

Advert

The ad was signed by 41 organisations, representing a broad spectrum of political, religious, welfare, labour, youth and sports organisations.

The advertisement said that last year, the House of Delegates, which controls Indian schools, had claimed Indian schools were open to all.

This year, about 300 African pupils have applied for admission to high schools in Lenasia.

- The Government

Still no African kids at Lenasia high schools

has lost an opportunity to demonstrate genuine commitment to the best education for all by refusing Cape Town Teachers' College permission to admit all races, according to the South African Teachers' Union.

Mr P J Clase, Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Assembly, this week turned down the college's application to open to all.

Chief executive officer of the union Mr C Roos said in a statement the union was saddened by the decision.

"This decision makes no sense either educationally or economically and appears to be based purely on an ideology which allows for the exercise of no local option falling outside the rigid concept of separate education", the statement said.

It was indefensible on economic grounds to allow the facilities and expertise available at the college to continue to be "under-utilised", he said.

"This demonstrates once again the Union's condemnation of apartheid as detrimental to education. Yet another opportunity to demonstrate a genuine commitment to providing the best education for the people of this country has been missed", Mr Roos said.

Storm over pull out

A STORM is brewing over a decision by a Uitenhage School to pull out of a junior cricket tournament because of participation by coloured players.

Staff and members of the committee of the Handhaaf Laerskool will not comment publicly on decision, but privately some are furious.

An anonymous parent tipped off Port Elizabeth newspapers and said the withdrawal was believed to have been forced by a single dissenter on the school committee.

Ivan Strydom said Handhaaf Laerskool's decision to pull out came as a complete shock.

He said the school was very keen to take part initially and was on the fixture list.

Five white schools and three coloured schools were to take part. National marketing manager for Bakers Mr Barry Fowle said a condition of the sponsorship was that the tournament be non-racial. This had been the case since its inception six years ago.

"If any school cannot abide by that rule we are sorry, but it's their decision," he said.

Jonathan
2/2/82

N/M 24/2/81 (258)

150 parents stage sit-in at school

Mercury Reporter

ABOUT 150 parents at the Malagazi shack settlement, near Isipingo, staged a sit-in at the Kanhe State-aided Primary School yesterday to protest at the planned closure of the 40-year-old school by the House of Delegates

The irate parents requested the headmaster, Mr S Singh, to summon

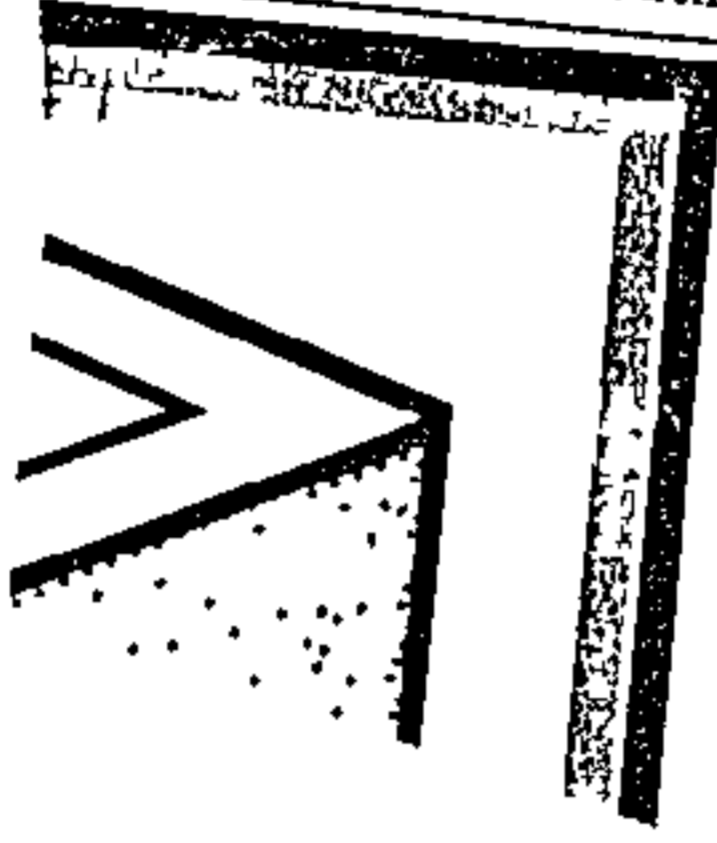
senior officials of the Department of Education and Culture to address them

According to Mr D Kader, chairman of the school's education committee, and Mr Pubal Govender, the local town councillor, the parents were angry following rumours about the closure of the school

'We understand that the department wants 284 pupils to be bussed to schools in the neighbourhood. Parents are opposed to this'

They feel their children are still too young to travel on their own by bus

Mr A K Singh, executive director of the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, said no final decision had been taken to close the school





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Vol. 260

CAPE TOWN, 27 FEBRUARY 1987

No. 10641

KAAPSTAD, 27 FEBRUARIE 1987

STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

KANTOOR VAN DIE STAATSPRESIDENT

No 475. *116 27/2/87 (258)* 27 February 1987

No 475 27 Februarie 1987

It is hereby notified that the State President has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information —

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Staatspresident sy goedkeuring geheg het aan die onderstaande Wet wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word —

No. 13 of 1987 Additional Appropriation Act (House of Delegates), 1987

No 13 van 1987 Addisionele Begrotingswet (Raad van Afgevaardigdes), 1987

Teachers saved by House of Delegates

Mercury Reporter

THE chances of employment for 436 newly qualified Indian teachers this year would have been very poor had it not been for the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi said at the 30th anniversary celebration of the Juma Musjid School in Durban yesterday

Mr Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, said 'as

sure as night follows day' the dental faculty at the University of Durban-Westville, which the House of Delegates had agreed to underwrite for R38 million, would 'never have been a reality' if the House of Delegates had not intervened

He said according to the House of Delegates's norm, it needed a total of 10 958 educators, but it exceeded that limit by taking on an additional 436 teachers since Jan-

uary this year at an extra cost of R13 million for salaries alone

'But nobody is giving us accolades for what we are doing, he told the guests among whom were Durban's Mayor Mr Stan Lange, Own Affairs Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Kassie Ramduth, and Dr J N Reddy, Own Affairs Minister of Budget and Auxiliary Services

Mr Rajbansi said there was

no crisis in Indian education, but there was a crisis in education in South Africa

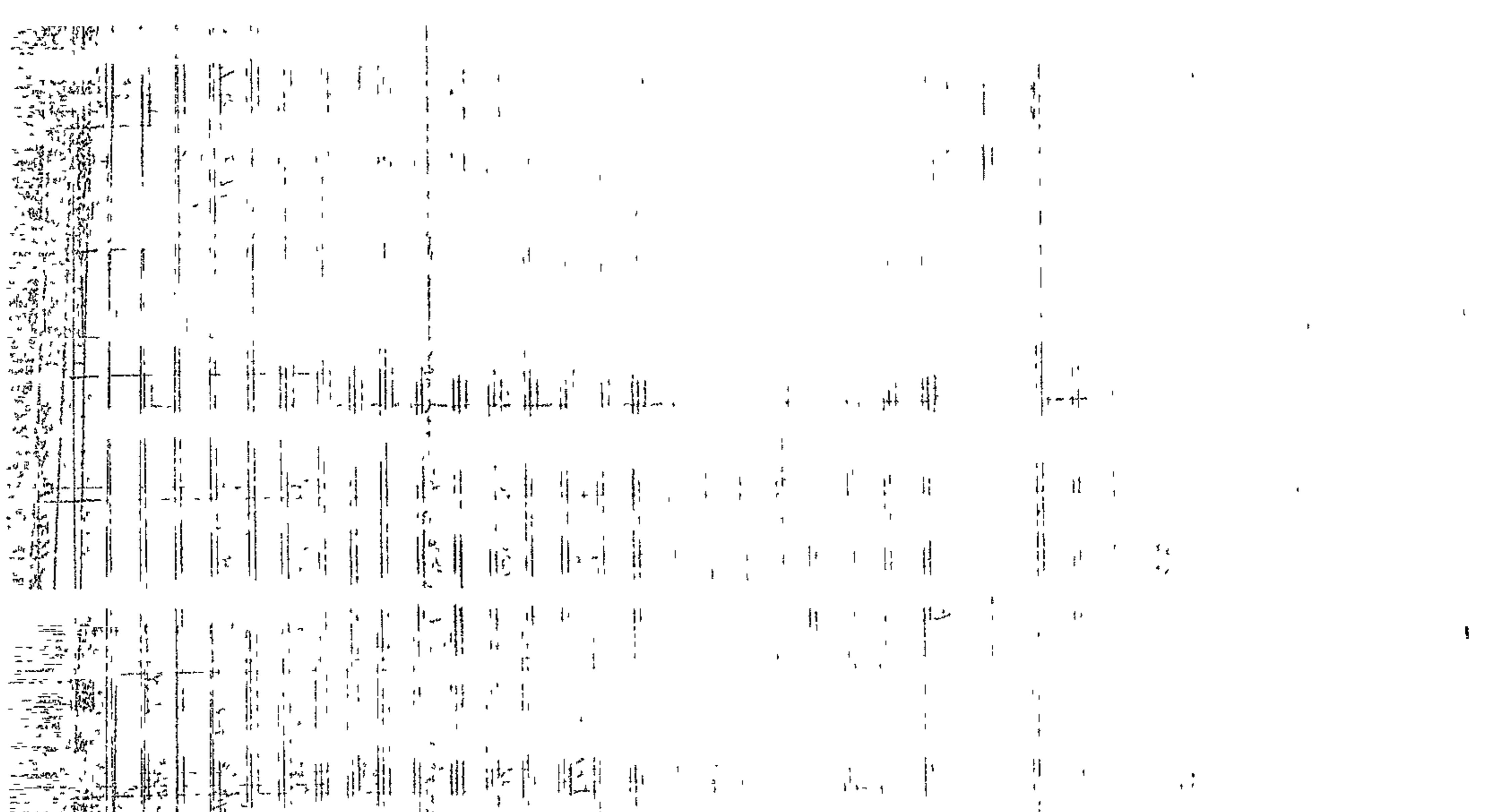
'There is a shortage of teachers in coloured and black education,' he said

As a step towards resolving the problem 'we believe there should be one institution for the training of teachers in South Africa Those who qualify could be appointed to schools where there is a need irrespective of race, colour or

creed'

Paying tribute to the Juma Musjid School, he said his department had received a request from the Juma Musjid Trust for a subsidy to make additions to the school at a cost of R800 000

R/14/10/3/17



Solidarity to decide on role as 'opposition'

11/3/87 258 NIM

Mercury Reporter
SOLIDARITY, the official opposition in the House of Delegates, is expected to make a decision on its future in the House within the next few days

Mr Yunus Moolla, the party's Chief Whip, yesterday confirmed that its national executive would meet in Durban on Sunday to consider two options — to continue in coalition with the ruling National People's Party or to break

away and function as the official opposition

The move follows a directive given to the party by the Speaker of Parliament, Mr Louis le Grange, after the newly formed Progressive Reform Party, led by Durban MP Mr Pat Poovalingam, applied to be recognised as the official opposition

'We have been given until March 27 to advise the Speaker of our decision,' Mr Moolla said

Solidarity is in an unusual position for an 'opposi-

tion party' — it has two key officials as members of the Ministers' Council, its leader, Dr J N Reddy is Minister of the Budget, and Mr Ismail Kathrada is Minister of Health and Welfare

According to some MPs, a ridiculous situation arose recently where Dr Reddy presented his mini-budget as Minister of the Budget obviously wanting the support of the House and then voted against it as leader of the opposition

'Dr Reddy is faced with two options, he either quits the Ministers' Council — a move which could threaten the unity pact between Solidarity and the NPP, under the leadership of Mr Amichand Rajbansi, or he quits Solidarity and joins the NPP,' said a Progressive Reform Party supporter

Dr Reddy could not be reached for comment yesterday

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PRP calls for education investigation

Mercury Reporter
THE Progressive Reform Party in the House of Delegates decided at its meeting in Durban yesterday to make urgent representations to President Botha for a full and thorough investigation into Indian education

Mr Mamoo Rajab, the party's spokesman on home affairs, said Indian education seemed to be 'living from crisis to crisis'

'The question of the evaluation system is another one of the many problems that has arisen in that department

'We are of the opinion that this is not the only problem that will be arising in the near future

'There will always be crises precisely because those in authority are either incompetent or not concerned about the standard of education that should be imparted to the Indian child, but are concentrating more on stupid and petty issues to maintain the bureaucracy'

Mr Rajab said the PRP would draw up a fully motivated dossier on Indian education highlighting the

tremendous sacrifices that were made by the Indian people themselves initially in providing for the education of their children

'We will also refer to the massive strides in education after the Government assumed control over it in 1961

'We will then be highlighting what happened after control was passed to the Indian Council and now to the House of Delegates under the direct control of the Ministers' Council of Mr Amichand Rajbansi

'Our fear is that in the next couple of years the community will see the adverse effects of all that has been happening in the general standard of education in the Indian community

'Instead of making improvements on the structures that have been created we fear there will be a dramatic and adverse fall in standards'

Beirut blast

BEIRUT—Three people were killed when a bomb blast destroyed a car in east Beirut yesterday — (Sapa AP)

Nurses in KwaZulu win right to join

African Affairs Correspondent

ULUNDI—Nurses in KwaZulu have won a six-year battle to retain their membership of the South African Nursing Association

A statement from the KwaZulu Minister of Health, Dr Frank Mdlalose, yesterday said the KwaZulu Department of Health and Welfare had been advised in July, 1980, that membership by KwaZulu nurses of the SA Nursing Association had been illegal since 1977 since KwaZulu was a region in its own right

The statement said talks on this issue with senior Government representatives had taken place from 1980

Dr Mdlalose said the view of his department was that it had never wanted KwaZulu nurses to be excluded from membership of the association since the region was a part of South Africa

He said a letter had now been received from the Director-General of the Department of National Health and

Population Development, stating that the South African Government intended to amend legislation to make it possible to incorporate nurses in self governing territories into mandatory membership of the association

Dr Mdlalose said that, after the nurses of self-governing territories had been excluded from membership of the national association, the KwaZulu Nurses' Organisation had taken over the functions of the association in the region as an interim body

Buffalo bought

THE Karkloof Falls Nature Reserve near Pietermaritzburg has imported 30 disease-free buffalos from the Regent's Park Zoo in London — (Sapa)

P O plan

PRETORIA—The Post Office plans to instal another ten public electronic franking machines country-wide — (Sapa)

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No
problem,
says
Rajbansi

By Mariah Vengtas

THERE were no problems in Indian education, Mr Amichand Rajbansi said yesterday

The only problems were in the minds of 'political mischief makers', he said

Mr Rajbansi, chairman of the 'Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, was responding to a call by Mr Mamoo Rajab, of the Progressive Reform Party, for a judicial commission of inquiry into Indian education

'My revelations of what certain Indians could achieve with former white officials of the Department of Education are in parliamentary records Under an Indian administration, nepotism and practices that may be regarded as corrupt have been wiped out

'Mr Mamoo Rajab, after having fallen from grace through his expulsion from Solidarity, is engaging in teacher-baiting techniques which is a common ground for organisations to gain popular support

'We had the same cry in 1976 when Indian education came under the control of the former South African Indian Council

'Years have elapsed and we have seen the improvement in standards'

Mr Rajab said yesterday 'In normal circumstances I would not have responded to his comments because it is typical of the man, but when he says there are no problems in Indian Education it is quite obvious he is living in a cuckoo land'

● See Editorial Opinion

Solidarity severs ties with the NPP

Mercury Reporter

SOLIDARITY would retain its position as official Opposition in the House of Delegates, severing its ties with the ruling National People's Party, the party's national executive decided at its day-long meeting in Durban yesterday.

This means that Solidarity's leader, Dr J N Reddy, who is also Minister of the Budget in the Ministers' Council, and its executive member, Mr Ismail Kathrada, Minister of Health and Welfare, will have to give up their ministerial posts.

The move, which is expected to leave Mr Amichand Rajbansi's Ministers' Council in disarray, follows an ultimatum by the Speaker of Parliament, Mr Louis le Grange, who gave Solidarity until March 27 to make up its mind about its role in the Indian chamber.

Dr Reddy told the Mercury that he would relinquish his post in the Ministers' Council in line with the decision of his party's national executive.

'Solidarity can play a constructive role towards reform in South Africa through its role as the official Opposition,' he said.

Approached for comment, Mr Kathrada said he had not decided on his future.

Personal sacrifices

Mr Ismail Omar, chairman of Solidarity, said delegates at the meeting were happy when Dr Reddy in his opening address stated that he was prepared to abide by the decision of the national executive regardless of the personal sacrifices involved.

Dr Reddy and Mr Kathrada face a substantial cut in their monthly earnings as members of the Ministers' Council in addition to losing other perks, including their chauffeur-driven Mercedes cars and their ministerial homes in Cape Town and Pretoria.

Mr V J Naidoo, national secretary of the Solidarity break-away — the Progressive Reform Party which pressurised Mr le Grange to recognise it as the Opposition party in the House of Delegates — said last night that the decision of the break-away group within Solidarity to form the PRP had now been vindicated.

Mr Rajbansi was not available for comment last night.

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SCHOOL GETS OK TO TAKE BLACKS

THE Department of Indian Education has given Lenasia's Topaz High School permission to enrol four blacks in time for the start of the second term next week, the *Indicator* newspaper reported yesterday.

However, the newspaper said three other high schools in the Johannesburg Indian group area — Trinity, Nirvana and Lenasia secondary school, are still awaiting the outcome of applications they submitted on behalf of black pupils

It is understood more than 300 pupils from Soweto applied for admission to Lenasia schools.

Teachers at Lenasia's other high schools said they feared by the time the Department of Indian Education finally gave other black pupils the go-ahead, it would be too late for the pupils to catch up with studies

The Minister of Education in the House of Delegates, Mr Kasse Ramduth, has not responded to a question on the Lenasia issue.

— Sapa

Appeal to P W over Indian schools 'crisis'

Mercury Reporter

THE current 'crisis in Indian education' was causing grave concern in the community, and the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates appeared 'totally unconcerned and unmoved', President Botha has been told

In an urgent telegram to Mr Botha, Mr Mahmoud Rajab,

the Progressive Reform Party's spokesman on home affairs said 'We believe there is something rotten in the state of Indian education that requires serious and immediate attention

'The morale in the profession is now at an all-time low and a thorough investigation is necessary to give teachers the status, respect and securi-

ty they deserve

'We are all of the opinion that ultimately the current problems will detrimentally affect the standard of Indian education which has been jealously attained, firstly, by the community itself, and, since 1961, by the State

'We are preparing a comprehensive dossier on the crisis and wish to seek an urgent interview with you to discuss the matter more fully. Please advise us when you would be available to meet our leader and members of our caucus,' he said

Interference

Mr Rajab said some of the problems were over the non-employment of nearly 300 newly qualified teachers after training at the State's expense, retrenchment of about 250 lowly-qualified teachers, frustration among teachers over a new evaluation system, confusion over admission policy of the department on black pupils, and growing concern over allegations of nepotism, discrepancies and political interference

The Teachers' Association of South Africa, which represents more than 6 000 Indian teachers, is also unhappy with Indian Education and has requested an inquiry

However, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, and Mr Kassie Ramduth, own affairs Minister of Education and Welfare, have repeatedly stated that there were no problems in Indian Education

Mr Rajbansi said the problem was 'in the minds of political mischief-makers'

Solidarity must inform Speaker of its future role

Mercury Reporter

THE Solidarity Party in the House of Delegates has been given until today to inform the Speaker of Parliament, Mr Louis le Grange, about its future role in the Indian Chamber

Through a 'unity pact' with Mr Amichand Rajbansi's ruling National Peoples' Party, Solidarity's leader, Dr J N Reddy, and executive member, Mr Ismail Kathrada, are holding ministerial posts — creating a 'ludicrous' situation

Following pressure by the newly-formed Progressive Reform Party to be recognised as the official opposition in the House, Mr le Grange issued an ultimatum to Solidarity to make up its mind and inform him of its decision by today

Solidarity's national executive met behind closed doors in Durban on Sunday and decided to retain the role of official Opposition and called on Dr Reddy and Mr Kathrada to relinquish their ministerial posts

Dr Reddy had indicated that he was prepared to resign as Minister of the Budget to retain the role of Leader of the Opposition, but Mr Kath-

rada said yesterday that he would decide his future after consulting his Verulam constituency supporters.

It is likely that his supporters would persuade him to stay on as minister even if it meant quitting Solidarity to become an independent

However, Mr Gopi Munsook, MP and a Solidarity stalwart, said yesterday that the national executive had acted 'beyond its powers' by abrogating its 'unity pact' with the NPP

Only the national congress of Solidarity, which is the supreme body, was empowered to order a reversal of the decision to withdraw from the 'unity pact'

Mr Ismail Omar, Solidarity's national chairman, said yesterday he doubted if congress would overturn the executive decision

White applications still pending Indian schools admit 1 000 of other races

By Sol Makgabutlane,
Education Reporter

The Minister responsible for education in the House of Delegates has revealed that Indian schools have admitted more than 1 000 pupils of other races this year

Mr Kassie Ramduth said a total of 1 179 non-Indians, including three whites, submitted applications to enrol at Indian schools at the beginning of this year. A total of 954 coloured and 222 black pupils were admitted.

Mr Ramduth said the applications from white pupils were still awaiting a decision "pending a recommendation from the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Assembly".

The Indian education authorities' delay in making a clear policy statement regarding the admission of non-Indian pupils drew criticism from a number of organisations earlier this year.

Thirty of them, led by the Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC), placed adver-

tisements in newspapers calling for the unconditional acceptance of children of all races to Indian schools.

The row started after hundreds of children, anxious to escape the crises that plagued black schools in the past two years, inundated Indian schools with applications for enrolment.

Many of them had not heard about the outcome of their applications six weeks after schools reopened.

All applications by African pupils were referred to Indian education authorities for screening.

Mr A K Singh, executive director in the Department of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, pointed out that the Indian education Minister had approved "in principle" the admission to black pupils to Indian schools.

"The department has issued clear guidelines to principals for the admission of black pupils to schools under its control. The availability of accommodation and the need to create additional class units will to a large extent govern such admissions," he said.

7/4/87
SMR

Wednesday April 8 1987

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Ahmed Essop's book upsets Hindu groups

School network is withdrawn

By Sol Makgabutlane,
Education Reporter

Author Ahmed Essop's award-winning anthology of short stories, "The Hajji and Other Stories", has been withdrawn as a setwork for Std 8 pupils at Indian schools.

The book won the English Academy of South Africa's Olive Schreiner Award in 1979

The Department of Education and Culture in the (Indian) House of Delegates withdrew the book after complaints from the South African Hindu Dharma Sabha and the South African Hindu Maha Sabha

The groups complained parts of the book made an "unwarranted and unfounded" assault upon the Hindu religion and culture

Yesterday, Essop, who lives in Lenasia, Johannesburg, said "The education authorities have not taken the views of literary critics, teachers or students. I feel that if bigots are allowed to decide on education values, we will see the decline of educational standards."

The book was prescribed as a setwork at various universities after its publication in 1978

Essop said "Literature that gives insight into human nature promotes harmony because it makes pupils aware how other people behave. Therefore, the withdrawal of this book is disappointing, but literature will survive all obstacles."

Mr Ram Maharaj, president of the South African Hindu Dharma Sabha, said he welcomed the department's "wise and proper" decision

The department, in a circular to headmasters last week, said it could choose a substitute from a list including "The Old Man and The Sea", "The Pearl", "The River", "Laughter and Fear", "Beyond the Footlight", "An Inspector Calls", "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" and "Four South African One-Act Plays"

The Indian education department in Durban declined to comment on the withdrawal as its executive director, Mr A K Singh, was at present out of the country

Mr Essop has written two other books — "The Visitation" (1980), at present being translated into French, and "The Emperor" (1984) Fourteen of his short stories have appeared in a number of publications

258 (circled) 29/4/87

Job promise for Indian teachers

Michael Tissong

The House of Delegates is prepared to overstep its education budget by at least R22 million a year to employ thousands of unemployed Indian teachers, said Cabinet Minister and chairman of the House of Delegates Mr Amichand Rajbansi yesterday.

He said in an interview in Lenasia that teachers who had qualified, then found themselves without work as a result of the lack of posts in Indian schools, would be employed this year.

"Unemployed teachers will only pay back bursaries when they get jobs as teachers.

"Employing these teachers will not cost us anything. It will just mean moving money from some other budget to education.

"Our community is also crowded with accountants, doctors and lawyers. Second to the education of whites, Indians have the best per capita education in the whole of Africa."

He said the real crisis in education was that the inequalities meant that while the white and Indian education departments enjoyed healthy teacher-pupil ratios, the coloured and African departments lagged far behind.

"The average pupil-teacher ratio is 1.19 for whites, 1.25 for Indians, 1.45 for coloureds and 1.60 for Africans. We have a surplus of teachers for whites and Indians and a severe shortage for coloureds and Africans.

"Being in the tricameral system, we concern ourselves with education in other community groups as well. We have to bring about an equalisation.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Raj under fire

Events following the dismissal of Baldeo Dookie as Minister of Housing in the House of Delegates has released another salvo of criticism aimed at Amichand Rajbansi, leader of the ruling National People's Party (NPP)

Rajbansi, chairman of the Minister's Council, has been a frequent target of attack in the House. He has rejected a number of allegations that have been made against him as "a personal vendetta." Last year, in an often ill-tempered debate, he succeeded in overturning a motion calling for a commission of inquiry into bribery and corruption in the House.

The latest attack, however, came from within the NPP itself. Chairman Somaroo Pachai of Ladysmith despatched a stinging rebuke on April 1 to Rajbansi, which, he complained afterwards, was leaked to the press.

Hinting at a protest resignation, Pachai's letter called for a meeting of the party's head committee to consider charges that Rajbansi no longer consulted with his parliamentary

caucus. A particular bone of contention was the "humiliating" appointment of opposition Solidarity members (during the unity agreement between the two parties) as ministers. This, said Pachai, reflected on the ability of the members of the majority party in the House.

A ruling from the Speaker resulted in the NPP and Solidarity abandoning their marriage of convenience. Party leader JN Reddy accordingly resigned his portfolio of Minister of Budget and Auxiliary Services, to continue an unambiguous role as leader of the official opposition. Ismail Kathrada refused to relinquish his Ministry of Health and Welfare, and declared he would continue as an "independent."

Rajbansi has to date responded to the events by adding Reddy's former ministry to his own formidable responsibilities — leader of the NPP, chairman of the Minister's Council, and member of the (white) Cabinet without portfolio. And since the dismissal of Dookie, he has taken on the Housing portfolio as well.

Party officials described this as "intolerable" and suggested Rajbansi may be obliged to buy votes at the next meeting of

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his Party's head committee, by relinquishing some of the portfolios he continues to manage on his own.

□ Responding to the criticism, Rajbansi told the *FM* this week unity within the NPP had "never been stronger." Suggestions of a feud between himself and Pachai were "false." A permanent appointment from within the party ranks would be made to the Budget Ministry "very soon," he added. ■

(250) 5/11

Rajbansi to build anti-bomb fortress

By PRAVEEN NAIDOO
CABINET Minister Amichand Rajbansi — fearing for his safety, — intends building a new fortress like home

Last year, Mr Rajbansi's council house in Chatsworth was damaged in a bomb blast

Now he plans to build a top security home that will protect him against similar attacks

Speaking from the Wild Coast Casino, where he was relaxing after last week's infighting in the House of Delegates, Mr Rajbansi said he was considering several sites in Chatsworth for his new house

One of them was a 4 500 sq m piece of vacant land in Unit Six, near his council home

"I've begun negotiations to buy this plot, but I am also looking at alternatives" He would use his own money to build the house, he said

Conviction

One of nine men convicted in a recent terrorism trial, Dr Vijay Ramlakan, who received a 12-year jail sentence, was found guilty of giving the instructions to bomb Mr Rajbansi's house

"Evidence at the trial was that they had considered attacking the homes of several other MPs, but they had found my house to be the easiest target," said Mr Rajbansi.

"There is always the possibility of another attack."

"My present house is too close to the street. My bedroom window faces the road — which is worrying at night"

His new house would have to be built on a large plot to make it invulnerable to hand-grenade attacks.

"The house must be more than throwing distance from the boundary of the property."

The house is expected to have sophisticated security alarm systems and be surrounded by high walls

NPP defections could oust Rajbansi

DEFECTIONS have rocked both the coloured and Indian Houses of Parliament and set the scene for major changes which may include the ousting of Amichand Rajbansi as leader of the House of Delegates

Eight senior members of the National People's Party (NPP), including a member of the Minister's Council, yesterday defected from Rajbansi's party and left J N Reddy's Solidarity Party to take

over as the majority party

The NPP was defeated twice on its motions yesterday after the defections

After the House adjourned, the NPP's chief whip Yacoob Baid said he was confident his party could find the necessary support to avoid a defeat in the No Confidence debate which begins on Wednesday

The defectors cited Rajbansi's "dictatorial" style of leadership as the main

reason for their decision

In the House of Representatives, the six Labour Party MPs who broke away earlier this year yesterday formed the Democratic Party (DP) and have asked the Speaker to recognise them as the official opposition

DP leader Charles Redcliffe said the six had also been joined by independent MP for Bosmont Trevor George

"GRASSHOPPING" is now regarded as parliamentary language in the House of Delegates.

First used by MP Nizam Khan (Isipingo), it describes the erratic movement of an MP from one side of the house to the other.

There were no fewer than 14 instances of MPs "grasshopping" during last week's no-confidence debate. One of them, Narantuk Jumuna, did so three times in as many days.

I haven't seen anything like it since the Venda legislative assembly in the mid-Seventies, when the late Baldwin Mudau's Venda Peoples' Independence Party represented a real threat to Patrick Mphephu and debates hissed with the sibilants of "cross, cross".

But last week's debates in the House of Delegates hissed with venom.

Admittedly, it was a week full of drama. Amichand Rajbansi scraped through the no-confidence debate by the skin of his teeth, with a majority of only one over the combined opposition.

He also brushed off demands from solidarity leader Jagaram

IN THE HOUSE

Week of the grasshoppers as Rajbansi chirps through



Rajbansi

DEREK BAUER
Drawing

Reddy for a commission of inquiry into serious allegations of "maladministration" which had been made.

Baldeo Dookie, for instance, who resigned from the Minister's Council and joined an opposition party, told the house that "some of the irregularities which have taken place are of an explosive nature".

Rajbansi, in turn, did not hesitate to give as good as he got. Opposition members had tried to "buy" support for R10 000 and some had offered to support him if he co-

operated in certain land deals, he said.

He also put out a press statement in which he said that Jumuna had been "held in captivity" and "brainwashed".

"Ever since we came to Cape Town, NPP members are being spirited away and kept in quarantine-type situations, only to be released five minutes before parliamentary sittings," he said.

Jumuna, who some years ago served a prison sentence in England for chopping up his Irish girlfriend, wept as he ex-

plained to the house that Rajbansi had threatened him with expulsion from parliament because of his record.

An opposition MP has now put a motion before the house asking for an inquiry into whether Rajbansi breached parliamentary privilege with the press statement.

However, Yusuf Moolla (Stanger) had also complained to the house that "you can't walk in Pelican Park without being accosted" (by a rival po-

litical party) so MPs were given police protection there. No doubt because of the enmity between the rival political parties, debate in the house descended to rock bottom. Some examples:

Onazim Khan (Isipingo): "People are not here for the benefit of the community, but for the Mercedes-Benz and other luxuries."

Faiz Khan (Lenasia East): "I object to the bit about the Mercedes, I did not come here for that."

And another exchange: First MP: "We can leave it to some members of this house to move for the legalising of prostitution so that it can cater for your needs."

Second MP: "I am glad. That is a compliment at my age."

And yet another: "... My advice ... is to place himself in a lavatory pan and flush it."

At one stage, the chairman was moved to appeal to MPs to refrain from interruptions

"I do not mean that this house should sink to the level of a mortuary, but at the same time I do not want to see it rise to the level of a circus," he said.

Jean Le May

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Family squabbles

The Natal Indian Congress will be thrust into the formal political arena if the current impasse in the House of Delegates leads to an election. Problem is that the NIC is involved in some bitter in-fighting of its own. The odds, however, remain stacked

against the NIC switching policy to directly contest elections. The mood canvassed among leaders by the FM suggests the congress is more likely to stick to existing policy and campaign for a stay-away from the polls.

The problem in the NIC, founded as an extra-parliamentary protest organisation by Mahatma Gandhi in 1894, is rooted in a leadership struggle — attributed to differences of style rather than strategy. The issue is as simple as it is potentially divisive: should the NIC join the system to seek its collapse or continue to snipe from the sidelines?

However, there seems to be general agreement among both factions that the NIC will continue to advocate a boycott of the elections.

At issue, therefore, is a question of personality and style.

The personality clash finds a disenchanted "old guard" pitted against an alleged "cabal" in the bloated 25-man executive (the NIC constitution originally made provision for only 15).

The old guard has been identified as former president "M J" Naidoo, current president George Sewpershad, secretary Ramlal Ramesar, D K Singh and vice-presidents Rabi Bugwandeem and R B Chowdry.

Young Turks

Ranged against them is a clique of young Turks identified by one of the old guard as Jerry Coovadia, Farook Meer, Paul David, Zak Yakoob and two members co-opted in 1979, Pravin Gordan and Yunus Mahommed.

As both parties agree that personalities and style rather than ideology and strategy are at the root of the quarrel, Naidoo admits to being bewildered by the need for a leadership clique. The full executive, he says, generally reaches consensus on major issues.

Meer and Coovadia, widely regarded as two of the most influential members of the executive committee, reject notions of a split looming within the NIC and of a "cabal".

Coovadia says executive members of the NIC tried without success to get "concrete evidence" to support the criticism. The "sinister motives" identified by Naidoo "have simply been differences of viewpoint and activity".

And Meer dismisses accusations of a "cabal" and says even those responsible for making them agree there are no differences of policy.

The enigma which remains is not easily resolved by reference to the major debates within the NIC.

□ In 1973 Naidoo argued in favour of participating within "apartheid structures" such as the SA Indian Council. His resolution was heavily defeated. In 1979 he successfully campaigned *against* recommendations from the men now identified as members of the "cabal" to contest the tri-cameral elections.

□ Cutting across the battle lines is a uniform response to the second major debate within the organisation, namely its ethnic basis. All

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universal franchise in a unitary state) there may well be some who believe they know a better route than others. But on the question of participating within "apartheid structures" there appears to be unanimity. No organisation can afford to do so and retain credibility, argue leaders on either side.

Herein perhaps lies a clue to the current conflict. Members of the so-called cabal are also given to describing themselves as the "intelligentsia" of the NIC — to the extreme chagrin of the old guard. Thus, whereas the entire NIC executive still agrees on the major destination of the NIC (a non-racial democracy based on a

leaders canvassed by the FM agree this is neither an anachronism nor a contradiction. Members of the "old guard" favoured defending the NIC's ethnic character by reference to its cultural heritage whereas Meer and Coovadia adopt more academic arguments involving such issues as the "mechanisms of apartheid society".

TIC claim special votes abuse

By AMEEN AKHALWAYA

THE Transvaal Indian Congress, which is campaigning against participation in a House of Delegates by-election, claim that special votes are being abused in the Lenasia constituency. *With mail 17-23/1/87*

The TIC secretary, Ismail Momoniat, yesterday said his organisation had collected affidavits from people "who have been duped into casting special votes."

"We have instructed our lawyers to launch action against the candidates to prevent the widespread abuse of special votes."

Earlier this week TIC's lawyer, Krish Naidoo, was threatened with assault by House of Delegates supporters when he went to monitor the special votes.

So far, over 300 special votes have been cast, representing just over three percent of the electorate registered in the constituency. Some people are known to have refused to register on a racially separate roll.

The National People's Party leader, Amichand Rajbansi, said. "I request the TIC to give the people their right to vote or not, and voters should not be subjected to coercive tactics."

MP linked to evictions plan

DURBAN — House of Delegates MP Mr Aboobaker Ismail has been linked to a company which is attempting to evict tenants from two apartment blocks in cen-

tral Durban under the group Areas Act

Ismail is a member of Mr Amichand Rajbansi's ruling National People's Party

Eviction notices were

served on the residents last month following a Group Areas clampdown which will affect an estimated 3 500 people

Ismail has confirmed his family has a "minority in-

terest" in the company. His son is a part owner of the two flats. The flats are administered by Baker Brothers, which controls a large property portfolio in Durban.

The Durban Central Residents Association (DCRA), which is spearheading the campaign against the Group Areas Act, believes Ismail's interest could be more substantial.

Spokesperson Iqbal Mohammed says the DCRA has confirmed the buildings were sold to Ismail's family.

Campaign

Meanwhile, the DCRA's campaign continues to gather momentum. At the weekend volunteers took to the streets of the city as part of a drive to collect a million signatures for a petition protesting the evictions.

In the next fortnight the DCRA is hoping to man tables in the city's big supermarkets and grocery stores.

Offers of assistance have come in from civil rights groups and political organisations. The PFP will organise six tables to collect signatures in Durban and Pinetown on Saturday.

Meanwhile, a white sympathiser had offered R55 000 to help the DCRA sustain the campaign — *Press Trust*

3/17/87 258 B Day

Special votes are set aside

JENNY BOBERG

SIX Lenasia residents who said they were induced to cast special votes in a forthcoming House of Delegates by-election, had their votes set aside by the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Four separate applications to set the votes aside were brought against the returning officer and electoral officer for special votes for the electoral division of Lenasia Central.

Three of the applications, brought by Saras Naidoo, Nadarajah and Kokelambal Pillay, and Calbeen Pillay and Angela Singarem, were unopposed.

They said they were taken to the HNJ centre in Lenasia and directed to sign a form. None of the applicants realised this form was an application to cast a special vote. Had they realised this, they would not have signed them.

The fourth application was brought by a 78-year-old Lenasia woman, Beatrice Violet Ephrahim.

Ephrahim's special vote was set aside as she had signed the form with a thumb print, whereas the Electoral Act required a proper signature.

SAP to pay for municipal police

3/17/87 B Day SOPHIE TEMA

MUNICIPAL police under the control of local authorities are to be paid by the SAP, and not by the local authorities.

This was announced by President of the Urban Councils' Association of SA Steve Kgame this week.

But, said Kgame, although the municipal police would receive their salaries from the same sources as the SAP, they would not be expected to execute the same duties and would remain the responsibility of the local authorities.

"They will carry out their normal duties in the townships as they have always been doing," Kgame said.

...ha comes on line

I WAS ABDUCTED

- TIC MAN

Soweto
258 2/18/87

A MEMBER of the Transvaal Indian Congress, Mr Basheer Lorgat (33), claims he was abducted and threatened with violence by men known to be supporters of candidates in the House of Delegates by-elections.

Mr Lorgat, who is monitoring special votes on behalf of the TIC yesterday said other members of his organisation had been similarly intimidated. He said a member of the TIC Youth League, - Mr Gresh Magan, had been beaten up.

As a result, lawyers

**By NAT
DISEKO**

acting on behalf of Mr Lorgat had served a letter on two people warning them to refrain from interfering with TIC members.

The TIC organised a meeting in Lenasia at the weekend in protest against the tricameral parliamentary system and dared the candidates in the by-elections to attend the meeting. They did not turn up.

Statement

Yesterday the organisation issued a statement saying the candidates did not have the "guts" to attend because they knew they would incur the wrath of the majority of the people in Lenasia.



Bye,
bye,
Ma'am

FOUR-year-old Nkululeko Mabuza presents Mrs Faith Nala with a bouquet of flowers at the Gander Creche in Soweto. This was during a farewell function held in honour of Mrs Nala who worked at the creche. She was also presented with a lot of gifts.

Tombstone

A CEREMONY to unveil the tombstones of the late Mr and Mrs Phiri will be held in Motlatla, near Ventersdorp on Sunday morning. Buses will leave 1813 Letsie Street, Mapetla Extension at 8.30pm on Saturday.

The fare to Motlatla is R12.

1 dead

Anti election march

SECURITY forces arrested several people in the Lenasia Central Business District yesterday afternoon after an anti-election march by about 300 youths, mainly students.

Traffic in Rose Avenue came to a virtual standstill as crowds witnessed the march. Because of the emer-

By NAT
DISEKO

gency regulations we cannot give more details. Late last night residents of Lenasia claimed groups of men asked people if they had voted. Those who said they had not had their names taken down. A member of the

Transvaal Indian Congress, Mr Sayed Gani of Lenasia was yesterday shot at outside the polling station where voting for candidates taking part in the tri-cameral by-elections is being held.

The shooting occurred during a protest against the elections by supporters and members of the

TIC

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Yesterday's incident is the latest in a recent spate of violent attacks and threats against TIC members. Another TIC member, Mr Basheer Lorgat (33), said he was abducted and threatened with violence this week.

After Mr Gani was shot at, some TIC members said they went to complain to the police at Lenasia but that the police did not or would not take any action against the gunman.

A spokesman for the SAP Directorate for Public Relations in Pretoria said the police

• To Page 2

R1 000 bail
for 'Oupa'
Motlana

— Page 2

March

• From Page 1

had no knowledge of any shooting. He said if any person had a complaint against the police he should lay a formal charge.

Attorneys acting for Mr Gani said yesterday a telex had been sent to the Commissioner of Police reporting the shooting incident and asking him to intervene and restrain the gunman "before any death results from his unlawful acts".

The TIC yesterday said "The TIC deplores and condemns in the strongest terms the violent attacks by supporters of the apartheid regime on people staging a peaceful protest against the by-elections in the Lenasia central constituency."

An incident occurred at Lenasia High School yesterday but has not been included in this report in order to comply with existing media restrictions.

Sawetan

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5/8/87



YOUTHS milling around the polling booths in Lenasia yesterday.

Protests as Lenasia residents trickle to polls

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Sowetan
5/8/87

HIGH school pupils in Lenasia again boycotted classes and some people were taken away by police near the polling station as voters trickled to the polls amid massive security in the Lenasia Central House of Delegates by-election yesterday.

And as the row over special votes mounted, the Transvaal Indian Congress' attorney, Mr Krish Naidoo, said the Director-General of Home Affairs had referred allegations of irregularities to the State Attorney.

The five high schools in Lenasia reported that up to 50 percent of pupils boycotted classes in protest against the election, which was contested by Mr M S Shah (National People's Party), Mrs Rashida Ebrahim (Solidarity), Mr Harry Beharie (Progressive Reform Party) and independent Mr Mahdi Naidoo.

Police said some people were taken away for questioning but later released.

Intimidation

The TIC had asked the Director-General of Home Affairs to set aside the special votes cast in the election, or to investigate each one of them, following last week's Rand Supreme Court decision to set aside six special votes allegedly cast irregularly.

Mr Naidoo said the TIC had also asked the director-general to refer the matter to the Attorney-General for possible prosecution.

"We received a letter from the director-general saying the matter had been referred to the State Attorney."

The Department of Home Affairs has been asked to comment.

So far, it is understood that more than 1000 special votes have been cast in the constituency of about 10 000 voters.

Parties contesting the election as well as extraparliamentary organisations have made claims of intimidation against one another.

At the weekend, another TIC attorney, Mrs Priscilla Jana, sent letters to two candidates alleging "assaults, intimidation, harassment, kidnapping and invasions of property," by candidates' supporters against anti-election activists.

Mrs Jana claimed that Mr Krish Naidoo was assaulted by a family

SOWETAN CORRESPONDENT

member of one of the candidates at the Supreme Court last week.

"A dossier is already being prepared by our client (TIC) against those persons who have behaved unlawfully in the past and our client is considering bringing actions for damages arising out of such incidents against such persons.

"Be rest assured that we know the perpetrators of such acts," Mrs Jana's letter said.

Staff members of the *Indicator* newspaper have received numerous threats since its last issue, published last week, focused on the election.

Editor Ameen Akh-lwaya, said that from the tone of the contents of the threats, it appeared that they were being made by House of Delegates supporters.

"They are too cowardly to engage us in public debate. We invited all four candidates to

submit articles on 'the case for participation', but none responded.

"We have reported the threats to the police."

Rally

Last week, the TIC published a list of people who had allegedly cast special votes and asked them to contact it if they had been misled into voting.

Mr Naidoo said several people had come forward saying that although their names appeared on the list, they had not voted.

A TIC spokesman said legal advice was being sought, and it was likely that further court action would be taken within the next few days.

At the weekend, more than 1000 people attended a United Democratic Front rally in Lenasia to protest against the election.

None of the candidates who had been invited to "face the public" turned up



MRS PRISCILLA Jana ... TIC attorney

OUR cartoonist who does the daily political drawings is in Britain. He will resume his drawings when he returns.



An incident in a day of controversy: The Lenasia by-election. NPP candidate Salem Mayet, left, confronts opponents
 Picture: ERIC MILLER, Afrapix

TIC to challenge Lenasia's poll

By MONO BADELA

THE Transvaal Indian Congress may challenge in court results of the by-election for the House of Delegates held in Lenasia, near Johannesburg, this week.

Only hours after the results of the by-election were made known, TIC spokesman Ashwin Shah told *WM* the congress had instructed its lawyers to consider the feasibility of a court application.

The application, he said, would be heard by a full bench of three judges in Pretoria. If successful, it would mean that Mohamed Shah (NPP) would be unseated and a new election would have to be held.

The Lenasia Central parliamentary by-election for the House of Delegates was won by the National Peoples' Party amid accusations of electoral irregularities.

Shah polled 609 of the total 1 333

votes cast. About 1 063 of the total were special votes. The percentage poll was 15,95 percent.

The new court challenge, if carried through, would come in addition to four successful court applications concerning special votes, heard by the Rand Supreme Court last week.

The TIC says it has a number of affidavits relating to cases of "undue influence, impersonation and treating" against the candidates who were involved in the by-election. These will form the basis of the new application challenging the validity of the election.

The TIC campaigned for a boycott of the election, claiming irregularities in the election and a "special votes racket". It also appealed to the Transvaal attorney-general to set aside all

special votes. Last week the Rand Supreme Court set aside several special votes.

The TIC believes the poll was very low, showing a significant loss of support for the tri-cameral parliament.

Police used teargas and quirts to disperse about 200 students who staged a protest march against the election. The police unrest report said Indian youths stoned vehicles and attempted to disrupt the elections.

Seven men and a woman were arrested and appeared in court on charges of convening an illegal meeting and assault.

On Tuesday, small groups of protesters gathered outside the heavily-guarded Lenasia polling booth and eyewitnesses reported several minor skirmishes between police and protesters.

ABLE AT
KSHOPS

OPHER
PE

SWAN

1 333 vote in elections

THE Transvaal Indian Council believes the results of the Parliamentary by-election in Lenasia this week are a massive vote of no confidence in the House of Delegates.

The by-election was won by the National Peoples' Party whose candidate, Mr Mohamed Shah won the Lenasia Central seat. The percentage poll was 15,95 percent.

A total of 1 063 special votes were cast, forming about 80 percent of all the votes. Only 270

ordinary votes were cast on Tuesday. There were 21 spoilt papers.

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, leader of the NPP said the results indicated confidence in negotiation politics.

The SAP Directorate of Public Relations said in its unrest report that about 200 students were dispersed after staging a protest meeting.

It said police used quirts to disperse the gathering and seven men and one woman were arrested.

6/2/87
Sarefan
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MR AMICHAND Rajbansi . . TV bore.



MR PIK Botha . . . TV bore.

Minority rule the

name of the

apartheid

By-election in Lenasia

game

FOCUS

Shah

7/8/87

LIES, lies and damned statistics, a British politician once remarked.

What is not disputed is that in the first House of Delegates general election in 1984, about 10 percent of the registered electorate voted in Lenasia constituencies

Not everyone registered as a voter on a racist "Indian" roll

In this week's by-election, the official voting figure went up to 16 percent.

Cabinet Minister Amichand Rajbansi — who supports the State of Emergency and whose National People's Party (NPP) candidate won the seat — and the SABC gleefully described this pathetic turnout as some sort of triumph

But whichever way you figure it out, the result has proved four things:

- The overwhelming majority of the "Indian" electorate in Lenasia does not support Mr Rajbansi or the apartheid tricameral circus
- Only in a country like South Africa can a turnout of 16 percent be considered a "triumph" by people who desperately seek endorsement of a discredited system
- About 80 percent of the total votes were cast by way of special votes (that is, not at the polling station on election day), a figure probably unheard of in any similar election anywhere.
- The majority did not fall prey to the SABC's and Mr Rajbansi's propaganda. Instead, Mr Rajbansi's party was endorsed only by 7 percent of the electorate

In fact, the SABC's kidglove treatment of Mr Rajbansi probably puts



him in line to become TV's biggest political bore after his Cabinet colleague, Pik Botha

The SABC made much of the increased number of votes, without telling us that the number of eligible voters had increased by about 50 percent since 1984

It did not tell us that at the weekend, United Democratic Front affiliates attracted more than 1000 people to an anti-election rally, despite the State of Emergency and the attentions of people it does not welcome in its ranks.

It did not tell us that 80 percent of those who voted were allegedly

going to be "out of town" or for some other reason had to cast special votes — that is, they could not register their votes at the polling station

It did not tell us that the Rand Supreme Court had set aside six special votes under the Electoral Act, and that the UDF has claimed abuse of the special votes system

Warning

It did not tell about the House of Delegates supporters who went around to houses in a sub-economic area of Lenasia, demanding to know people's names if they had not voted

It did not tell us that the Transvaal Indian Congress's lawyers had written to two of the candidates warning them about the "unlawful conduct" of their supporters

It did not tell us of the arrests of several people in Lenasia on polling day, of the complaint by the TIC's lawyer to the Commissioner of Police regarding the alleged activities of a House of Delegates supporter

It did not tell us of the actions — witnessed by

hundreds of people — of enforcers of the State of Emergency.

Instead, the SABC told us that as far as was known, only one minor incident involving police and students occurred on polling day

But the election result has shown that despite the abnormal number of special votes — which are almost certain to be challenged in court next week — 84 percent of the registered electorate refused to endorse apartheid

Salaries

The NPP's winning candidate, Mr M S Shah, is chairman of the nominated Lenasia South East Management Committee, which covers the new extension of Lenasia

He polled 609 votes — about seven percent of the registered electorate

Solidarity's candidate Mrs Rashida Ebrahim, is chairperson of the Lenasia Management Committee, which covers the major part of Lenasia. She polled 310 votes — under four percent of the electorate

Yet Mr Shah and Mrs Ebrahim are also Lenasia's representatives on the new Regional Services Council (RSC), and get fat salaries for that

And while the SABC was technically correct in saying the NPP won the seat by "an increased majority", the party polled 609 votes, while its three opponents polled 736 between them

The SABC's and Mr Rajbansi's claims notwithstanding, here are the indisputable facts: the NPP's candidate received less than 50 percent of the 16 percent poll, candidates who have the backing of a minuscule seven percent and four percent of the electorate are representatives of Lenasians in the RSC, only 16 percent of the electorate bothered to endorse apartheid

That proves yet again that the name of the apartheid game is minority rule. No wonder the SABC, the Nat's mouthpiece, and Mr Rajbansi can regard that as some sort of victory

I helped UDF man, says Rajbansi

THE spouse of a "leading member" of the United Democratic Front had made use of his services, Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the ministers' council in the house of delegates, claimed this week.

He did not name the UDF member and merely said the spouse "made use of my services".

Rajbansi added. "So the House of Delegates is no good, but it is all right for certain people who want to make use of the administration."

He also accused doctors, "associated with the UDF", of not wanting people to use the newly built hospital in Lenasia because they were directors of a competing private clin-

Weekly Mail Reporter

ic, Lenmed.

7-13/81
These doctors did not want the hospital to function properly because "it will effect Lenmed" and he urged members to find out who the directors of Lenmed were

"This is not because they are interested in the welfare of the community! There is an interest, yes; but there is more self-interest than interest in the community"

Rajbansi also said that although he could not agree with the manner in which the Transvaal Indian Congress was carrying out its task "I cannot disagree with its ultimate objective"

Weekly Mail

TIC takes on Rajbansi 258

The Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC) has decided to accept Mr Amichand Rajbansi's challenge to meet him in a public debate in Lenasia, but this would be subject to certain conditions

The challenge was made by the chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates at a meeting in Lenasia on Monday after the victory of the National Peoples Party (NPP) candidate, Mr Mohammed Sadeck Shah, in the Lenasia by-election

Secretary of the TIC Mr Ismail Momoniat said the "low 16 percent poll in the by-election showed that the majority of the people still rejected the tri-cameral Parliament"

The TIC would join in the debate if Mr Rajbansi accepted the final decision "Mr Rajbansi and his NPP must resign their seats in the House of Delegates" if the meeting did not support him, he said

Star 12/18/77

Lenasia by-election up the pole

13-19/8/87 *Sinh*

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A day at the polls . . . scene at the parliamentary by-election for the House of Delegates in Lenasia recently.

Picture AFRAPIX

JOHANNESBURG. — The UDF-affiliated Transvaal Indian Congress is poised to go to court after last week's Lenasia by-election for the House of Delegates produced one of the most bizarre polls in the history of this country.

The official poll was 16 percent — but of that figure, about 80 percent was special votes.

The TTC has alleged irregularities in the special voting and it is now certain to go to court within the next fortnight to have the results set aside.

In the 1984 general election, the turnout was just under 10 percent. The TTC believes the increase in this week's poll was to a large extent due to the abuse of special votes.

The Rand Supreme Court declared invalid the special votes of six applicants in the run up to the election who said they were obtained irregularly.

The TTC subsequently wrote to the Attorney General asking him to institute prosecutions. A lawyer, Mr. Krish Naidoo, said no reply had yet been received.

The TTC has also asked the director-general of Home Affairs to set aside all the special votes cast, or to investigate each of them.

Naidoo said he was informed this week that the director-general had referred the matter to the State Attorney.

The TTC also published a list of names and addresses of all who had allegedly cast special votes. Subsequently, a number of people have come forward to insist they had not voted.

More than half of the students at Lenasia's five high schools boycotted classes in protest against the by-election. A rally was addressed by, among others, Cosatu's Jay Naidoo and Faried Esack.

In overall terms, however, Amichand Rajbanshi's Party received only eight percent of the registered electorate's vote.

A supporter of Cabinet Minister Amichand Rajbanshi's National People's Party, whose candidate won, allegedly fired a shot at an activist.

The NPP's candidate polled 609 votes, but his three opponents together polled 725.

The bore's non-invitation to the RAM

AMICHAND Rajbansi has made the Transvaal Indian Congress an offer they can't understand

Rajbansi, chairman of the ministers council in the house of delegates, wants to stage a public debate in Lenasia with a TIC representative, preferably the president, Dr RAM Saloojee, to be held under certain conditions:

● Invitations must be issued jointly by the TIC and Rajbansi's National People's Party;

● Both parties must agree on a neutral chairman;

● Any person who misbehaves must be evicted.

Fair enough, except for the final condition both speakers must speak, without notes, for one-and-a-half hours. Rajbansi it seems, has learned how to stack a deck.

He made one further suggestion that Saloojee bring along his wife. "Dr Saloojee himself knows the reason for this," he said in his statement.

The TIC says Rajbansi can't be taken seriously. During the recent Lenasia by-election, they challenged Rajbansi, the NPP and other candidates to face the public at a TIC mass meeting "to explain why you are causing disunity by standing for election when 85 percent of our people reject the house of delegates

"1 200 people attended and waited for them in vain," the TIC said. But if Rajbansi and the NPP, whose election meeting in Lenasia attracted 40 people, still wanted a debate, there was plenty to discuss, like the abuse of special vote and the meagre poll

But, the TIC added, there would in-

By JOHN PERLMAN

should it be needed) votes against Rajbansi, he and the NPP must resign their seats. "If Rajbansi believes he has the support of the people, then he should have nothing to fear," the TIC said. Now, there's an offer

deed have to be conditions. Rajbansi must ask the security forces to stay away. And after the debate, the matter should be put to the floor; if the house (or the Lenasia stadium,

should it be needed) votes against Rajbansi, he and the NPP must resign their seats. "If Rajbansi believes he has the support of the people, then he should have nothing to fear," the TIC said. Now, there's an offer



**JEW'S FOR
SOCIAL
JUSTICE**

invites members to:

A DAKAR REPORT BACK

*given by members of the
delegation:*

- Prof. Jacques Kriel
- Prof. Braam Viljoen
- Also speaking: John Matisson

Date: Sunday 16 August 1987

Time: 7.30 pm

Venue: Marie Curie Lecture
Theatre
Wits Medical School
York Road, Parktown

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14-2086-5/1/1/1

CMB Times 22/8/87

Rajbansi warns (258) 'certain papers'

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. — Certain newspapers might one day be prevented from having access to the press gallery because they reported on parliamentary matters without attending the debates, the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday.

Mr Rajbansi was speaking during a debate on whether the House would agree to a motion by Mr Mahmoud Rajab (PRP Springfield) that the Defence Amendment Bill be considered in committee of the whole House.

The motion, which Mr Rajab said would bring the bill back into the House for improvement on aspects of religious objection, was defeated.

During the debate, Mr Rajbansi said the motion was an "excuse for cheap publicity" and that Mr Rajab was only interested in getting his party's name into the press.

He referred to a "nonsense" article which appeared in the Sunday Tribune Herald on the issue raised by Mr Rajab.

Neither a representative from the newspaper nor from the group had been present during the debate.

There would come a time when media reporting on parliamentary matters would be brought under the scrutiny of the Speaker — Sapa

TIC agrees to debate Raibansi

By SANDILE KEMELA

IN the next fortnight the battle between extra parliamentary and parliamentary forces to win the allegiance of the Indian community is to intensify even further.

This follows the Transvaal Indian Congress' - a United Democratic Front affiliate - acceptance of a challenge to meet Amichand Raibansi, leader of the National Progressive Party in the House of Delegates in the treatment of parliament, in a public debate.

The objective of the debate is to resolve the question of who the authentic leaders of the Indian community are. The TIC has mobilised people to oppose the treatment of the parliamentary system since its inception in 1984, and it has urged the community not to participate in any activities linked to the political status quo.

At a Press conference called by the TIC this week, secretary Ismael Momoniat said the TIC had taken the new course to meet parliamentary rivals "because we believe in democracy".

"Our major criticism of Raibansi and his NPP, as well as all other MPs and political parties participating in the House of Delegates, is that they do not have a mandate from the people to participate," said Momoniat.

However, the TIC has expressed concern at the pre-conditions imposed by Raibansi, including the restriction of attendance to specially invited guests only.

"This condition is completely unacceptable, as restricting the debate to selected individuals contradicts the very spirit of a public debate," said Momoniat.

The venue has been tentatively suggested as Lenasia Stadium and the meeting is likely to take place on Sunday, August 30, or September 6.

"We ask Raibansi to use his influence to keep the South African Police and South African Defence Force away from the debate."

"We also ask the NPP to quit from the House of Delegates if they lose the debate."

"The TIC will acknowledge that it does not represent the Indian people in the Transvaal if it loses the debate," said TIC vice-chairman Dr-Satoojee.



TIC leaders Essop Jaasat (president), Ismael Momoniat (secretary), Dr RAM Satoojee (vice-president), Firoze Cachalia (executive member) and Ramlal Bhoolia (chairman) announcing their decision to debate Raibansi.

Dismantle apartheid and ensure peaceful future

NEW forms of legislation must be found to ensure peaceful co-existence among all the racial groups in South Africa.

According to the United Democratic Front's national secretary, Popo Molefe, changes in legislation should include the dismantling of apartheid, the unconditional release of all political prisoners and the inclusion of black people on the voters' roll.

Such undertakings, said Molefe, would help restore order, progress and peace among all the racial groups in South Africa.

Molefe was testifying in the trial of 18 people, including high-ranking UDF, Azapo and civic organisation leaders who are facing charges of high treason, and alternatively charges ranging from terrorism to subversion and murder.

Molefe is also one of the accused. All have pleaded not guilty.

He said under cross-examination by State prosecutor BK Jacobs that unless the 1961 constitution was radically changed to fully accommodate all racial groups South Africa was doomed to destruction.

"The emphasis must move from a part of the population, to the population as a whole."

One group can no longer make laws for other people in which these people have no say.

Dialogue, re-establishment of trust and conciliation is important if we have to survive. But nothing must be to the cost of one group. There is a place for everybody in South Africa," said Molefe.

In an answer to a question from Jacobs, Molefe replied that there has never been peace in South Africa because the black people were denied a say in the running of the country as though they were aliens. He submitted that black people were not violent or causing the present violent situation in the country, as many white people were.

Mother tells of her son's assault

CP Correspondent
A MOTHER this week told the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court how her son was assaulted during his arrest two years ago.

This emerged in evidence two years after Benedict Babana Habassa was released from two weeks emergency detention.

When Habassa was detained on August 25, 1985, his mother, Lydia Habassa, brought an application against the Minister of Law and Order for an interdict to prevent the police from assaulting him.

He was, however, released two weeks later. Consequently when the matter came before the court on November 12, 1985, only the question of costs remained. No agreement could be reached, so the case was referred for oral evidence.

Monday's evidence before Judge Jones was heard to decide the merits of the application and which party should pay the costs.

Habassa said she was in her bedroom that Sunday morning when a number of uniformed, white policemen burst into her house. She said the police grabbed, assaulted and dragged her son outside where they kicked him and struck him with rifle butts.

Habassa said when she asked what Benedict had done, a policeman told her to keep quiet or he would shoot her.

The case is continuing - Extra.



Union members hold a spontaneous demonstration of solidarity after a meeting.

Indian House joins coloured revolt

By NORMAN WEST

MEMBERS of the House of Delegates are preparing to join forces with their colleagues in the House of Representatives to thwart Government's plans to hold elections for the white House of Assembly in 1992 instead of 1989.

And — in a bid to put further pressure on the Government — there is a growing move towards a symbolic one-month stayaway from Parliament by members of both Houses.

This week the national chairman of the Opposition Solidarity party in the House of Delegates, Mr Ismail Omar, sent letters to the leaders of both majority and opposition parties in both the House of Delegates and the House of Representatives, suggesting a strategy that could embarrass the tricameral Parliament.

The letters — in support of the resignation of Labour Party leader the Rev Allan Hendrickse from the Cabinet last week and his threat to block plans to have elections for whites postponed to 1992 — proposed that both the House of Delegates and the House of Representatives withdraw from parliament for the whole of next February.

Evictions

Such action, the Solidarity hierarchy proposed, should come into effect unless the Government agreed to

- A moratorium on all evictions, direct or indirect, pending a negotiated resolution to the issue of the Group Areas Act

- An assurance that no person would be evicted until a constitution representative of all South Africans is implemented, and when the issue of land usage is decided upon by all South Africans

The matter was raised in the House of Delegates on Thursday.

The only remaining member of colour in the Cabinet and leader of the majority National People's Party in that House, Mr Amichand Rajabansi, appeared incensed by the fact that Mr Omar had made the contents of the letter public before he could react to it.

'Reasonable'

Mr Rajabansi, nevertheless, supported the idea of a temporary stayaway from Parliament.

Dr Reddy went further and said he would quit Parliament altogether if no "reasonable answer" from the Government was forthcoming on the Group Areas Act.

In a rare show of solidarity between ruling and opposition forces in the House of Delegates, Mr Rajabansi said he supported the call of the leader of the official Opposition, Dr Reddy.

Dr Reddy had said that unless the demands of the House were met the boycott of Parliament should be considered.

TIC, NPP debate off

THE debate between the Transvaal Indian Congress and Mr Amichand Rajbansi, the leader of the National People's Party, has been called off after the NPP refused to accept the principle of the debate being "open and public".

The move came after a meeting in the Jiswa Centre in Lenasia

between an NPP delegation, led by Mr Henry Padayachee and TIC representatives, Mr Krish Naidoo and Mr Ismael Ayob

"The TIC believes that Mr Rajbansi has chickened out of the debate."

The debate was to have been held on September 20 at the Lenasia Stadium on the relevance and legitimacy of the tri-cameral parliament and the future of the Indian people — because he does not have the guts to face the people," the treasurer of the TIC, Mr Ashwin Shah, said in a statement — Sapa.

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Sowetan
19/9/87

Problems caused by apartheid

WE, the parent and student component of the Rylands High PTSA (Parents, Teachers and Students Association) would like to treat Mr Bhana's allegations with the contempt they deserve.

We feel it is our duty to rectify the erroneous allegations that have been made against the principal and teachers of the school.

Bhana's attack on the school is totally unjustified and uncalled for. He should be told that the "problems" that exist at our schools are caused by the unjust system of apartheid.

His attack on the teachers is a continuation of the attack at the end of 1985 when 11 teachers were dismissed.

If Bhana was genuinely concerned about Rylands High School, he should make it his duty to be better informed before embarking on his misleading, publicity seeking attack on the school.

We would like to inform Bhana of the following facts:

a) Teachers, students and parents were instrumental in registering a bursary fund in 1986. Ten students received bursaries this year. "Boycott" schools would not encourage academic progress.

b) It is ridiculous to suggest that teachers ferried students to the Samaj Centre. Does he know the distance between the two?

Few students failed

c) Very few students failed in 1985 and they most definitely do not face a future without "proper education", nor are their careers permanently ruined, as suggested by Bhana

d) Bhana states that Rylands High was known as the "boycott school" in "Indian circles". We are proud to say that we do not act and think on racial or ethnic lines, as Bhana and his cohorts do by participating in the tricameral system, but work as a community.

e) If Bhana is so concerned about education at the school why then was it necessary for parents to put pressure on the Department for replacement maths teachers earlier this term?

f) In concluding, we would like to compliment and thank the principal and his staff for the invaluable service they have rendered to our children, and we encourage them to continue as they have done in the past.

We have the utmost respect for them, and their efforts in assisting our children are appreciated. They should not be intimidated by these misinformed remarks

We will be calling a meeting of parents soon to discuss this matter further

RYLANDS HIGH PTSA
GATESVILLE

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Smith 10-16/9/87

Still debated: The debate over a debate

BY VUSI GUNENE

THE Transvaal Indian Congress has agreed to meet the National People's Party tomorrow to discuss procedural aspects of a proposed public debate between the two parties, following weeks of telexes indicating conditions and counter-conditions.

The TIC said in a statement this week it has only agreed to meet a representative of NPP leader Amichand Rajbansi on the understanding that the debate — on September 20 at Lenasia Stadium — will be open to the public.

The TIC has in the meantime applied for magisterial permission for the open-air debate and expects Rajbansi, as a cabinet minister, to facilitate the process.

"We will ask the NPP to resign from the House of Delegates if they lose the debate," TIC secretary Ismail Momoniat said this week, adding that if the TIC lost, it would acknowledge it did not represent Indians in the Transvaal.

Rajbansi has appointed as his representative Henry Padayachy, Transvaal chairman of the NPP.

The TIC has expressed its disappointment about the appointment of Padayachy to lead the discussions but will go ahead with talks anyway.

Padayachy yesterday challenged the TIC and lawyer Krish Naidoo to an open debate on "false allegations" they have made against him.

TIC has accused him of assault. He was acquitted on charges of assaulting Momoniat during the 1984 tri-cameral election campaign.

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~~258~~

w/mailed 11-17/987

Star 19/9/87
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Rajbansi chickened out of debating with us — TIC

Tomorrow's controversial public debate in Lenasia between the leader of the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, and the Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC) is off.

The TIC are claiming Mr Rajbansi has "chickened out" and it will, instead, go ahead with a rally calling for all members of the National Peoples Party (NPP) to resign from Parliament.

A protracted exchange of telexes between Mr Rajbansi and the TIC's lawyer, Mr Krish Naidoo, has failed to resolve questions on the format and venue for the debate, which was originally proposed by Mr Rajbansi.

Meanwhile Bruce Ca-



MR AMICHAND RAJBANSI "flip-flopping".

meron reports from Cape Town that Mr Rajbansi has qualified his stand on the Group Areas Act report, saying he neither supports nor rejects it.

Mr Rajbansi's statement follows accusations that he has been vacillating for weeks on the report, changing his position at

least three times.

Initially, Mr Rajbansi said the document did not even meet the bottom line of the PFP. He later expelled his member on the committee, Mr T L Gounden, from the NPP caucus yesterday for signing the report.

The other two NPP members on the Council joined the walkout and associated themselves with a joint statement strongly condemning the report.

Yesterday, Mr Rajbansi issued a statement saying the NPP would neither support nor reject the report but "will use its many positive aspects as a basis for negotiations bearing in mind that the NPP has laid down its bottom line"

Rajbansi faces split in party

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

THE ever-fractious House of Delegates is again in turmoil with reports that the ruling National People's Party is once more on the verge of splitting.

At the root of the trouble, dissidents claim, is party leader Amichand Rajbansi's qualified support for the President's Council report on the Group Areas Act.

The caucus this week apparently split, with Rajbansi loyalists on the one side and a

new rebel group, led by Mr. Ebrahim "Boetie" Abramjee, MP for Laudium, on the other.

Mr. Abramjee confirmed yesterday he had resigned as Transvaal leader of the NPP and as deputy national leader in protest against Mr. Rajbansi's leadership.

And this weekend he was consulting with his constituents on whether he should resign from the NPP and launch another party or sit as an independent with other protesters and so form a power bloc in the House.

258 517 27/9/87



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NORWICH UNI

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258 517 27/9/87



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Vol. 267

CAPE TOWN, 30 SEPTEMBER 1987

No. 10954

KAAPSTAD, 30 SEPTEMBER 1987

STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

KANTOOR VAN DIE STAATSPRESIDENT

No. 2175

30 September 1987

No. 2175

30 September 1987

It is hereby notified that the State President has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information —

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Staatspresident sy goedkeuring geheg het aan die onderstaande Wet wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word —

No 77 of 1987 Appropriation Act (House of Delegates), 1987

No 77 van 1987 Begrotingswet (Raad van Afgevaardigdes), 1987

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PTU

New party will push for a non-racial constitution

A new political party consisting of members of both the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates was formed in Durban at the weekend.

The United Democratic Party will be led by the Mr Jac Rabie, Independent MP and former member of the Labour Party in the House of Representatives. Mr Charles Redcliffe, MP for Schauderville, who also defected from the Labour Party to form the Democratic Party, will be the deputy leader.

The grouping consists of the Democratic Party, the Progressive Reform Party from

the House of Delegates and the People's Congress Party (represented in the President's Council by Mr Peter Marais).

Its aims include the negotiation of a new constitutional order for South Africa and non-racial representation for all.

Attempts to woo members from other political groupings such as the leader of the PFP, Mr Colin Eglin, Mr Wynand Malan of the newly formed National Democratic Movement and Dr Denis Worrall of the Independent Movement proved unsuccessful, according to SABC's TV news — Sapa

Solidarity alleges voter intimidation

16/11/87
Star
258

Political Staff

DURBAN — The National People's Party has been accused of intimidating voters as the number of votes already cast in the Tongaat by-election for the House of Delegates passed the 20 percent mark at the weekend.

Mr Yunus Moolla MP, chief whip of Solidarity, who levelled the accusation, said today the special vote system was being abused and should be scrapped.

"It should not be used as an alternative to overcome the stayaway vote.

"What is happening is making a mockery of the special vote system."

Mr Moolla said that apart from voters being intimidated,

false reasons were being given for the use of the special votes.

A large number of teachers had applied for postal votes saying they would be out of the constituency on November 26 — election day.

"But our investigations have shown that not one has applied for leave for the day, so they will be in the constituency," said Mr Moolla.

He said the party was now considering taking legal action.

Mr Moolla also criticised teachers who were becoming actively involved in the campaign.

"Quite clearly some teachers are looking for promotion by supporting the ruling party," he said.

Tuesday

Solidarity alleges voter intimidation

16/11/87
Star
2SR

Political Staff

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"Quite clearly some teachers are looking for promotion by supporting the ruling party," he said.

Blast at Indian party's offices

258
1/10/87

JOHANNESBURG — A blast at about 4am today caused serious damage to the Lenasia offices of Mr Amichand Rajbansi's National People's Party just a few hours before it was due to be opened officially.

Nobody was injured in the blast, but windows of scores of shops, a financial institution and flats were shattered.

The explosive device was placed in front of the front door of the offices, which are located at the back of the large Apsara cinema complex opposite Lenasia station. The blast left a 50-centimetre hole in the concrete in front of the door.

The blast was heard several kilometres away. Shopkeepers and landlords estimate the damage at around R100 000.

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the blast.

The offices where the blast occurred were previously occupied by Mr M S Shah, who won the August 4 Lenasia Central House of Delegates by-election for the NPP in a 16% poll.

The party's Lenasia chairman, Mr Henry Padayachee, said Mr Shah and the party wanted to use the offices so that residents with complaints and problems could seek assistance.

"These offices were not put up for political gain, but to assist the community irrespective of their political affiliations. This incident hurt the whole community," Mr Padayachee said.

He said the offices were to have been opened this morning.

"I was going to suggest today that the party workers accompany me to Durban where our people need assistance after the floods disaster."

— Sapa

TIC meet...but without Rajbansi

ABOUT 1 000 people attended the Transvaal Indian Congress rally held at Gandhi Hall in Lenasia at the weekend ending speculation that an intended public debate between a TIC representative and National People's Party leader Amichand Rajbansi might take place.

Rajbansi had days earlier indicated he would be otherwise engaged on the date — but the TIC decided to go ahead with its meeting.

Rajbansi had challenged the TIC to

an open public debate after by-elections held in Lenasia last month. The TIC accepted the challenge; there followed weeks of telexes concerning conditions and counter-conditions of the debate.

Kgalema Motlanthe, educational officer of the National Union of Mine-workers, called on the community to forge greater unity.

Rajbansi could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press.

W/Mail
25/9-1/10/87



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Vol. 268

PRETORIA, 1 OKTOBER 1987
OCTOBER

No. 10963

PROKLAMASIE

van die

Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

No. 135, 1987

TUSSENVERKIESING —RAAD VAN AFGEVAARDIGDES—KIESAFDELING TONGAAT

1. Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 110 van die Kieswet, 1979 (Wet 45 van 1979), verklaar ek hiermee dat weens die oorlye van mnr Ramcharitar Mohangi 'n vakature ontstaan het in die verteenwoordiging van die kiesafdeling Tongaat met ingang van 7 Augustus 1987

2. Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 33 van die Kieswet, 1979 (Wet 45 van 1979)—

(a) bepaal ek hierby ingevolge die bepalings van artikels 34 en 110 van genoemde Wet—

(i) Donderdag, 22 Oktober 1987, as die dag waarop 'n nominasiehof ten opsigte van die kiesafdeling Tongaat sitting sal hou om nominasies van verkiesingskandidate te ontvang vir die verkiesing van 'n lid van die Raad van Afgevaardigdes vir daardie kiesafdeling.

(ii) dat bedoelde nominasiehof om 10h00 sitting sal hou in die "C" Hof, Landdroeskantoor, Verulam,

(iii) dat ingeval 'n stemming nodig word in die bedoelde kiesafdeling omdat meer as een persoon behoorlik genomineer is by die sluiting van die sitting van genoemde nominasiehof, die stemming op Donderdag, 26 November 1987, sal plaasvind, om 07h00 op bedoelde dag sal begin en om 21h00 daardie dag sal eindig, en

(b) stel ek hierby ingevolge genoemde bepalings, mnr Brian James du Randt, Hooflanddros, Inanda, aan as kiesbeampte by die verkiesing in daardie kiesafdeling

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seel van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Dertigste dag van September Eenduisend Negehonderd Sewe-en-tagtig

P W BOTHA,
Staatspresident

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet

J C G BOTHA,
Minister van die Kabinet

572—A

PROCLAMATION

by the

State President of the Republic of South Africa

No. 135, 1987

BY-ELECTION —HOUSE OF DELEGATES—ELECTORAL DIVISION OF TONGAAT

1. Under the powers vested in me by section 110 of the Electoral Act, 1979 (Act 45 of 1979), I hereby declare that on account of the death of Mr Ramcharitar Mohangi a vacancy has occurred in the representation of the Electoral Division of Tongaat with effect from 7 August 1987

2. Under the powers vested in me by section 33 of the Electoral Act, 1979 (Act 45 of 1979)—

(a) I hereby determine, in terms of the provisions of sections 34 and 110 of the said Act—

(i) that Thursday, 22 October 1987, shall be the day on which a nomination court will sit in respect of the Electoral Division of Tongaat to receive nominations of candidates for election as a member of the House of Delegates for that electoral division,

(ii) that the said nomination court shall sit in the "C" Court, Magistrate's Office, Verulam, at 10h00,

(iii) that if a poll becomes necessary in the said electoral division for the reason that more than one person shall have been duly nominated at the close of the sitting of the nomination court in question, the poll shall be taken on Thursday, 26 November 1987, shall commence at 07h00 on the said day and shall close at 21h00 on that day, and

(b) I hereby appoint in terms of the said provisions Mr Brian James du Randt, Chief Magistrate, Inanda, as the returning officer at the election in that electoral division

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Thirtieth day of September, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-seven

P W BOTHA,
State President

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet

J C G BOTHA,
Minister of the Cabinet

10963—1

It's a record as Indian pupils sit for exams

Education Reporter

A record number of Indian pupils have registered for the senior certificate examinations, which begin on November 3 and end on December 2.

Dr G K Nair, chief director of the Department of Education

and Culture in the House of Delegates, said there were 12 558 candidates this year — 1 393 of them from 23 schools in the Transvaal.

Of the Transvaal candidates, 906 were registered for the matriculation exemption certificate. *Star 20/10/87*

The pass rate for Indian candidates in the past two years was about 85 percent, said Dr Nair, and he expected a similar outcome this year.

The exam results are expected to be released on December 23 or 24.

LEAKAGES

Dr Nair said measures had been taken this year to prevent leakages of exam papers, an annual headache for the department.

"Security has always been tight. But even when papers have been stored in school strongrooms, people have broken in and stolen them. As an added precaution this year, some new procedures concerning the distribution and handling of question papers have been introduced," Dr Nair said.

22-28/10/87 (28)

Housing racket

By RYLAND FISHER

A PROMINENT management committee official has been named as the alleged "man man" in a housing bribery racket in the Northern Suburbs

Basil Sagathevan, chairman of Cravenby Estate's Management Committee, was named in a fraud case in the Parow Regional Court this week.

The court heard that at least three people had paid between R600 and R3 000 "asking money" to Sagathevan. Two of these people had been given houses ahead of others on the Cape Divisional Council housing waiting list.

The third person, Belhar hawker Mogamat Jappie, claimed to have given R4 000 to Sagathevan without getting a house.

Jappie laid charges of fraud and theft against Cravenby haddresser Sulaaman Moosa Vallie who told the court he was "only the middle man".

Vallie, who was acquitted, said Sagathevan was "the man guy" who often got people houses if they gave him a stipulated amount in "asking money".

Magistrate P J Le Roux said it was clear that Sagathevan, who gave evidence for the state, was the man who should have been in the dock.

"He cannot be called anything but a liar. All the evidence points to that. He had an interest in this case, even though he denied everything. He was probably the man initiator in trying to stop this case from coming to court.

"From evidence before court, it is clear that he paid the accused's bail of R500. He has not properly explained his presence at the defence lawyer's office when the lawyer's fees were being paid," Le Roux said.

He agreed with defence lawyer George Bellingan that cases of underhand dealing had become common and were not always illegal.

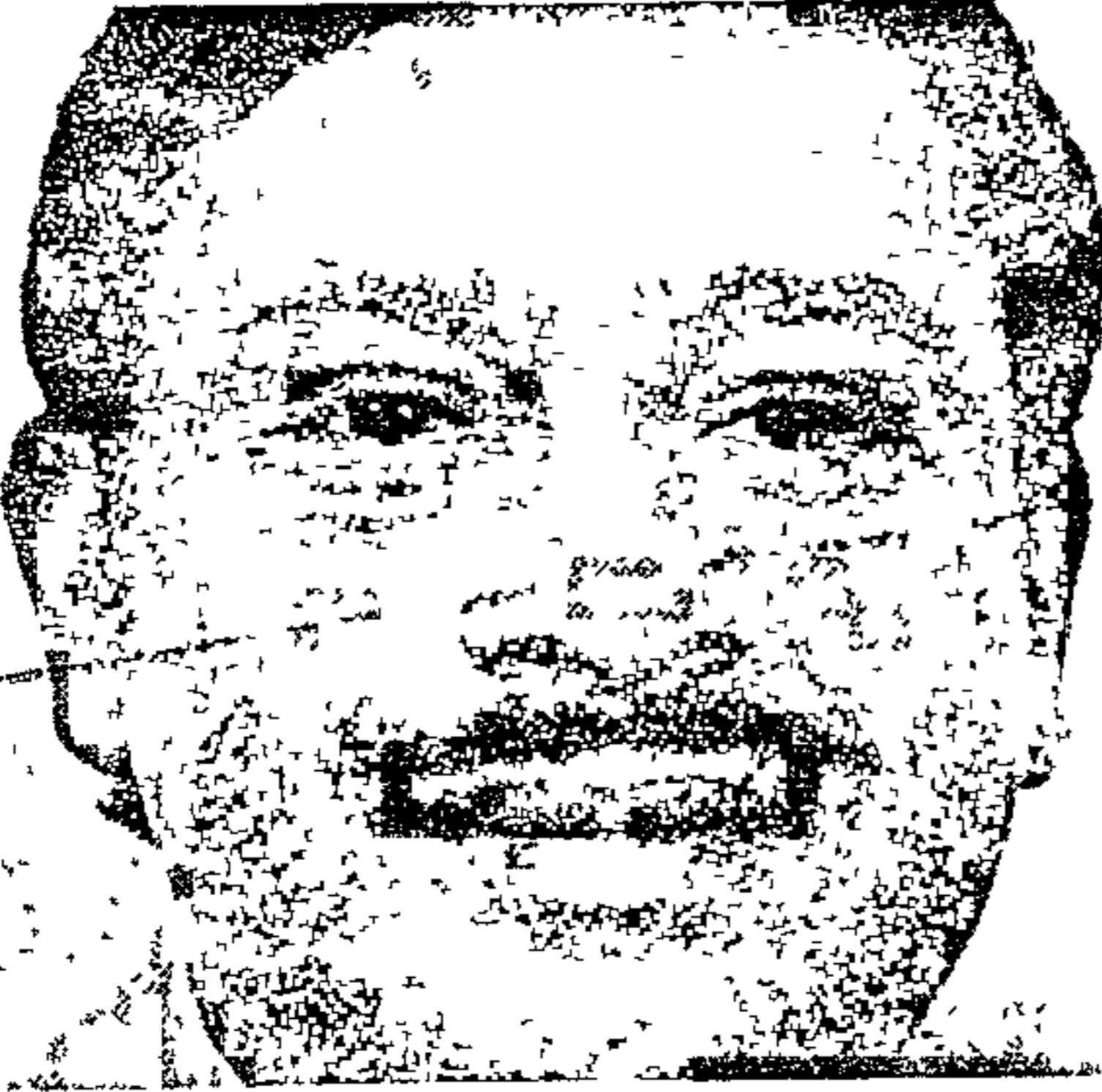
"Where people in authority are concerned, it could be seen as bribery," he said.

Earlier, Sagathevan said his management committee often had to approve the allocation of houses to "Indian people" by the Regional Services Council (formerly the Divisional Council).

Sagathevan said he knew Vallie as "a master of all trades" who "once did some work for me on my bathroom".

He was once confronted by Jappie who told him Vallie had promised him a house.

"I did not take much notice of what he was saying because I hear many stories. When people are desperate for housing, they will lie and cheat."



Basil Sagathevan

Sagathevan denied that he had told Jappie he would "blow your brains out".

"I am a responsible person, a Commissioner-of-Oaths," he said. Told by defence lawyer Bellingan that Vallie was "no more than an intermediary between you and Jappie", he said "It's a deliberate lie. Don't twist the truth. I challenge you to say that outside court."

Sagathevan said Bellingan was "full of lies". Magistrate Le Roux warned Sagathevan not to confront the court. "I will not tolerate it, no matter who you are."

Jappie said that in July he had been introduced to Vallie as a person who could help him find a house. He was under the impression Vallie worked for the Divisional Council but discovered later that he worked as a haddresser in Belhar.

"He told me he knew someone high up on the council's committee and took me to select a house in Elsie's River."

"I had to give Vallie R2 000 deposit and another R1 000 for lights and water. Later, I had to pay another R1 000. He never gave me any receipts."

He said Vallie took the money to Sagathevan's house while he had to remain outside.

"Vallie told me this was an important man who did not speak to anyone. I could not even park in front of his house."

"I kept on asking when I would get my house because I had to find a place to stay by the end of July."

"Every time I heard the same story, that I should not worry because I would get my house soon."

"Eventually, I decided to confront Sagathevan. I found him at his second house. He told me not to mess with him and that he would blow my brains out."

Vallie said he had helped Jappie "because I know what it is like to be without a home."

"I did not make any financial gain. Sagathevan received all the money."

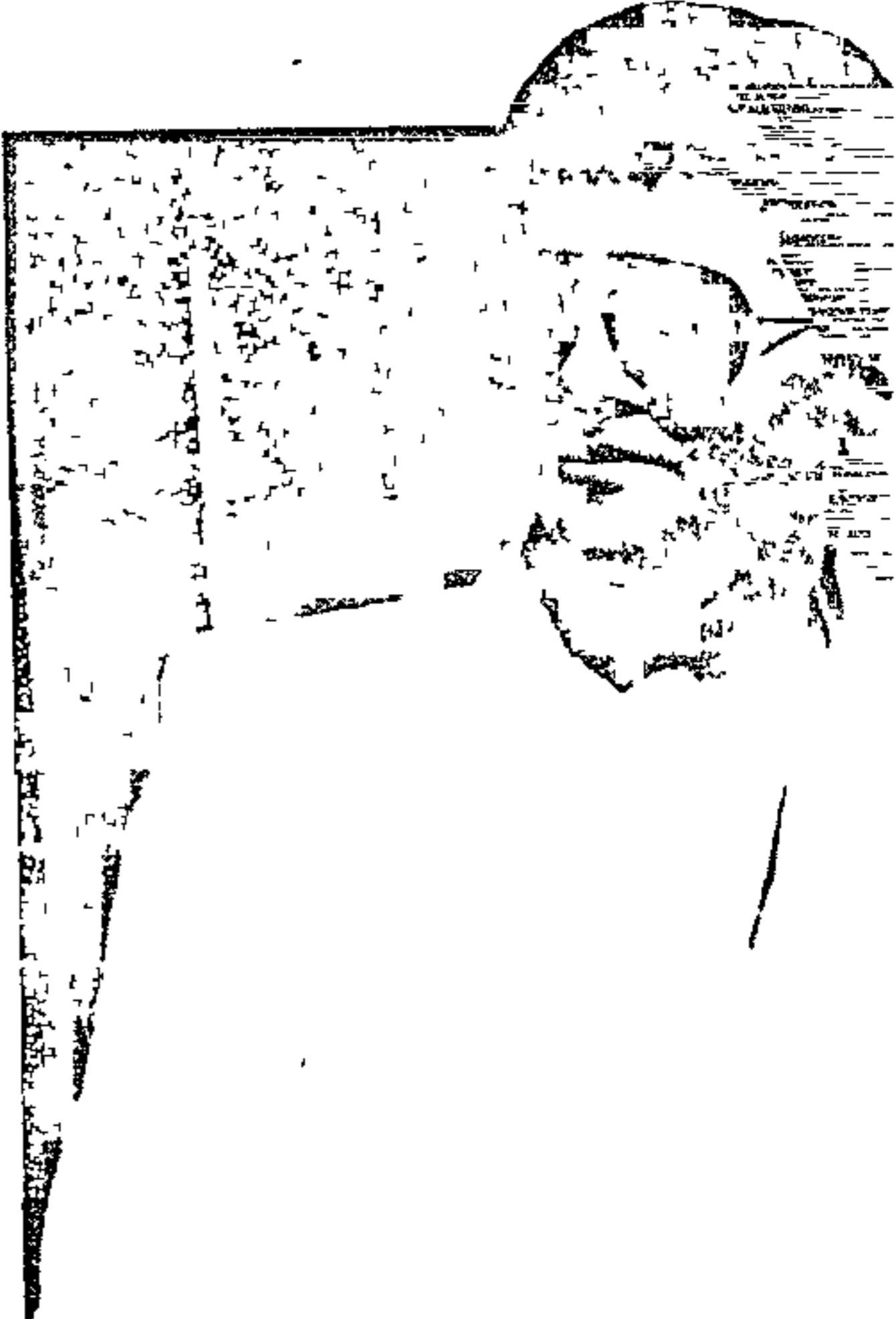
"I was given a house after I paid him about R600 asking money. One of my friends received a house on the same basis. If Jappie was more patient he would have received his house."

Vallie said Sagathevan had offered Jappie money to drop the charges against him.

"On the day of my arrest Sagathevan came to the Ravensmead police station with a bank bag and asked the investigating officer to drop the charges, but this was not accepted."

His wife, Mrs Gafsa Vallie, said Sagathevan had paid her husband's R500 bail.

The prosecutor was Gerald Hattingh.



No house and no money Mr Mogamat Jappie Paid R4 000

BELHAR hawker Mogamat Jappie walked out of the Parow Regional Court this week and said "I have decided to buy a house through the bank. I won't get involved in a deal like this again."

Jappie, 40, who claimed to have paid R4 000 "asking money" to Cravenby Management Committee chairperson Basil Sagathevan, had brought fraud and theft charges against a Cravenby haddresser, Sulaaman Vallie, who claimed he was "only the middle-man".

At the end of the case,

Vallie was acquitted, Sagathevan may face charges and Jappie was still without his money.

But, Jappie told the court, the money was not the most important thing to him.

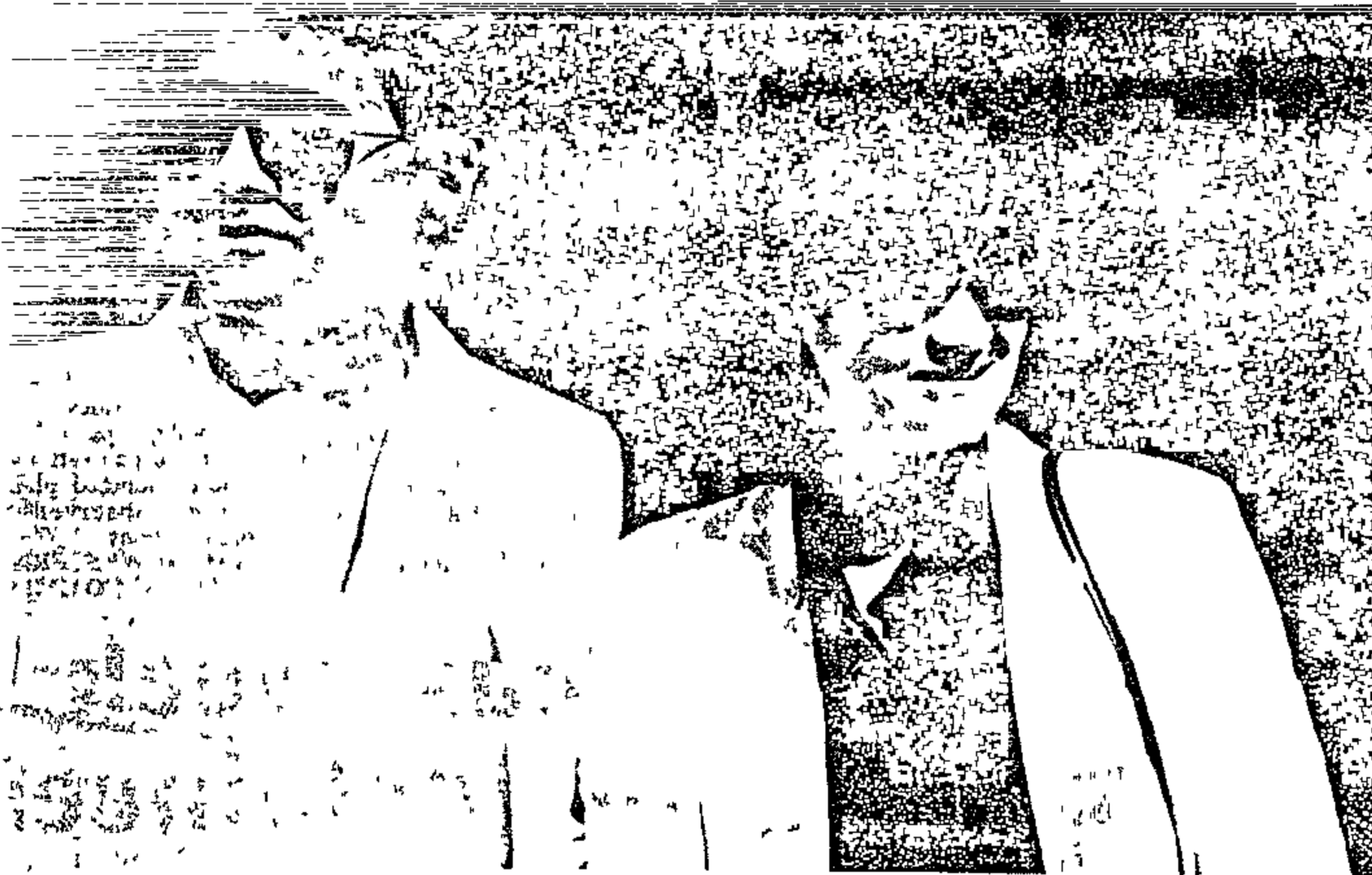
"I want this kind of thing to be exposed so other people won't be caught like I was," he said.

Dressed in a white suit, Jappie told the court he had approached Vallie in desperation in May because he had to find a place to stay before the end of July.

The father of four said Vallie had told him he

ackets!

Rajbansi threatens 'biggest libel case'



HOUSE of Delegates chief Amichand Rajbansi has threatened to sue Lenasia Management Committee member Mr Kessa Thambi for libel in what the warns will be the "biggest case in South African history"

The row erupted after Thambi sent a dossier to the Advocate-General alleging serious irregularities involving land deals in Lenasia

Rajbansi said this week Thambi "will most certainly be sued for libel which may be the biggest case in South African history as he has made very serious false accusation"

Thambi, a property developer, reported the alleged irregularities in February last year to the State President and other Cabinet Ministers

The housing minister, Baldeo Dookie referred the allegation to the police. Dookie was axed earlier this year, and Rajbansi took over the housing portfolio

Thambi has implicated several MPs and their relatives, a Durban newspaper reported this week. He alleged that a Durban MP, or a company controlled by him, was allocated 100 sites to be developed in Lenasia

Thambi claims he donated R5 000 to the coffers of Rajbansi's National Peoples' Party after being allocated land for development in Lenasia. A property development firm also paid R5 000 after being allocated "state assets"

"Real facts"

Another property developer — allegedly a utility company — which was allocated land for development, paid more than R7 000 towards the cost of the NPP congress in Johannesburg

Last year Thambi said land had also been allocated to the son of an MP, the wife of another MP and other supporters of the NPP. Rajbansi this week suggested that the Commissioner of Police be contacted so that "the real facts can be published"

Rajbansi said he would not allow his administration to be "blackmailed by anyone who feels that Muslim builders should not be accommodated in Lenasia or demand plots in Lenasia and indulge in making wild allegations when they do not get the plots"

Rajbansi said Thambi had circulated a memorandum in January last year making serious allegations against his administration and Dookie because the Lenasia Management Committee member had "failed to get 150 plots in Lenasia"

Rajbansi insisted that anyone who made donations to the NPP should not expect favours from the party

"I challenge Rajbansi to sue me as soon as possible," Thambi said

Mr JC Ferreira, assistant to the AG in Pretoria, confirmed that a complaint had been lodged. He said investigations would start once certain "technical details" were supplied

"I cannot comment on the merits or demerits of the case until further information is supplied. Investigations will start once we are satisfied that there is a valid complaint," said Ferreira

and no money. Mr Mogamat Jappie and his wife Arwatief outside court this week

R4 000 and still without a house

Mogamat Jappie was acquitted, but Sagathevan may face charges and Jappie was still without his money

But, Jappie told the court, the money was not the most important thing to him.

"I want this kind of thing to be exposed so other people won't be caught like I was," he said

Dressed in a white suit, Jappie told the court he had approached Vallie in desperation in May because he had to find a place to stay before the end of July

The father of four said Vallie had told him he

knew someone "high up in the council's committee" who could get him a house

Jappie said he was under the impression Vallie worked for the Cape Divisional Council because he had made him fill in Divco housing application forms

He had to pay R2 000 deposit. Two days later he had to pay another R1000 "for lights and water", he told the court

He claimed he had to pay another R1000 after Vallie had told him the deposit had "gone up" because he wanted a bigger house

Jappie described how he, his wife Arwatief and Vallie took his money in a big brown envelope to Sagathevan

"Vallie told me Basil was a high person and I could not park in front of his house. I had to park across the road and could also not go inside with Vallie

"As he knocked on the door, I idled closer to see where my money was going. A grey-haired man came outside and embraced Vallie like they were old friends

"When Vallie came out again, he no longer had the envelope"

Jappie said he had repeatedly asked Vallie about the receipts for his money

"He asked me what I was worried about, if I wanted a house or money. He told me Basil had to get the keys from the council"

One day Vallie had told him the roof had to come off because the builders had made a mistake

"I was in the building trade for 20 years and never heard of a roof having to come off. I became suspicious because every day I heard a different story

corruption defective justice

Court told hawker paid R4 000 for house

HOUSES Lobbies

22/10/84
18/10/84

Story and picture by RYLAND FISHER

POLICE are investigating charges of fraud against the chairman of Cravenby Estate's Management Committee, Basil Sagathevan, following allegations in court that he accepted payment of between R600 and R3 000 to get people council houses.

The allegations were made in the Parow Regional Court this week in the trial of Cravenby hardresser Sulaaman Moosa Vallie who was charged with fraud, alternatively theft.

Vallie was acquitted on both charges. Details of a housing racket which could involve thousands of rands emerged from his evidence.

Vallie said he knew of at least three people who had given money to Sagathevan to enable them to get a house. He was "only the middleman" and Sagathevan was "the man guy who received all the money".

In the dock

Magistrate P J Le Roux said Sagathevan was "the man who should have been in the dock".

Ravensmead police confirmed they were investigating charges. The case arises out of charges laid by Belhar hawker Mogamat Jappie who claimed to have given Vallie R4 000 to give to Sagathevan as deposit for a house.

Sagathevan, 55, was an unsuccessful candidate for the Solidarity Party in the 1984 elections for the House of Delegates. He owns a roadhouse in Parow and is a lay preacher in the Reformed Church in Africa of the Rev Edward Manikkam.

Approached for comment, Sagathevan said he would speak to SOUTH "at a later stage".

See Pages 10 and 11



Belhar hawker Mr Mogamat Jappie lives in this small room with his wife Arwatief and four children though, he claims, he paid R4 000 for a house. The children are Farook, 15, and Feroza, 6

Court to hear details on alleged corruption

Daily Dispatch
Correspondent

DURBAN — The leader of the Progressive Reform Party (PRP), Mr Pat Poovalingam, said yesterday he would release "all information" he had at his disposal in court on Monday regarding his allegations of corruption against Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers Council

Commenting on a report in a Durban newspaper yesterday, he confirmed he had been subpoenaed as a witness at a hearing in the Durban Magistrate's Court

Mr Rajbansi said he had asked the Advocate-General to instruct Mr Poovalingam to substantiate his allegations

Mr Poovalingam said that when he had been challenged to substan-



MR POOVALINGHAM

tiate his allegations after first making the claim in parliament in 1985, he said at the time he would give the information either to a court of law or before a judicial commission of inquiry

"Now that a court of law has been convened for that purpose I will give all the information that I have to the court,"



MR RAJBANSI

he added

The subpoena, issued under Section 205 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Act, is believed to have arisen from an incident in the House of Delegates in 1985 when Mr Poovalingam was ordered out of parliament after making allegations of corruption against Mr Rajbansi — Sapa

Rajbansi: Corruption claims

D/D 28/1/88

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DURBAN — Allegations of corruption against the chairman of the Ministers Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, were made by Mr Pat Poovalingam, MP and leader of the Progressive Reform Party, in the magistrate's court here yesterday.

The informant being identified, Mr Poovalingam wrote the name down on a piece of paper and handed it to the magistrate.

The man's name was not read out in court, although Mr Poovalingam said the man had given him an Isipingo Beach box number as his address.

Mr Poovalingam alleged that

● A top person in the former South African Indian Council (SAIC) had wielded influence to ensure that bottle store licences were granted to persons favoured by him.

● Mr Rajbansi had personal discussions with large multi-national oil companies in regard to obtaining dealership agreements for persons who were awarded petrol service station sites.

● He asked the court why Mr Rajbansi was sold a piece of land in Silverglen by the Department of Community Development while he was never a so-called "displaced person" in terms of the Group Areas Act.

The land was then allegedly re-sold at a high price to a Mr Reddy.

● The Durban City Council allegedly sold Mr Rajbansi a residential property in Chatsworth at a time when he was still the

owner of the land in Silverglen.

It was alleged that the City Council was obliged to give preference only to persons displaced by either the Group Areas Act or some other law, and who did not own other residential land.

● He also claimed that Mr Rajbansi, both as executive chairman of the SAIC and later as Chairman of the Ministers' Council played an important role in thwarting the proposed sale of land to the Pick'n Pay group.

It was further alleged that he insisted on, and arranged, the acquisition of a supermarket site from the Durban City Council.

He then allegedly arranged or influenced the re-sale of the property to a company under the control of another company alternatively of the Checkers Group.

● In another case, he claimed that Mr Jivan Seebrian was never the owner of immovable property in Cato Manor and he never owned or operated a petrol service station, site or any business in Cato Manor.

"Yet on May 27, 1983, Mr Rajbansi, then Chairman of the executive committee of the SAIC, wrote out an application for an on behalf of Mr Jivan Seebrian for business accommodation in Chatsworth or Phoenix

"At that time Mr Rajbansi would have been aware that Mr Paraw Seebrian, head of the Seebrian family, had already been allocated two petrol service station sites.

"It is well known that Mr Rajbansi and Mr Paraw Seebrian are very close friends."

Mr Andre Oberholzer, who appeared for the State, told the court that the police had already started investigations into the allegations and the hearing was adjourned sine die — DDC

During the hearing, held in terms of Section 205 of the Criminal Procedure Act, Mr Poovalingam told the Magistrate, Mr B J Olivier, that he had been informed of alleged irregularities in the allocation of trading sites, including petrol service station sites in Indian townships.

Mr Poovalingam said his informant had asked not to be identified.

However when the magistrate insisted on

29/1/88

Branch

The charges were voiced by an opposition MP in the HoD, Pat Poovalingam, who was subpoenaed in terms of Section 205 (1) of the Criminal Procedures Act to give evidence before Magistrate B J Olivier in the Durban Magistrate's Court

Poovalingam's appearance is a sequel to a motion tabled in the HoD in February 1985, calling for a commission of inquiry to investigate allegations of bribery and corruption. In the debate which followed, Poovalingam alleged that as chairman of the former SA Indian Council, Rajbansi instructed officials of the Department of Community Development to refer applications for trading sites to him personally. Bribes totalling R120 000 were said to have subsequently changed hands for the granting of three liquor licences, Poovalingam told the delegates



Poovalingam

Rajbansi's amendment, proposing that the matter be investigated by the police was carried and this week's court appearance is the first major public development in the inquiry

Resold

Reading from a prepared statement, Poovalingam alleged interference by Rajbansi in the granting of licences and trading sites and said Rajbansi had personally intervened to block a land bid by Pick 'n Pay and caused the land to be resold to the Checkers group. He provided the magistrate with the names of people who

could be questioned.

Captain David Venter, branch commander of Durban Commercial Branch of the SAP, said police would now follow up the allegations. It was impossible to predict at this stage how long the investigation would take

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Rajbansi accused

Allegations of bribery and corruption brought this week against House of Delegates (HoD) leader Amichand Rajbansi are to be investigated by the Commercial

D/D 29/1/88 258

Rajbansi seeks legal advice

DURBAN — The chairman of the Ministers Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday he was taking legal advice with a view to bringing a defamation action following this week's hearing in the magistrate's court here

Mr Rajbansi said he had asked lawyers to examine the allegations made against him by a Progressive Reform Party's MP, Mr Pat Poovalingam

He also said he had asked police to investigate a charge against a former minister over attempts to get junior government officials to smuggle out official documents

In addition, he intended suing a property developer in the Transvaal

over statements about land deals in Lenasia, he said

Mr Rajbansi said that Mr Poovalingam had in his court statement avoided repeating allegations he had made in Parliament in 1985

"All he did was cloud the situation with side issues"

"I have been repeatedly challenging him to make the same allegations outside Parliament so that I can sue him so that we can then test the allegations in the Supreme Court," Mr Rajbansi said

"I promise that I will not rest until have brought Mr Poovalingam to book," Mr Rajbansi said — Sapa

Step down, MPs urge accused Rajbansi

Star

1/4/58

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DURBAN — The chairman of the House of Delegates Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, should step down from office until allegations of corruption made against him were publicly cleared, senior opposition MPs demanded yesterday.

The leader of the official opposition, Solidarity, Dr Jayaram Reddy, said that in the light of the allegations which were made in Parliament three years ago and detailed by the leader of the Progressive Reform Party, Mr Pat Poovalingam, under oath in a court of law last week, the "proper thing" for Mr Rajbansi to do was to step down from office until his name was cleared.

Also calling for Mr Rajbansi to stand down temporarily, the PRP's Home Affairs spokesman, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, said that for as long as Mr Rajbansi remained a member of the Council and of the main Cabinet, there would be a "cloud of suspicion" over the House of Delegates and the State President, Mr P W Botha's administration.

'PROPAGANDA'

The head of the department of political science at the University of Stellenbosch, Professor Hennie Kotze, said his view was that Mr Rajbansi should relinquish his position temporarily in the State President's Cabinet in the light of the allegations linking him to corruption.

Approached for comment, Mr Rajbansi said he was not prepared to stand down as he regarded the allegations as "propaganda fabricated by Mr Poovalingam."

In the circumstances, Mr Poovalingam should resign from Parliament, Mr Rajbansi said.

"I will only step down the day a single allegation against me is proved correct", he added.

(Report by Nagoor Bisetty, 38 Westgard House, Gardiner Street, Durban)

NPP scores

Star 4/12/88

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four in row

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Eastern Transvaal by-election results proved the increasing support for the House of Delegates and the National Peoples' Party, NPP leader Mr. Amichand Rajbansi said today.

The NPP's vote in the constituency had increased by 519 per cent to 2 689 votes since the 1984 election, while that of Solidarity's had decreased from 1 336 to a meagre 772, he said.

Mr. Rajbansi said the NPP had won four by-elections in a row. The Eastern Transvaal win was significant because it had been a strong Solidarity seat.

"I believe the result shows Solidarity is becoming irrelevant," he said.

Mr. Rajbansi said the percentage poll of 35 per cent was in "real terms" much higher because about 1 000 names had been duplicated on the updated voters' roll while many people could not be traced.

The voters had proved they recognised the importance of development, he said.

NIC clamp on members who 'talk'

DISCIPLINARY hearings and almost certain expulsion face any Natal Indian Congress official found to have had talks with members of the House of Delegates about participation in the tricameral parliament.

By CARMEL RICKARD
in Durban

At a meeting on Tuesday night, all 18 executive members signed a five-point statement including an agreement by each one that if it should be proved they had been involved in such discussions, they were prepared to appear before a disciplinary committee and face expulsion.

They were referring to alleged "conversations" with Mahmoud Rajab (Progressive Reform Party), now revealed as the MP who told *Weekly Mail* he had "informal conversations with members of the NIC including the executive" about tactical participation.

He agreed to his name being revealed following a letter to the Media Council from the Natal Indian Congress, complaining about a report in another newspaper.

According to the NIC letter, the

general tenor of the article is that the NIC is heading towards participation ... and in support of this the article referred to ... discussions held by NIC members with a certain member of the House of Delegates".

NIC secretary Farouk Meer asked the Media Council to investigate the article and to call on the newspaper "to reveal the source of its information and the names of those who are alleged to have participated in talks with (him)."

In his letter to the council, Meer said the NIC wished to place on record that "such discussions did not take place and the statement is therefore devoid of any truth".

He added: "The article is intended to embarrass the organisation and to lower the esteem it enjoys in the community. It also presents the organisation as one lacking in discipline and principle."

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NO MOBSTER WILL CONTROL US

Star 10/2/88

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In a speech lasting more than two hours, the Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amichand Rajbansi, defended himself against allegations of bribery and corruption levelled by PRP Leader Mr Pat Poovalingam in the House of Delegates.

Speaking in the no confidence debate, Mr Rajbansi described Mr Poovalingam as "a wounded, humiliated man caught in his own trap".

"Blaming the chairman of the Ministers' Council for everything has become the catch phrase in this House," he said. In the past a number of people had asked favours of him and put pressure on him

'STRONG-ARM'

"But no mobster from the Transvaal, no strong-arm man, will ever control my Ministry. If I bow to these pressures, I will not be fit to hold my job."

He said he and his family had been threatened "I have received threats that a hit-man will get me if I don't bow down to a Transvaal man."

For 10 years, accusations had been made against him — "but I survived because truth is on my side", he said.

He said Mr Poovalingam had consistently refused to repeat outside the House allegations he made in 1985

about bribery and corruption.

A judicial commission of inquiry would lift the lid off the allegations, which would all eventually turn back on Mr Poovalingam, he added.

Mr Poovalingam had refused to name his informant, but was still using the so-called informant as a crutch, said Mr Rajbansi.

The on-going allegations had hurt him deeply, and an apology from Mr Poovalingam would not be sufficient. "I want him to have a thrashing. I want a judicial commission and a defamation case."

"I will fight these allegations until the day I go to the grave."

Earlier, Mr Poovalingam said his informant was afraid to be named because Mr Rajbansi was a member of the Government.

He referred to events some years ago when a Mr P G Pillay accused Mr Rajbansi of irregular conduct. As a result of an inquiry, Mr Rajbansi was barred from serving on any local authority in Natal.

"Soon afterwards Mr P G Pillay was murdered," said Mr Poovalingam.

Mr Rajbansi appealed to the House chairman, Mr Edward Manikkam, saying Mr Poovalingam was abusing his privileges and making unsubstantiated allegations. Mr Manikkam ruled in favour of Mr Rajbansi — Sapa

Delegates back

The action by the State President, Mr P W Botha, against the group which had ousted President Lucas Mangope in Bophuthatswana was "the only proper course that could be followed," the leader of the PRP in the House of Delegates, Mr Pat Poovalingam, said yesterday. Star 11/2/88

Vote of full confidence in Rajbansi

(258)
A motion of no confidence in the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates and its chairman, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, was defeated by 27 votes to 15 yesterday.

The motion was proposed by the Leader of the Opposition Solidarity Party, Dr J N Reddy.

An amendment to the motion, proposed by Mr Salaam Abram Mayet (NPP Nominated), that the House "has full confidence" in the Ministers' Council, was carried by the same margin, with the names of Solidarity, the PRP and the independent MP Dr M S Padayachy being recorded against the amendment.

—Sapa.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

The Raj gains

Indian House of Delegates' (HoD) leader Amichand Rajbansi scored another victory over the official opposition, Solidarity, when his National People's Party (NPP) won the eastern Transvaal seat in a recent by-election

It resulted from the appointment of the incumbent, Solidarity's only Transvaal MP, Ahmed Arbee, to the provincial executive committee.

The NPP now holds five of the eight constituencies allocated to Indians in the Transvaal, three are held by independents. Both parties have 11 of the 29 Natal seats and one each in the Cape, which comprises three HoD seats

Overall, this gives Rajbansi's party 19 MPs in the 45-member chamber, including a nominated member and one elected by the house in terms of the tricameral constitution. Solidarity has been reduced to 13, including one nominated

It would appear that Solidarity could yet garner enough votes from among the eight independents and Pat Poovalingam's break-away Progressive Reform Party (four MPs), to topple Rajbansi in a vote of no-confidence. A motion to this effect has been formally set down for this week, the first of the new parliamentary session

However, party allegiances in the most junior house are a fickle matter. For example, it was only after the hue and cry raised by the likes of Poovalingam, and ridicule from other quarters, that Solidarity's J N Reddy last year stepped down as Rajbansi's budget minister in the HoD — an odd position for the Leader of the Opposition to hold

Then there was that period last year of intense behind-the-scenes manoeuvring (to put it politely), as the two parties tried desperately to secure the support of a clutch of MPs whose affiliations are, at best, mercurial. These events reached their nadir when one MP was kidnapped, apparently to prevent him switching sides before a crucial vote. In it all, Rajbansi remains the most

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astute tactician in the HoD Reddy, when he was in the strange position of minister as well as opposition leader, had a point, for there are scarcely any principle or policy differences among the participants in the tricameral set-up

This month's eastern Transvaal by-election reflected the irrelevance of parties or issues, those who voted did so once again on ethnic, specifically Muslim-Hindu, lines. Not surprisingly, in view of the preponderance of Muslims in the constituency, therefore, NPP candidate Sataar Akooob emerged with the most votes (2 689) in the reduced

36% poll. His rival, S K Pillay, who this time round stood on a Solidarity ticket, having switched from the NPP, got 722 votes. Arbee got in at the 1984 election on a Solidarity ticket, chalking up 1 336 votes in a 43% poll, one of the highest at the time. Runner-up was Salaam Abram, who stood as an independent, with 1 010 Pillay, then for the NPP, got 518 votes. The complete switch in voters' party preference cannot be explained in terms of personalities

"There was definitely an element of religious friction," admits the Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC, a UDF affiliate), which did campaign against voting, — "but not as vigorously as we might have due to the emergency." At meetings in Standerton and Springs, the TIC passed resolutions condemning the HoD and participation in the present system

FHM 12/2/88

The seat takes in Indian group areas like Carolinda (Carolina), Palmridge (Germiston) and those at Barberton, Nelspruit, Ermelo, Bethal and Nigel. Despite the number of registered voters having gone up some 30% (due partly to the influx of Indians from Natal working at Secunda), the poll was about 7% down on the first HoD election

W/Mail 12-18/2/88

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GUEST COMMENT

The NIC and the three plagues

THREE major issues were raised by the controversy that has plagued the Natal Indian Congress (NIC) since its crucial conference late last year: how democratic is the NIC, is it going to participate in the House of Delegates when fresh elections are called, and how does the NIC see its relationship with its constituency?

It is precisely to ensure a greater degree of internal democracy that the conference was called last year. The decision to have the conference came out of two activist workshops held earlier in the year.

The majority of those present had joined the ranks of NIC through the civic and political campaigns from the early 1980s, in particular the highly successful anti-tricameral parliament election campaign of 1984.

They argued that the extent of organisational work they did was not matched by the degree of control they had over the organisation, particularly its executive. They pointed out that some of the executive members were not active, there was unnecessary factionalism, and there were accusations of domination by a "cabal".

Moreover, during the anti-election campaign, grassroots structures had sprung up, like the area committees, which did not have constitutional legitimacy, and whose relationship with the executive was not clear.

It was necessary to formalise these structures. And for the executive and these structures to function more democratically and efficiently, branches based on individual membership had to be revived.

It was decided that an annual general meeting be held to do this. The constitution would be altered, an executive elected of people active at grassroots level, and the NIC would be put on a more democratic footing.

In view of the State of Emergency conditions (several leading NIC members being on the run from police), it was decided that the conference would be open only to delegates and observers from fraternal organisations.

A public report-back meeting was subsequently held to seek the community's approval for conference decisions.

It is a curious irony, then, that at a time when the NIC is moving towards greater democracy, it is coming under the most severe criticism for being undemocratic.

Whatever its past failings, the NIC is committed to entrenching internal democracy. A new executive with greater grassroots activity has been elected. A working committee, comprising two representatives per

Three controversies have plagued the Natal Indian Congress in recent weeks. Is it undemocratic; will it participate in tri-cameral elections; how does it relate to its community. Here an NIC leader speaks out
By YUNUS CARRIM

branch and the executive members, will serve as the link between branches and the executive.

Further constitutional changes are in store to make the executive more accountable to the branches. Resolutions on "organising strategy" and "styles of work" stressed the need for maximum democracy and accountability within the organisation.

Some of the criticisms of the NIC are, therefore, obsolete. Others are being dealt with by the creation of new structures.

Yet others can only be resolved in practice. Democracy is not an abstract, given condition in any organisation. It has to be fought for concretely in struggle.

Will the NIC participate in the House of Delegates at the next election? Emphatically not!

There has not been even a murmur of this at the workshops and conference. Indeed, the conference unanimously endorsed NIC's boycott policy — and even called for the more determined "social, political and international isolation of all members of the House of Delegates and all those who promote its existence".

It was also decided to campaign against the October 1988 municipal elections.

There's no smoke without fire? There must be some substance to the claims of NIC participation?

Sure, there are members who must feel that participation is tactically sound. They have a right to this view. But they have to raise it within the structures — and an organisational decision has to be taken on this.

Insofar as individuals are representing their own views as that of the organisation and having discussions with House of Delegates MPs on this, they have to be disciplined.

But at the last executive meeting all except three absent members signed an affidavit denying any such talks and agreeing on disciplinary measures, including possible expulsion, of anybody found guilty of this.

For the NIC, the boycott of the House of Delegates remains a tactic, rather than a principle — a tactic sub-

ordinate to wider strategy which stresses the need for maximum non-racial unity in action.

Participation in the House of Delegates would seriously distract the NIC from this course. There is no way the NIC would participate without the support of the United Democratic Front as a whole — and that would clearly not be forthcoming.

In any case, the material conditions for participation simply do not exist at present. Despite the Emergency, all avenues for extra-parliamentary struggle have not been closed. There is no sign that the majority of the Indian people identify with the House of Delegates.

There is no clear evidence that participation would secure significant material concessions for the people or open out useful organisational space. And of course the hostility of the African people to the tricameral parliament remains undaunted.

It would, in short, be suicidal for the NIC to participate in the House of Delegates.

However, the NIC is trying to address its particular constituency creatively. It recognises the Indian community has significantly improved its material position since the heyday of the NIC in the 1940s and 1950s and is at present more difficult to mobilise for a non-racial democracy.

Moreover, the entrenchment of the Group Areas Act and other aspects of social segregation has led to the alienation of the Indian from the African and other communities.

In this context, the community has become uneasy about a non-racial democracy in which Africans will have the main say.

On the other hand, the community is clearly opposed to white domination — especially as it affects Indians. Even its most privileged strata have elements of discontent with the system.

There is, moreover, a moral imperative in the community that cannot reconcile itself with the oppression that is intrinsic to apartheid.

And the NIC, despite its present difficulties, continues to retain a certain credibility in the community, drawing people of considerably better quality and greater respectability than those who participate in apartheid institutions.

To the extent the NIC has a role to play, it must directly address the Indian community's anxieties and prepare it for a non-racial democracy.

Yunus Carrim is a member of the NIC executive and a sociology lecturer at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

D/D 15/2/88 (258)

Clarity on leadership of NPP soon says Rajbansi

JOHANNESBURG — The National Peoples' Party (NPP) leader, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday the question of his leadership would be sorted out at an NPP executive meeting soon.

He said he was satisfied with the NPP caucus refusal to accept his resignation and the motion of confidence which

had been passed in his favour. However, he said he wanted discipline in the party.

Mr Rajbansi refused to comment on the reasons for his resignation, but it was clearly tied to the backing given by a rebel group of about 10 NPP MPs to the opposition Solidarity candidate, Mr Abdul Samad Razak, for a vacant nominated seat in the House of Delegates.

With their assistance Mr Razak overturned the NPP majority in the house, and defeated the NPP candidate, Mr Ramcharitar Panday, in a secret ballot.

The leader of the NPP

rebel group, the Isipingo MP, Mr Nizam Khan, was reported as saying he would back the parliamentary caucus chairman, Mr S V Naicker, to replace Mr Rajabansi as NPP leader.

Meanwhile, the Solidarity national chairman, Mr Ismail Omar, said Mr Rajbansi's resignation as leader of the NPP would bring formal inquiry into allegations of corruption and maladministration closer.

He attributed the defeat of Mr Rajbansi's candidate directly to the call by Solidarity for a commission of enquiry.

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15/12/88

Rajbansi's leadership to be settled

ROGER SMITH

NATIONAL Peoples' Party (NPP) leader Amichand Rajbansi said yesterday the question of his leadership would be sorted out at an NPP executive meeting soon.

He said he was satisfied with the NPP caucus's refusal to accept his resignation on Saturday and with the motion of confidence in him which had been passed.

But he said he wanted discipline in the party and a commitment to uphold its norms and values as he was prepared to do, "even if I am with only a few people".

No comment

Rajbansi refused to comment on the reasons for his resignation, but it was clearly tied to the backing given by a rebel group of about 10 NPP MPs to opposition Solidarity candidate Abdul Samad Razak for a vacant nominated seat in the House of Delegates.

With their assistance, Razak overturned the NPP majority in the house and defeated NPP candidate Ramcharitar Panday in a secret ballot.

Sapa reports NPP rebel group leader, Isipingo MP Nizam Khan, as saying the rebels would back parliamentary caucus chairman S V Naicker to replace Rajbansi if he does quit.

D/O 16/2/88

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Rajbansi stays leader

CAPE TOWN — Mr Amichand Rajbansi will remain leader of the majority National People's Party and chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates

This was agreed at an NPP "caucus executive" meeting last night

The meeting also

agreed on "a number of guidelines based on strict party discipline"

Mr Rajbansi resigned as leader of the NPP last week after the party lost the ballot for an indirectly elected MP when the party should have had a 27-13 majority in the House of Delegates

—DDC

PRP boss suspended for remarks in debate

Star 16/2/58
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The Leader of the PRP, Mr. Pat Poovalingam, yesterday became the second MP to be "named" and suspended from Parliament in this session for remarks made during the no confidence debate.

The Conservative Party MP for Lichtenburg, Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg, was named and suspended for five days

in the House of Assembly last week

In the House of Delegates yesterday, Mr Poovalingam was named after he refused to apologise to the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, for remarks made while he was defending his reasons for not divulging the name of an informant on bribery allegations

ery allegations

Mr Poovalingam said he would not give the name of his informant because once before a Mr CG Pillay had reported Mr Rajbansi for alleged irregularities, and Mr Rajbansi had been barred from serving on local councils for 10 years

Soon afterwards, Mr Pillay was murdered, Mr Poovalingam said

The Chairman of the House, Mr Edward Manikkam, said at least two newspapers had carried reports on the remarks over the weekend

Mr Rajbansi had justifiably claimed to have been embarrassed and hurt by the allegations

Asked to apologise, Mr Poovalingam refused, saying he had made no imputation against Mr Rajbansi and saw no reason to apologise

Mr Poovalingam's suspension will last for five days — Sapa

Rajbansi to inquire into Hartzenberg allegations

Star 16/2/58
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The Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, gave notice yesterday in the House of Delegates that he would move today for a select committee to be appointed as part of a joint committee to inquire into allegations made last week by the MP for Lichtenburg, Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg

Dr Hartzenberg allegedly said that MPs were probably guilty of bribery or attempted bribery, and that the State President presumably failed or refused to investigate the allegations because he knew they were true or was afraid that they would be proved to be true

Mr Rajbansi said he would move that the joint committee be empowered to take evidence and call for papers — Sapa

Honour thy leader

Amichand Rajbansi this week read the riot act to members of his ruling National People's Party (NPP) — and emerged from a caucus meeting with a resolution backing his leadership and pledging loyalty.

But significantly present in the same resolution is a clause enforcing strict secrecy over "all party matters" A lingering suspicion remains that all is not well in the majority party in the House of Delegates (HoD).

Nominally, the latest fracas in the troubled party erupted last week when a group of about 10 members voted against their own candidate for a vacant nominated seat in the HoD Exacerbating the defiance was the fact that the candidate was Rajbansi's personal choice

As a result of the rebellion, the opposition Solidarity Party candidate was voted in, provoking an angry threat from Rajbansi to resign The threat duly wrought from NPP members the calculated vote of confidence and the request that Rajbansi remain as party leader

But words alone are unlikely to end the split in party ranks Deeper underlying divisions in the NPP include unhappiness with Rajbansi's autocratic management of party affairs and his reluctance to appoint, without preconditions, a judicial commission of inquiry into charges of corruption in the HoD.

Among the latest mysteries to emerge this week was a report in the *Natal Witness* quoting Nizam Kahn (NPP Isipingo) saying the group of 10 in the party would be prepared to support Natal leader S V Naicker to replace Rajbansi as national leader. Kahn was also quoted as saying the dissident NPP members wanted a commission of inquiry appointed

Rajbansi told the *FM* that Kahn would deny ever talking to the journalist concerned, Nagoor Bisetty, of Sapa and the NPP plans to take the matter to the Media Council

But Bisetty told the *FM* he would be happy to defend the claims and was surprised to hear that Kahn now denied talking to him.

FM (258) 19/2/08

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NEWS

Politically cunning Rajbansi keeps bouncing back

"The master of the politics of patronage" a supreme wheeler dealer

That's what some critics in the Natal Indian Congress say about Mr Amichand Rajbansi. You would think that knowing this, his opponents would by now have got his measure. Not so, it seems, for repeatedly they underestimate him.

There has been a concerted campaign recently by his rivals in Parliament to "nail him". What came of it? When his arch opponent Mr Pat Poovalingham gave Parliament a list of Mr Rajbansi's "sins" he was suspended for five days.

Mr Rajbansi had proved yet again that he is a master of political cunning almost without equal. He has shown he can keep his equilibrium in stormy weather better than most. After being humiliated by people in his caucus voting against him to give Solidarity a surprise extra nominated member, he threatened to resign, had "some

heart-to-heart chats" with a few members and in no time at all they were back in line.

In 1977 he was expelled by the Natal Provincial Executive for not declaring a financial interest in a matter under discussion. But a seasoned political infighter, he came back in by claiming he was the victim of a campaign, that he was set up. He survived.

In 1976 he became embroiled in a row with other executive members of the South African Indian Council over the exclusion of blacks from the proposed inter-Cabinet Council. He ended up resigning.

Later the Reform Party wrested control of the Council. It just so happened that Mr Rajbansi was a founder member of the party at the time. Coincidence? Whatever it was, the council eventually ended up doing things his way anyway.

Then in 1980 he fell out with party leader Mr Y S Chumsarry, and was suspended. Any other man

Personality

AMICHAND RAJBANSI

Written by: BRUCE CAMERON

would have accepted this as a sign that the Reform Party was not where he belonged. Not Mr Rajbansi. He merely bounced back, the very next year, by getting himself re-elected to the Council.

It did not take him long to start his National Peoples Party and to forge an alliance to oust the majority Democratic Party. It was in 1984 that Mr Rajbansi came to Parliament with neither

his party nor the opposition Solidarity Party holding a clear majority.

As the MP's started to gather in Cape Town the most extraordinary events started to take place. There were claims of blackmail, threats of violence and claim of things being "imported" as the parties manoeuvred for advantage.

The extraordinary scenes were repeated again last year when Solidarity briefly wrested control of the House from the NPP. But it did not take Mr Rajbansi long before he was firmly back in the driver's seat.

He definitely was not the Government's choice as the person to head the Indian chamber of the first tricameral Parliament. In some ways he has turned out to be a co-operative party, definitely giving the Government less trouble in many ways than the Labour Party in the coloured House.

He maintains that while fighting the system it is best to co-operate

to get the best for his people.

And he intends to deliver in the way of better housing, better education and health facilities and he intends to right many of the wrongs of the Group Areas Act.

Whatever gains he has made, he has used them to fight off the UDF. Even during the Natal floods when out inspecting damage he told the refugees to be sure to tell the community that it was the House of Delegates which helped them.

He is a multi-faceted character, certainly vain, with a generous dollop of charisma and some unexpected talents.

For instance in 1960 he won the Rembrandt art competition. During his career he has been a teacher, a sports administrator, a professional soccer referee, a public relations officer and a businessman.

However, his style of politics has made him a growing list of enemies and his skill in survival is going to be tested to its limits.



MR. AMICHAND RAJBANSI. A politician difficult to "nail".

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PROVINCE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	NUMBER OF VOTERS REGISTERED IN EACH CONSTITUENCY OF THE REPUBLIC	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Ado	20 470	
Belhar	33 721	
Berg River	27 429	
Bethelsdorp	29 654	
Bishop Lavis	29 302	
Bokkeveld	20 251	
Bonteheuwel	24 199	
Border	25 868	
Bristown	20 110	
Daljosaphat	8 234	
Diamant	31 868	
Diaz	25 744	
Dysselsdorp	27 252	
Eisies River	28 732	
Essellen Park	23 771	
Fish River	23 697	
Geelvandale	32 472	
Glenaddendal	13 015	
Grassy Park	32 170	
Griqualand West	18 656	
Haarlem	20 413	
Hanover Park	27 450	
Hantam	17 266	
Hawston	23 786	
Heidelveld	24 904	
Kalahari	21 766	
Karee	18 994	
Kasselsvlei	29 167	
Liesbeek	14 367	
Maccassar	31 422	
Mamre	31 094	
Manenberg	25 209	
Matroosfontein	23 938	
Mid Karoo	17 303	
Mitchells Plain	35 264	
North Eastern Cape	18 613	
Northern Cape	19 563	
Nuweveld	20 085	
Otterv	30 260	
Outeniqua	33 083	
Pniel	27 134	
Ravensmead	20 993	
Rawsonville	30 367	
PROV TOTAL	1 639 836	
REP TOTAL	3 083 524	

ANNEXURE B
SUMMARY OF VOTERS' STATISTICS FROM THE POPULATION REGISTER

31 DECEMBER 1987	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	1 429 931
NATAL	66 358
ORANGE FREE STATE	31 456
TRANSVAAL	161 482
TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTERS REGISTERED IN THE REPUBLIC ON 31 DECEMBER 1987	1 689 227

REMARK
The number of voters registered in each elec-

Handwritten signature

PROVINCE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	NUMBER OF VOTERS REGISTERED IN EACH CONSTITUENCY OF THE REPUBLIC	HOUSE OF DELEGATES
Retreat	27 546	
Rietvlei	20 906	
Riversdal	19 553	
Robertson	18 565	
Schauderwille	24 001	
Silvertown	20 512	
Southern Cape	15 500	
Springbok	13 909	
Stenkopf	17 549	
Strandfontein	32 675	
Suurdrak	21 138	
Swartkops	31 523	
Swartland	29 050	
Table Mountain	19 945	
Upington	25 610	
Vredendal	16 052	
Wuppertal	16 841	
PROV TOTAL	1 429 931	

ORANGE FREE STATE

Alfa Park	11 628
Bosmont	11 749
Eersterus	21 809
Eldorado Park	27 437
Klipspruit West	22 353
Newclare	16 457
Northern Transvaal	3 784
Reigerpark	17 159
Rust Ter Vaal	13 496
Toekomsrus	15 610
PROV TOTAL	161 482
REP TOTAL	1 689 227

REMARK
The number of voters registered in each elec-

ANNEXURE C

31 DECEMBER 1987	HOUSE OF DELEGATES
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE	21 129
NATAL	531 357
TRANSVAAL	91 515
TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTERS REGISTERED IN THE REPUBLIC ON 31 DECEMBER 1987	644 001

REMARK
The number of voters registered in each elec-

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
PROVINCE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Malabar	6 710
North Western Cape	5 646
Rylands	8 773
PROV TOTAL	21 129

REMARK
The number of voters registered in each elec-

Vote-catching teacher rewarded with a job

An unemployed woman teacher had been given a permanent teaching job in Phoenix after helping to garner 15 votes from her family for the National People's Party during the recent Tongaat by-election, Mr Pat Poovalingam (PRP, Reservoir Hills) said yesterday.

In the second reading debate on the Additional Appropriation Bill for the House of Delegates he said a female temporary teacher who was laid off in November last year had been recruited by a senior official in the education department to assist in the election campaign.

The senior official was named as Mr A K Mohammed.

REWARDED

Mr Poovalingam said the woman had garnered 15 votes from her family for the NPP and, soon afterwards, was rewarded with a permanent job at



Mr Pat Poovalingam

the Phoenix College of Education.

"I want to know whether this is proper and decent conduct," he said.

The Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Kasie Ramduth, said teachers were employed on a permanent basis according to the needs of the department at the time.

Sometimes these teachers would be recruited from outside the administration if they fitted the requirements of the job. — Sapa.

SABC asks 'too much' for educational programmes

The SABC's price for providing a more intensive series of black educational radio and television programmes was too high, although negotiations by the education Ministers concerned were continuing, the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said in the Assembly yesterday.

Replying to committee stage additional-appropriation debate on his portfolio, he said part of the reason for a R2,8 million decrease in expenditure on educational radio and TV was that negotiations with the SABC on a contract had not been finalised.

The Minister added that measures were going ahead to provide more black schools with TV sets and video machines. — Sapa.

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Star 1/3/88

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Stw 2/3/88

Corruption probe call is made by PRP

The allegations of corruption by the administration of the House of Delegates was of such great public concern that the public should consider a petition to the State President to institute an inquiry into them, Mr Mahmoud Rajab (PRP, Springfield) said yesterday (258)

Speaking in support of a motion by Mr Yunus Moolla (Sol, Stanger) calling for a judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of corruption by the administration of the House of Delegates, he said the allegations had impaired the dignity of the House.

The only way to clear the reputation of the House was to hold an inquiry in the "full glare" of public scrutiny.

The chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said he was in favour of an inquiry, but on condition that the people making the allegations were not abusing parliamentary privilege and that there were reasonable

grounds for a inquiry. The motion and amendment collapsed when the time for the debate ran out — Sapa

Education crisis claims denied

Anyone who believed there was a crisis in Indian education has something radically wrong with his judgment, the Minister of Local Government and Housing, Mr S V Naicker, told the House of Delegates yesterday

Mr Naicker was speaking in the debate on a

motion by Mr A K Pillay (Sol Merebank) that a special commission of inquiry should be appointed to investigate the "crisis in Indian education"

Mr Naicker said great strides had been made in Indian education and it had gained the respect of people throughout the country

Earlier Mr Pillay said the crisis had arisen because of personnel mismanagement, management deficiencies and promotion irregularities

— Sapa

Unless otherwise stated, political comment in this issue is by HW Tyson content approved by RG Anderson and JM Patten, and political cartoons by D Anderson, all of 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg

258 FM 11/3/88

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

A long shot

Long overdue pragmatism may unite parliamentary opposition to the left of government, once the (Indian) Progressive Reform Party (PRP) disbands on March 19 and joins the Progressive Federal Party

This is the outcome which PRP leader Pat Poovalingam is banking on

What will follow, if he and the PFP have anything to do with it, he says, is the emergence of a PFP majority in the House of Delegates (HoD) and, ultimately, the House of Representatives (HoR) and the party's consequent ability to stonewall objectionable laws formulated by the ruling National Party in the House of Assembly.

Where white opposition has failed, Indian and coloured opposition may succeed, he

believes.

According to Poovalingam, PFP majorities in either the Delegates or Representatives will force the National Party to either use the President's Council to pass legislation blocked by vetoes of two Houses in the tricameral parliament, or acquiesce in the will of the majority of its parliamentary partners



Poovalingam ... a new PFP majority

He believes the happy outcome will be that the NP will be forced to amend objectionable laws and hasten the pace of reform

Of course, this scenario rests on several crucial assumptions. The first is that a reconstituted PRP, which currently holds three seats in the HoD, will sweep Amichand Rajbansi's National People's Party (identified in some quarters as the "National Party's People") from its substantial power base

within the formal political arena

It also assumes that a challenge in the next

The *FM* brings its readers the most news, comment and interpretation possible under the new regulations restricting publication of certain matters.

It does not believe that the restrictions are necessary or in the public interest, but will obey the law.

tricameral elections by one of the UDF affiliates, the Natal Indian Congress, will either be met and vanquished in "Indian" constituencies, or will not materialise. And finally, it assumes that a similar move will take place in the HoR, presumably by Jac Rabie's United Democratic Party

Poovalingam believes all this will be accomplished at the next general election and an opportunity which presented itself to the PFP at the launch of the tricameral system will at last be grasped

The only reason it has been delayed, he says, is that the PFP at the time of the launch fell between two stools — sympathy with the extra-parliamentary Left and at the same time synergy with its potential allies within the formal political structures offered by the tricameral system

The recent restoration of the PFP's vision as a liberal torchbearer within a parliamentary tradition has at last opened the way for

an option which is long overdue, says Poovalingam
Overdue or not, it sounds like a long shot at this stage ■

P/D 21/3/88

258

Three Indian MPs join up with PFP

CAPE TOWN — The number of Progressive Federal Party MPs will jump from 16 to 19 this week when three MPs from the Indian House of Delegates formally join the party

The historic move follows the weekend decision by the Progressive Reform Party (PRP) to

disband and join the PFP

The PRP members, all from Natal, are Mr Pat Poovalingham (MP for Reservoir Hills), Mr Mahmoud Rajab (MP for Springfield), and Mr John Lyman (MP for Camperdown)

With the abolition of the Prohibition of Im-

proper Political Interference Act the PFP has been open to members of all races

The PFP's three latest recruits will be the first MPs of colour to represent a party sitting in the white House of Assembly

However, the constitution does not permit

the three to take part in debates in the white House

The decision by the three to join the PFP follows the acceptance of a resolution by the federal council of the party earlier this year to extend its operations into the other two houses. — DDC

there is a huge difference - newed to try and emphasize

Cabal may score again

D/D 22/3/88 (258)

Daily Dispatch Correspondent

DURBAN — The cabal, or "clique" in the House of Delegates is expected to try for its third victory, this time for the hotly-contested post of chairman of committees

The caucus of the ruling National People's Party will decide on a candidate for the vacant chairman of committees post at its meeting today

The post is being contested by a cabal candidate, Mr George Thaver, and party leader, Mr Amichand Rajbansi's choice, Mr Boetie Abramjee

The cabal, acting in conjunction with the opposition Solidarity Party,

twice defeated candidates supported by the party leader

A move last week which had the Chairman of the House replaced on a motion proposed by cabal leader, Mr Nizam Khan, MP for Isipingo, was described by the speaker, Mr Louis le Grange, as unprecedented in parliamentary history

MPs predicted that a cabal victory would be a clear indication that, although the NPP was technically still the ruling party in the House of Delegates, its leader, Mr Rajbansi, was no longer in control

Mr Rajbansi has said that he did not feel threatened in any way and rejected the cabal as a passing phase

Bannings support condemned

Mr Rajbansi's support for the banning of the UDF and its leaders confirms that the NPP is guilty of actively aiding and abetting the National Party in oppressing the majority of South Africans

The NPP is a party with no principles or policy, full of contradictions, operating only on the whims and personal ambitions of its members. It lacks the courage to oppose Mr PW Botha for fear of endangering the perks it enjoys in return for blindly supporting him.

Last year Mr Rajbansi made a great deal of noise when he boasted that he had secured the release of Dr Ram Salojee from detention. Mr Rajbansi challenged Dr Salojee to a debate, and then chickened out when Dr Salojee accepted.

Too afraid to face him in a public debate, he now resorts to banning him. If and when the banning expires, will Mr Rajbansi claim credit for lifting his banning order?

Indian and coloured MPs must accept responsibility for these bannings. I believe that it is because of them that repression is necessary.

The UDF enjoys mass support, which these MPs do not have. Thus

repression is used in order to impose them on to our communities.

As a member of the Cabinet, Mr Rajbansi has never exercised his option of differing with Mr P W Botha. As such, he must bear full responsibility for all its decisions, like jailing of thousands of children, the continued detention of UDF leaders Murphy Morobe, Mohammad Valli and Raymond Suttner.

It is no wonder that they are now being dubbed the "National Party's People".

Ismail Momoniat
Transvaal Indian Congress

Lenasia

Preference will be given to letters in which the name and address of the writer can be published. Those wishing to write under a pseudonym must also sign letters and include their address. Letters sent to other organisations are not considered for publication.

57/4/88
MS

1043

TUESDAY, 19 APRIL 1988

1044

opportunities for study at technikon as reasonably as possible

Technikon facilities in RSA reserved for members of one population group

959 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Education

Whether any technikon facilities in the Republic are reserved exclusively for use by members of the White, Coloured, Indian and Black population groups, respectively, if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

The Minister of National Education does not administer any law relating to the use of technikon facilities. The extent to which technikon are reserved for the exclusive use by the various population groups is an own affair.

Own Affairs.

Multi-cultural recreation courses: use of school facilities/staff for recruitment of pupils

116 Mr D S PIENNAAR asked the Minister of Education and Culture †

(1) Whether the Cape Education Department (a) encourages and/or (b) permits the use of school facilities and staff under its control for the recruitment of pupils for so-called multi-cultural recreation courses; if so,

(2) whether school facilities and staff are involved in the presentation of such courses, if so, to what extent, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The Cape Education Department has no knowledge of "multi-cultural courses"

(1) (a) and (b) fall away,

(2) falls away

1045

TUESDAY, 19 APRIL 1988

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HOUSE OF DELEGATES

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Farmers in RSA: types of farming

47 Mr J V TYMAN asked the Minister of Agriculture

(1) As at the latest specified date for which information is available, how many farmers in the Republic were (a) solely (i)(aa) beef, (bb) mutton, (cc) wool, (dd) maize, (ee) wheat, (ff) fruit and (gg) vegetable producers and (ii)(aa) dairy and (bb) forestry farmers and (b) both (i) wool and mutton producers and (ii) grain and livestock farmers,

(2) what categories of farmers were receiving (a) subsidies and (b) other specified forms of assistance from the State as at the above date?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

(1) The required particulars are not available and cannot even be gleaned from the latest agricultural census data

(2) Falls away

Own Affairs

Staff vacancies

27 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of the Budget

(1) Whether there are any staff vacancies in the Government Departments falling under the Administration House of Delegates, if so, (a) why and (b)(i) how many in each specified Department and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) (a) how many posts were there in each specified Department of the said Administration, and (b) how many such posts were filled, as at the above date?

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET

(1) Yes

(a) (i) Lack of suitable candidates for certain specialised posts

(ii) Freezing of specified posts

(iii) The fact that the existing workload does not warrant the filling of certain posts

(b) (i) Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services 50

Department of Health Services and Welfare 84

Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture 61

Department of Education and Culture 46

(ii) 29 February 1988

(2) (a) Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services 453

Department of Health Services and Welfare 699

Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture 335

Department of Education and Culture 12 739

(b) Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services 403

Department of Health Services and Welfare 615

Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture 274

Department of Education and Culture 12 693

Officials employed by Government Departments

28 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of the Budget

(a) What total number of officials was employed by each specified Government Department falling under the Administration House of Delegates, and (b) what total amounts were spent in respect of each such Department on (i) salaries, (ii) bonuses, (iii) leave money, (iv) gratuities, (v) subsidies and (vi) other specified forms of remuneration in respect of the above-mentioned officials, in the latest specified financial year for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET

(a) Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services

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The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (a) (i) Nil
(ii) 9
(b) Dismissals due to redundancy and misconduct as a result of abscondment

Halls/laboratories/libraries/computer rooms/playing grounds/sports grounds built/equipped

47 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Education and Culture

How many (a) halls, (b) laboratories, (c) libraries, (d) computer rooms, (e) playing grounds and (f) sports grounds for schools administered by his Department were (i) built and (ii) equipped in 1987?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (a) (i) 3
(ii) 2
(b) (i) 20
(ii) 20
(c) (i) 14
(ii) 14
(d) (i) 150
(ii) 150
(e) (i) 14
(ii) 14
(f) (i) 14
(ii) 14

Primary/secondary schools' pupil/teacher ratio

48 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Education and Culture

- (1) (a) What was the average pupil/teacher ratio at Indian (i) primary and (ii) secondary schools as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) what was the average number of pupils per

classroom at (i) primary and (ii) secondary schools as at that date,

- (2) whether a norm is applied by his Department in respect of the number of pupils per classroom, if so, what is the norm for (a) primary and (b) secondary schools,
(3) whether the number of pupils per classroom exceeded this norm as at the above date, if so, (a) how many classrooms were affected, (b) at which schools, (c) what was the average number of pupils in these classrooms and (d) what was the reason for the excess number of pupils in these classrooms?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

My reply to Question No 10, on 11 June 1987 refers. Figures for 1988 are not available at this stage

Natal/Transvaal/Cape Province: pupils attending schools

50 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

Whether any (a) Coloured, (b) Black and (c) White pupils attended any schools falling under his Department in (i) Natal, (ii) the Transvaal and (iii) the Cape Province in 1987, if so, how many such pupils in each case?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- Yes
(a) (i) 534
(ii) 605
(iii) 43
(b) (i) 230
(ii) 35
(iii) 2
(c) (i) 1
(ii) 5
(iii) Nil

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Own Affairs

Budget, 1045, 1046, 1074

Education and Culture, 558, 674, 743, 744, 883, 884, 1088

Lenasia land deal revealed MP stands to reap R366 000

Star
26/4/88
258

The Department of Housing may buy a piece of land in Lenasia for R400 000 from a House of Delegates MP who bought it for R34 000 from the Department of Community Development in 1984

Mr Mahmoud Rajab (PFP Springfield) gave notice in the House of delegates yesterday that he would move today that the House of Delegates express its strongest disapproval that the Department of Housing

Mr Amichand Rajbansi
"no committee inquiry"

intended paying R400 000 for the piece of land which Mr C Pillay (NPP Lenasia West) had ac-

quired for R34 000 in 1984

The Chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, told the House that when it had come to his notice that an MP had a share in the property, he had asked the Housing Board to investigate whether it was essential that the land be expropriated

In a statement to the House, Mr Rajbansi said Mr Pillay had also told him that he had not wanted to dispose of the property. The matter was now being investigated by the Ministers' Council.

He said whenever property was acquired by his department an independent valuation was obtained and this had been done in this case.

Mr Rajab then asked Mr Rajbansi whether he was prepared to appoint a select committee to investigate the matter. Mr Rajbansi replied that he did not see the need for such a committee.

Mr Pat Poovalingam (PEP, Reservoir Hills) said he was appalled that Mr Rajbansi had used the privilege of the House to make an exculpatory statement before the allegations had been made.

— Sapa

Steward

Prof G S Harley (Dean Faculty of Education — University of South Africa),

Mr J C G Jansen van Vuuren (Vice Principal — Tuition — University of South Africa),

Mr E Osman (Chief Education Specialist — Department of Education and Culture),

Mr C C Marx (Chief Superintendent of Education — Department of Education and Culture),

Mr L T Peter (Deputy Director for Education Administration — Department of Education and Culture),

Mr J A Louw (Deputy Director for Personnel Management — Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services),

Mr D J Steenkamp (Acting Vice Rector — Transvaal College of Education),

Prof R. Somi (Rector — M L Sultan Technikon),

Mr O H S Ebrahim (Businessman),

Mr D L Naidoo, (Businessman),

Mr A S Doerat (Businessman and Chairman Board of Management — Laudium Training Centre);

Mr D L Moodley (Director of Companies),

Mr P Naucke (Principal Wilowpark Primary School),

Mr M Moodley (Principal Liverpool Secondary School)

(bb) Not available

(iii) The Department, in consultation with the two colleges compiled a list of names of persons considered suitable for appointment for approval by the Minister

(2) Yes

The Association was invited to nominate persons to serve on the Councils and the appointment of two representatives on each Council was approved

New Questions

Evaluation of teachers for promotion: amendment of system

*1 Mr P I DEVAN asked the Minister of Education and Culture

Whether the system used to evaluate teachers for promotion has been amended during the past 12 months, if so, (a) (i) what amendments were effected and (ii) why and (b) who authorized these amendments,

(2) whether the so-called promotion board has been or is to be abolished or replaced as a result of the above amendments, if so, (a) why, (b) when and (c) by what body was it or is it to be replaced?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) No

(a) and (b) Fall away

(2) Falls away

(a), (b) and (c) Fall away

Evaluation of teachers for promotion

*2 Mr P I DEVAN asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) What are the latest procedures involved in evaluating teachers for promotion purposes,

whether any board or body is involved in this process, if so, (a) what is the name of this board or body and (b) what are its functions?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) The evaluation of educators for promotion is done on a continuous basis by principals using evaluation instruments which contain fixed objective criteria. All educators have knowledge of these criteria. Level I educators shall be evaluated in a 2-year cycle until such time that an educator has earned 3 merit achievement recognition awards. Thereafter, they shall be evaluated in a 4-year cycle. A promotion post holder shall be evaluated in the second year of his/her new position and

Steward

evaluations be made thereafter in a 4-year cycle. Should an educator apply for promotion a fresh evaluation shall be made if the educator's preceding evaluation is more than two years old.

The evaluation procedure shall include, *inter alia*, consultation as set out hereunder

— For level I educators the principal shall consult with his management team

— For heads of department the principal shall consult with his senior deputy principal and deputy principal

— For senior deputy principals and deputy principals the principal shall consult with the superintendent of education

— For principals consultation shall be between superintendents of education (management) and chief superintendents of education (management/vacation)

(2) No

(a) and (b) Fall away

Mr P I DEVAN Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask him to indicate whether or not final evaluations are made immediately prior to the promotion of applicants, or during the year of their promotion?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman the evaluation takes the form of an ongoing assessment and it is done prior to promotions

Mr P I DEVAN Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, the confusion has been compounded in that the hon the Minister has said that there are ongoing assessments or evaluations. This is exactly what I want to clarify. Are final evaluations effected especially for promotion purposes?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, the answer is yes

Mr P I DEVAN Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, then the other explanation about ongoing evaluations etc becomes redundant in relation to the final evaluation for promotion purposes?

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! Is that a question which the hon member is asking?

Mr P I DEVAN Yes, Sir

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, as a former teacher, principal and inspector of schools, the hon member for Cavendish should know that the new evaluation system now allows a principal to conduct an ongoing assessment of his teachers and that he need not wait for the end of the year. That was my explanation insofar as that is concerned

Mr J V IYMAN Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask him whether we are to understand that a teacher is assessed throughout the year, that is to say from term to term throughout the year?

The MINISTER No, that is not quite correct

Mr P I DEVAN Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask him whether there is a moderation exercise in regard to the final evaluation of applicants and, if so, who does the moderation of the rating for final evaluation?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman the answer is yes. I would like the hon member to bear with me, because in my answers later on I will be giving details of that

Resignation of Mr B D Singh from Department

*3 Mr P I DEVAN asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) Whether a certain person from Pietermaritzburg, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply resigned from his Department during the latter half of 1987, if so, (a) what is his name and (b) what position did he hold

(2) whether this person was requested to resign, if so, (a) why and (b) by whom,

(3) whether his Department received any complaints, representations and/or reports on the conduct of this person prior to his resignation, if so, what was the purport of these complaints representations and/or reports,

(4) whether it is the intention of the Department to re-employ this person if so (a) when, (b) why and (c) in what capacity?

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THURSDAY, 28 APRIL 1988

1236

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Mr P T POOVALINGAM Mr Chairman, arising out of that reply, will the hon the Minister advise us of (a) Mr Singh's age, (b) his professional and academic qualifications, (c) his experience and (d) why he resigned?

- (1) Yes
 (a) Mr B D Singh
 (b) Superintendent of Education (Academic)
- (2) No
 (a) Falls away
 (b) Falls away
- (3) No
- (4) No
 (a), (b) and (c) Fall away

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, obviously these questions require that I be absolutely correct and therefore I ask the hon member please to bear with me until I get the answers correctly I am not in a position to give his exact age at this time, nor his qualifications or experience I will make all that available to him

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HOUSE OF DELEGATES

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

Own Affairs

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(2) Yes

(a) 1986 — 54
1987 — 63

(b) 1986

School halls built

51 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Education and Culture

Whether his Department built any school halls in the 1987/88 financial year, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many, (b) where and (c) at what cost?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Yes

(a) Two small school halls and one regional school hall

(b) Small school halls at Rylands Secondary School (Cape Town) and Middelburg Secondary School (Transvaal) One regional school hall at Arena Park Secondary School (Chatsworth)

(c) Small school hall R580 000 each
Regional school hall R1,34 million

State transport for pupils

58 Mr J V TYTMAN asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) Whether State transport was provided to Indian pupils attending schools falling under his Department during the latest specified period for two years for which information is available, if so, how many (a) pupils and (b) schools were involved,

(2) whether, during this period, any private transport operators were employed to provide such transport, if not, who provided this transport, if so, (a) how many private transport operators were employed and (b) what are their names?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) Yes — January 1986 to December 1987

(a) 1986 — 14 330
1987 — 13 933

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Wolmaranstad Muslim Jamaat
Coligny Education Committee

M Osman

Laudium Bus Service

J C J Bus Service

M S Khan

P Gunas

1987

Asmals Bus Service

Davids Cartage

Bonsons Transport Service

Border Passenger Service

M M Desai

Lenasia Bus Service

B Mansingh and Sons

K S Moodley

P Gangai

A K Parak

P J Shimmerts

S B Maharaj

Metro Bus Service

M Moodley

R K Naidoo

Mayville Bus Service

R Maharaj

F A Bhayla

Springfield Omnibus Service

Darnall Motor Transport

South Coast Bus Service

Dieselene Tours

B and B Bus Service

L Singh

Enbee Transport

A C Parak

S R Singh

D M Masher

Shri Krishna Express

A S Motara

Royal Passenger Service

R. Rajkumar

P Maharaj

Yuka Bus Service

Potgietersrus Muslim Association

Doornkop Bus Service

S I Wade

Tongaar Circle Bus Company

Metrolite Bus Service

Tilly's Bus Service

Putco Limited

Shakmodeen

M H Gardie

Tweefontein and Districts

C E Hattia

Breyten Indian Community

R A Bhamjee

Wolmaranstad Muslim Jamaat

Coligny Education Committee

E Parak

Mapumulo Mail Service

Maharaj's Transport

Pillay's Bus Service

M Lakay

David's Bus Service

B J Pieters

L J Haasbroek

City Lane Transport

P Rankisson

Y C Parak

J L B Matthysen

Equal Opportunity Association

M F Patel

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HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Coloureds, Indians in group areas alliance

258

Political Staff

the President's Council to force through the legislation.

CAPE TOWN — The majority parties in the Houses of Representatives and Delegates are to form an alliance in an attempt to block proposed Government changes to the Group Areas Act.

Government sources have indicated it is prepared to ride roughshod over the Indian and coloured houses and use the council to get its way

The latest move follows a National Peoples Party caucus decision yesterday to reject the proposed changes to the Act that will allow for open group areas but clamp down on any contraventions

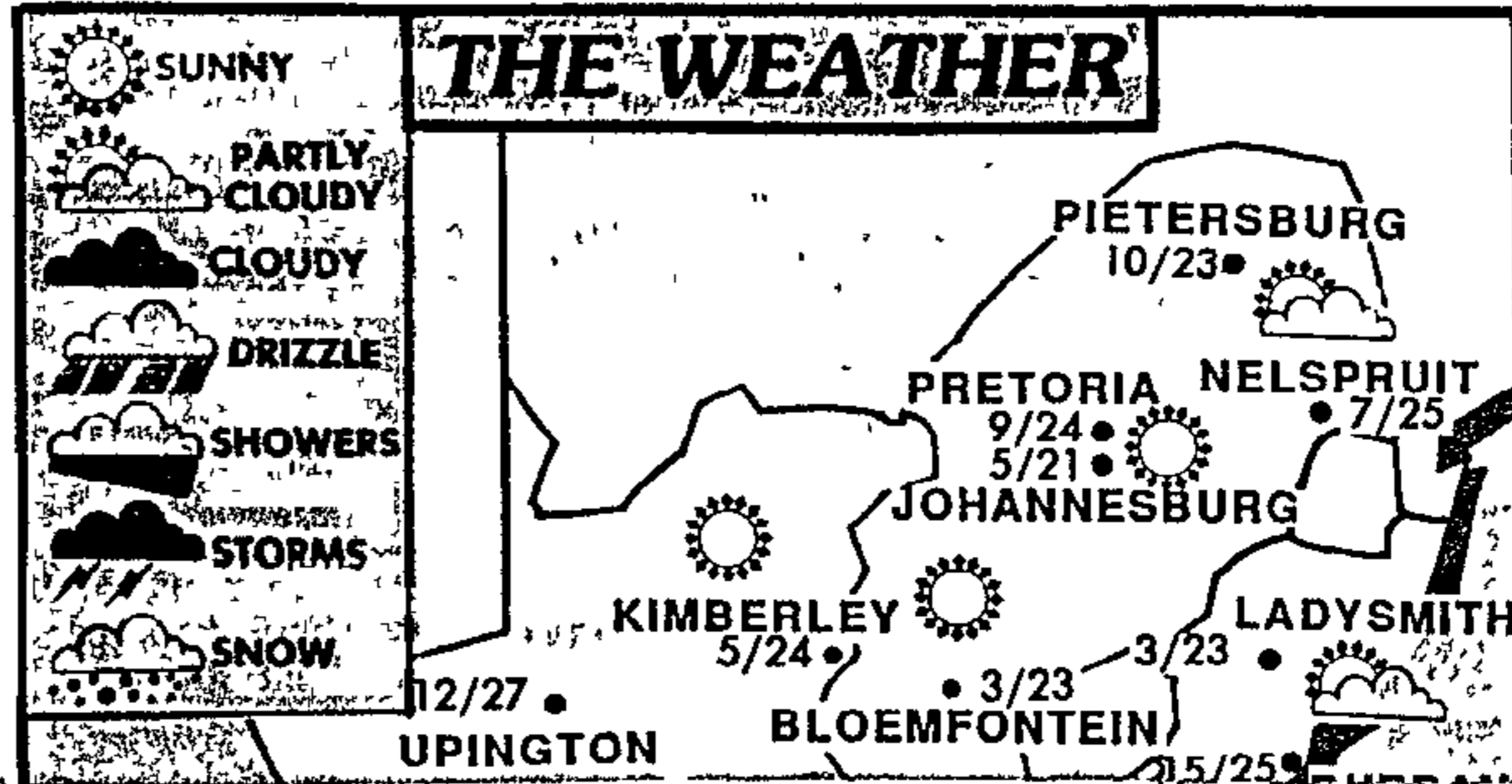
Mr Amichand Rajbansi, leader of the NPP confirmed today that his caucus had decided at a special meeting to oppose the legislation

Another major row over group areas is expected in Parliament today when President Botha presents his vote in the House of Representatives.

A meeting was been arranged with the Labour Party to co-ordinate opposition to the legislation.

If the Government goes ahead with the yet to be published legislation it will have to use its built-in majority in

The Rev Allan Hendrikse, leader of the Labour Party, today welcomed the NPP decision and confirmed that he was prepared to form a common front with the NPP.



House of Delegates MPs stroke PW's ego

Stev 3/5/88 Political Staff

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President Botha had his ego massaged in the House of Delegates when his portfolio was debated yesterday.

One MP was inspired to compare Mr Botha's reform programme with Wordsworth's "London", and quoted

*"Dull would be he of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty"*

Mr Boetie Abramjee, National People's Party MP for Laudium in Pretoria, told Mr Botha that he was more popular among Indians than whites.

He said a survey conducted by the Human Sciences Research Council had shown that 45 percent of Indians believed Mr Botha should be the national leader, against only 38 percent of whites.

Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said Mr Botha was accepted by the vast majority of people as their leader.

Reddy lauds PW, but wants more

President Botha should give meaning to his proposals for a new political dispensation for blacks by releasing detainees, allowing exiles to return, unbanning organisations willing to participate in the Indaba, and declaring a moratorium on Group Areas Act evictions, Opposition leader Dr J N Reddy said in the House of Delegates yesterday. *Sm 3/5/88* *(258)*

He noted in the debate on the State President's vote that Mr Botha deserved credit for taking the step he had towards reform, no matter how small or faltering that step was.

While proposals for inclusion of blacks in the Cabinet and the President's Council were bold measures and demonstrated integrity and honesty, they should still be regarded as merely initial offers in the process of negotiation. But they deserved the full support of all those who sought a peaceful resolution of conflict.

"What is important is that the next step towards a constitutional model has been taken; however, we must also recognise some fundamental problems that retard the negotiation process such as the banning of organisations," Dr Reddy said — Sapa

சென்னை
புதுவாரி
புதுவாரி

Mr Mahmoud Rajab (PFP Springfield) gave notice yesterday in the House of Delegates of a motion that an inquiry be held into the sale of State land in Lenasia to an MP for R34 000 and the intended resale of the land by the MP to the State for R400 000.

Mr Rajab said the committee should report on all transactions relating to the acquisition by Mr Chinsamy Pillay (NPP Lenasia West) of the land and the intended resale of the land to the State.

The role played by the chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, should also be investigated and reported on, Mr Rajab said. — Sapa

New Indian party formed DD 6/5/88



MR BHANA

CAPE TOWN — Indian politics were in total confusion and turmoil yesterday as 11 members of the ruling National People's Party in the House of Delegates resigned to form a majority alliance with the Solidarity opposition.

The confusion was accompanied by charges and denials that religious and caste differences and not political policies were behind the split.

The resignation of the 11 members of the NPP, which included three members of the ministers' council, led to the formation of a new political party.

The ministers who resigned were the ministers of Health Services and Welfare, Mr R. Bhana, Education and Culture, Mr K Ramduth and Budget, Mr I Kathrada.

The chairman of the House, Mr S Abram also defected.

The Independent MP for Actonville, Mr

Ahomed Lambat, said in a statement to the House that the new party would be called the People's Progressive Party.

The new party has formed an alliance with Solidarity and two MPs who sit as independents. This gives the combined opposition 24 MPs to the 19 held by the NPP. The other two seats are held by the PFP.

The party's main aim was to bring stability to the House of Delegates and to protect the image of its MPs' participation.

The alliance informed Mr Botha of what had happened and requested him to reconstitute the Ministers' Council.

A spokesman in the Office of the State President said only that, "the President will deal with the matter according to the Constitution."

A philosophical Mr Rajbansi said at an impromptu press briefing that "anything can happen in the House of Delegates" and predicted that some of the MPs who

had defected would return to the NPP.

Mr Rajbansi said that he could have dangled the "carrot" of jobs, "I could get a few chaps, get rid of ministers, and I have four jobs — you have a job providing you bring one with you."

Mr Rajbansi said he did not intend calling a general election at this stage — "I won't call an election, they must do it."

Asked about the implications of three members of the ministers' council not being members of the NPP, he said the council would meet as usual on Monday.

He did not, however, rule out the possibility of a reshuffle stating that there were members of the opposition Solidarity Party who would willingly take portfolios.

Mr Rajbansi said the "coup" had not come as a surprise. He said there was one man behind the machinations whom "God will punish soon" — Sapa-DDC.



MR RAJBANSI

Does walkout mean end of Raj?

By Bruce Cameron, Political Staff

Star 6/5/88 258

CAPE TOWN — A beleaguered Mr Amichand Rajbansi, who has lost the support of 11 members of his National People's Party (NPP), last night threatened to hold elections and use legal technicalities to hold on to power in the House of Delegates.

Mr Rajbansi has a simple majority in what is now a "hung" House of Delegates after the 11 MPs, including three of his Ministers, deserted him in the opening moments of the House's sitting yesterday.

AGREEMENT WITH SOLIDARITY

Confusion reigned as the Ministers who have left the National Peoples Party refused to resign, saying that an agreement with the 11-member Solidarity Party and support from three independents gave them the majority.

The alliance would, therefore, have 25 seats as opposed to the 18 of the NPP, with the two Progressive Federal Party Members staying out of the fray.

Minister of the Budget, Mr Ismail Kathrada, the behind-the-scenes leader of the revolt, said. "Mr Rajbansi is moral-

ly obliged to resign."

Mr Kathrada said the reason for the break-up was Mr Rajbansi's consistent refusal to agree to a commission of inquiry into the multitude of accusations of corruption in the House of Delegates.

But Mr Rajbansi was refusing to back off, saying he would use a technicality in the rules of Parliament to prevent a vote being taken on any possible motion of no confidence.

President Botha, meanwhile, indicated that he would not take any immediate action to resolve the position.

And at a press conference held by the newly formed breakaway party of the rebels, the People's Party of South Africa (PPSA), the leaders were confused as to what their next step would be.

Mr Rajbansi was also claiming that the position was fluid and could change rapidly. He predicted a repeat of last year's drama when Members changed sides and changed again as the majority swung like a pendulum between the NPP and Solidarity.

To protect itself from the embarrassment of a brief period of power, Solidarity this time has insisted that the rebels form a separate party.

ur pools, says PW's daughter

They added their own interpretations to it. I suppose I can take them to court, but what will that help me. Anyway, more positive things will come up. I'm releasing my first LP shortly."

Ascent, referring to her year's army training, quoted her as saying: "I spent six months in George and six months in Cape Town. I taught old ladies how to shoot and leopard crawl. It was so funny seeing their ----- in the air."

Ascent journalist Mr Richard Bartlett told The Star that the article was shown to Miss Botha before publication. Although she admitted she had not been misquoted, she said she would "cause trouble" if the

article was published. "We always hear about her singing career. We wanted to find out whether there is more to the President's daughter, and we found out," he said.

Last December Miss Botha featured in a controversial American television documentary on apartheid. She said then that she was not misquoted, but was portrayed as a wealthy naive child.

Miss Botha admitted yesterday that she was a privileged South African. "It's not as if I don't know about suffering. I slept on the floor in the army and had cold showers. The blacks just want our houses and swimming pools, but I can't blame them."

The new party and Solidarity have signed an agreement that would make Solidarity leader, Dr JN Reddy, chairman of the Minister's Council of the House.

Mr Kathrada would remain in his current position and take on housing as well. Mr Baldeo Dookie, who resigned as a Minister and led the revolt last year, would return to the Council as Minister of Local Government and Agriculture. Mr Kessie Ramduth would remain with education, and Mr R Bhana with health services.

The leader of the PPSA, Mr A E Lambat, who is considered to be more of a figurehead, would not hold any important position.

IT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT SUNDAYS

THERE'S MORE TO



Are men and



The Star

Rajbansi may fire Minister in move to crush rebellion

Threatened Indian leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi is likely to fire at least one of his rebel Ministers on Monday and use the post as a carrot to create divisions in the ranks of his opponents.

In an interview last night, he predicted Thursday's rebellion could well be over by next week.

"I have six options. I can sit tight. I am sitting pretty."

And there were indications that all was not well in the coalition between the newly formed party of the rebels, the Peoples Party of South Africa, and Solidarity.

Some of the rebels are concerned that Solidarity has shown more interest in taking positions than ousting Mr Rajbansi.

This was confirmed last night by Mr Nizzie Khan MP (PPSA, Isipingo), leader of original rebel "cabal", who said the initial agreement was that Solidarity members would not take any positions.

Workers' Day saw widespread behind-the-scenes activity. There were various meetings during the day and Mr Rajbansi is understood to have approached a number of people.

Mr Khan said the rebels were standing firm. He said if any MPs joined the NPP, giving Mr Rajbansi the necessary four seats to ensure him a majority, they would come from Solidarity.

Mr Rajbansi would not comment on whether he was proposing to fire one of the three rebel Ministers from his Ministers' Council.

It is expected he will ask President P W Botha to get rid of the Minister of Education, Mr Kessie Ramduth, or the Minister of Health Services, Mr Raman Bhana, or both.

A number of meetings have been set up for today and tomor-

row, including one between Mr Khan and Mr Rajbansi.

Mr Rajbansi was still refusing to consider meeting demands for a commission of inquiry into accusations of corruption and mis-government.

This is the major reason given for the breakaway and has been a consistent demand of Solidarity and Progressive Federal Party members.

Mr Rajbansi declined to spell out his six options, although an election for the House of Delegates is thought to be one of them.

The rebel PPSA members will meet tomorrow to discuss their next move after failing to convince President Botha that he should dismiss Mr Rajbansi.

POLITICAL STAFF

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Rebels are confident of ousting Rajbansi — MP

DID 75788

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CAPE TOWN — Rebel MPs in the strife-torn House of the Delegates said last night they were confident that they would wrest control of the house from Mr Amichand Rajbansi despite his optimism at staying in power

The MP for Isipingo and self-claimed leader of the cabal, which claims to have instigated the breakaway from the ruling National People's Party, Mr Nizam Khan, said all the defectors were "solidly united" and no amount of "carrot dangling" by Mr Rajbansi would woo them away

"We are going to put an end to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the house so that we may start concentrating our efforts on national issues rather than the petty bickering which has gone on in the house since its inception in 1984," he added

Among the key officials of the NPP to defect to the newly-formed People's Party of South Africa is the MP for Na-

tal Midlands and Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mr Somaroo Pachai

"The fact that the Minister of the Budget, Mr Ismail Kathrada, the Minister of Education, Mr Kassie Ramduth and the Minister of Health, Mr Raman Bhana, as well as three top officials of the NPP the treasurer, Mr Narantuk Jamuna, the national secretary, Mr George Thaver and myself as national chairman, have quit, is a message for Mr Rajbansi," Mr Pachai said

"In May, last year we had a slim majority to work with, but now the discipline within our ranks is strong — we are confident we'll finally succeed in getting rid of Mr Rajbansi as chairman of the Minister's Council

"Mr Rajbansi cannot ignore the fact He must go It is his type of leadership that has caused the strains in the house His interference with the functions of his ministries cannot be toler-



MR RAJBANSI

ated and not even his own ministers are happy to work with him," he said

The PFP MP for Springfield, Mr Mahmoud Rajab, said

"It is hoped that the new move to rid the community of Mr Rajbansi's leadership will also have the effect of truly representing the interest of the community in its stand against apartheid

"The only positive solution lies in fresh elections, the calling of which we support fully," he added

The secretary of the Natal Indian Congress, Dr Farouk Meer, said "Almost every portfolio is in a mess Housing and rents have gone up while in education more than 350 Indian teachers face losing their jobs"

Political observers have noted that status and position, coloured by religious differences, appear to have played a more important role in the house than political considerations

"The only way to bring this charade to an end is for all the MPs to resign," Dr Meer added

When asked about the possible return of breakaway members to re-install the majority he had, which has now been whittled away to 19 versus 24, with two PFP members on their own, Mr Rajbansi said "Anything is possible in the house" — DDC-Sapa

Breakaway Rocks

By GEORGE MAHABEER

PIERCE lobbying among Indian MPs continued this weekend as Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council, battled to regain his lost majority.

Earlier this week, 11 members of his party — including three Ministers and a deputy Minister — deserted the veteran politician to join an alliance of opposition parties calling itself the People's Party of South Africa.

It is the third time in the turbulent four-year life of the House that Mr Rajbansi's party has lost the majority — but this time it looks permanent.

If he cannot win support for his budget vote on June 4, President Botha will be compelled to call for new elections for the 45-seat House — one of three Chambers of Parliament.

The dramatic break came after an emotional caucus meeting at which, it is understood, Mr Rajbansi clashed with some of his senior Ministers.

Education Minister Kassie Ramduth later claimed he had ditched Mr Rajbansi because of alleged interference by his party leader in his portfolio. He claimed he was no longer in charge of Indian education.

Although Mr Rajbansi made an impassioned plea for party unity at the caucus, his plea fell on deaf ears.

Clean

Included in the new party are Mr Ismail Kathrada, Minister of Budget, Mr Ramman Bhana, Minister of Health Services and Welfare, and Mr Somaroo Pachai, general affairs deputy Minister of Environment.

Mr Rajbansi has been left with only one Minister, Mr S V Naicker, the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture.

Explaining the move, Mr Kathrada told the House of



BATTLING... Amichand Rajbansi

AN IMPASSIONED PLEA FOR UNITY GOES UNHEEDED

Delegates there were "no selfish motives" save to bring "clean administration to the House, to enhance its stature and to be responsible and accountable to the electorate".

He also said a "working relationship" had been agreed on between the People's Party of South Africa and the 11-member Solidarity Party and they aimed to elect Ministers on the Ministers' Council "who had the confidence of the whole House".

But Mr Rajbansi said he was confident of regaining power. He admitted, however, that if his budget vote was

not approved there would have to be elections.

"But they won't reject the budget because the Ministers who defected would be voting themselves out of a job."

"In any case, they are shivering because they know many would not be re-elected," Mr Rajbansi said.

The current crisis for Mr Rajbansi resembles his experiences on the very day the new Ministers' Council was announced in 1984. Only hours before President Botha revealed the Ministers' Council, Mr Rajbansi lost the majority when four members deserted to the opposition Solidarity. All subsequently returned.

Rajbansi

8/5/88 S. V. Naicker



Rajbansi confident of regaining majority

D 19 915788

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Daily Dispatch Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Mr Amichand Rajbansi was optimistic yesterday of regaining majority support in the House of Delegates after 11 members of his ruling National People's Party, including three ministers, abandoned him, and joined a new opposition party.

Speaking before his departure to Cape Town, last night, Mr Rajbansi said "I fly back to Parliament with one wish in my mind I dare my defectors to move a motion of no confidence in me"

Earlier, Mr Rajbansi was given a standing ovation at a meeting of the National People's Party's Chatsworth regional committee at the Saveria Hotel where a vote of confidence was unanimously passed in his leadership

Asked whether he had any takers for his carrots, he said "You'll be amazed by the number of people eagerly waiting to grab it" He, however, declined to name any

Mr Nizam Khan, MP for Isipingo (one of the defectors), who confirmed having talks lasting more than three

hours with Mr Rajbansi on Saturday, said he was "under pressure" to reconsider his decision to defect but he had not yet made up his mind whether to return to the NPP fold

"At least six other defectors are also having a re-think," he said, declining to disclose their identities "at this stage"

Mr Rajbansi said he wished to advise some of the ministers, who broke away, "to take a very strong note of the fact that I have not yet spoken and must note that the day I do the talking some people will never be able to face society again"

Turning to Solidarity leader, Dr J N Reddy, who has been tipped to take over as chairman of the Ministers Council, Mr Rajbansi said "I want to advise Dr Reddy

that this whole exercise to topple me is a master plan which could also affect Dr Reddy's position after the plan reaches phase two

"This is a move in phase one to sideline Dr Reddy because one person who came into the NPP became very ambitious"

Dr Reddy could not be reached for comment yesterday

● Solidarity was willing to give up its right to ministerial positions in the House of Delegates and would still support the newly-formed People's Party's plan for a clean administration, its national chairman, Mr Ismail Omar, said yesterday

In terms of an opposition pact, Solidarity was offered two positions

"We are willing to give up the positions offered

to us and will give our full support to the People's Party if it was bent on providing a clean administration," he said

The combined opposition, which now commands majority support, has vowed to block moves by Mr Rajbansi to call for fresh elections to resolve his current numbers crisis

Mr Rajbansi said he would ask State President P W Botha to call an election for the House if he failed to regain majority support

Mr Ismail Omar, said only the Ministers Council had the right to call for the House to be dissolved and fresh elections to be held

The majority of the Ministers Council are no longer with Mr Rajbansi and therefore as a minority leader he can no longer dictate — Sapa

THE combined opposition in the House of Delegates, which now commands majority support, is to block moves by beleaguered Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers Council, to call for fresh elections to resolve his current numbers crisis in the Indian parliamentary chamber.

Mr Rajbansi, who lost his majority in the House last week, said he would ask State President Mr

Rajbansi 'desperate'

P W Botha to declare an election for the House if he failed to regain majority support following the defections of 11 ruling National Peoples Party MPs

The defectors, including three ministers and a deputy minister, have formed a new party — the Peoples Party of SA — and signed a pact with the opposition Solidarity Party

The combined opposition, including two Progressive Federal Party members and independents, can now muster a voting strength of 26 in the 45 member

house against Mr Rajbansi's 19

Solidarity's national chairman, Mr Ismail Omar, said yesterday Mr Rajbansi's threat to call an election was seen as a "desperate gasp"

He said only the Ministers Council had the right to call for the House to be dissolved and fresh elections to be held — Sapa

Sowetan
9/15/88

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Rajbansi facing defeat or deal with new alliance

D/D 10/1/88
(258)

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, faces a parliamentary defeat today, unless a deal can be struck with the new majority alliance in the House of Delegates.

The alliance between Solidarity, the official opposition, and 11 members of the newly formed Peoples' Party, attempted to flex its muscles yesterday by introducing a motion "without notice" to elect its own chairman of committees.

The attempt failed.

The motion, introduced by the Minister of the Budget, Mr I Kathrada, one of the rebel National Peoples' Party (NPP) MPs, will be debated today.

Unless Mr Rajbansi can regain an overall majority by this afternoon, the alliance, which claims the support of 24 MPs to the NPP's 19 — would have demonstrated its superiority.

This, it hopes, will cause the state president, Mr P W Botha, to re-constitute the Minister's Council.

However, only a short while after the alliance's motion failed, Mr Rajbansi was confident of staying in power, for



MR RAJBANSI

the time being at least.

"The events taking place are in our favour and I challenge the alliance to agree to an election — but I know they won't," he said.

"Several developments are taking place and there are many options."

It is understood that some of the NPP rebels have approached Mr Rajbansi to conclude a new agreement.

There was also speculation that some of Solidarity's own members are unhappy about the list of Ministers' Council members drawn up by

the new alliance.

The three NPP ministers who broke away are included, and this is said to have angered some Solidarity members, who feel that they should have been nominated.

They are now threatening their own split.

Another possible solution to the crisis, which was being spoken about yesterday, was a possible deal between the Solidarity leader, Mr J N Reddy, and Mr Rajbansi.

● Five senior political correspondents yesterday rejected attempts by Mr Rajbansi to backtrack on a statement he made, that he could regain his majority by "dangling carrots".

He said the matter should be seen in the true perspective.

"A member of the media in the presence of other members of parliament, asked me whether I would dangle carrots to regain a majority. To this I replied 'You are stating this and not me'. From this it is clear that I have not stated what is printed in the press."

However, the five journalists yesterday disputed Mr Rajbansi's version of what happened and stood by their original reports.

Pressure to resign ⁽²⁵⁸⁾ but Rajbansi resists

Monday 10/5/88

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN—The power struggle in the House of Delegates continued yesterday with Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers' Council, under increasing pressure to resign but refusing to move.

The new majority alliance between Solidarity and the Peoples' Party showed its muscle yesterday by forcing through its own nominations for two official appointments

In an obvious bid to avoid it looking like another major setback, Rajbansi supported the nominations and congratulated the newly appointed Chairman of Committees, Muthusami Thaver, one of the breakaway rebels, and the new deputy Chairman of Committees, Palanisamy Devan.

Rajbansi faced the alliance's 24 votes,

plus two PFP members, to his National Peoples' Party's 19

Rajbansi will come under further pressure on May 19 when a motion by Solidarity leader J N Reddy, calling on the President to sack him, is discussed.

Both can dissolve any House if it passes a vote of no confidence in the Cabinet, rejects a money bill, or the Ministers' Council requests him to do so.

Zola Budd yesterday . . . bitter and disappointed. South Africa was making significant efforts to end the can retaliation.

SA-Angola talks on track

Political Staff

11/5/88

CAPE TOWN — The Angolan peace talks in Brazzaville, Congo, still seemed to be on track today — despite earlier warnings from Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha that press leaks about the talks might have jeopardised them.

But it now appears that if any damage was done it had been repaired by last night. Diplomatic sources confirmed today that arrangements were still going ahead.

It is understood that Mr Botha and Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan will head the South African delegation to the Congo to meet an Angolan delegation tomorrow and Friday.

From Washington, The Star Bureau reports that the conflict in Southern

Africa will be one of the main items on the agenda in Geneva this week at a top-level US-Soviet meeting to iron out problems before the May 29 summit between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Americans will seek Moscow's view on last week's talks in London on the Angolan civil war and Namibian independence.

The Star's Africa News Service reports from Maputo that top-level American officials continued their secret consultations with Mozambique yesterday. Mozambican Prime Minister Mario Machungo met US State Department official Mr Charles Freeman who said afterwards that Mozambique help in bringing independence to Namibia and peace to Angola.

Rajbansi fights to regain majority

Political Staff

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CAPE TOWN — Beleaguered Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council, threatened to fire his Cabinet as he made a desperate attempt last night in a series of meetings to regain his majority in the House of Delegates.

His first meeting with the 11 rebels who broke away last week to form the

People's Party of South Africa broke up in acrimony after 45 minutes.

According to sources in the rebel group at the meeting, Mr Rajbansi threatened to fire all his Ministers and particularly Mr Ismail Kathrada, Minister of the Budget, who played a major part in the break, and Deputy Minister of the Environment, Mr Somaroo Pachai.

dy for her new arms

South African who was born severely short now tonight just other four-year-old all her father's

and mysterious he says this is do when British arms.

ily, who come tern Transvaal, r the past week npton Hospital,

acknowledged as the world's leading treatment centre for Phocomelia victims.

Doctors will say today how they plan to fit her artificial limbs. The youngster will then spend six weeks visiting the hospital for treatment and therapy.

Her parents are optimistic that the new limbs will ensure she has a chance to develop normally. She is mature for her age

As the little girl dashed around the Kensington flat where the family is staying, Mr Gower said: "She has seen a lot of doctors and through all of this she hasn't shed a tear."

After proceedings had ended, Mr Rajbansi approached a number of people individually, including the chief whip of Solidarity, Mr Yunus Moolla.

Notice of a motion calling on President Botha to dismiss him as chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council was given in Parliament yesterday.

Notices were also given in Parliament of motions calling on President Botha to appoint a commission of inquiry into allegations of corruption and bribery.

Rajbansi under further pressure to resign

D/D 11/5/88 (258)

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The power struggle in the Indian House of Delegates continued yesterday with the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, under increasing pressure to resign but refusing to move

The new majority alliance between Solidarity and the Peoples' Party showed its muscle yesterday by forcing through its own nominations for two official appointments

In an obvious bid to avoid it looking like another major setback, Mr Rajbansi supported the nominations and congratulated the newly-appointed Chairman of Committees, Mr Muthusami Thaver, one of the breakaway rebels, and the new deputy Chairman of Committees, Mr Palanisamy Devan

Mr Rajbansi had no other option than to support their nominations in the face of their alliances' 24 votes to the 19 of the National Peoples' Party

The nominations were also supported by the two members of the Progressive Federal Party

Mr Rajbansi will come under further pressure to resign on May 19, when a motion by Solidarity leader, Dr J N Reddy, calling on the state president to sack him is discussed, along with other motions of no confidence and calls for commissions of inquiry into allegations of corruption and maladministration

Dr Reddy's motion said " in view of the fact that the chairman of the Ministers' Council no longer enjoys the support of the majority of members in the House of Delegates, the House therefore calls upon the state president to relieve him of his appointment, and to replace him with a member who commands the support of the majority "

Dr Reddy is the alliances nomination for the appointment which can only be made by the state president

Mr Pat Poovalingham, (PFP, Reservoir Hills), was more direct in another motion "This house has no confidence in the chairman of the Ministers' Council and calls on him to resign forthwith "



DR REDDY

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Mr Amichand Rajbansi's National Peoples' Party has attempted to outflank the new majority alliance in the House of Delegates by calling for a general election

The alliance, which up to now has been separately trying to avoid an election, cheered the motion introduced by Mr Mohamed Shah, (MP for Lenasia Central), but derided another motion, by Mr Mahomed Baig, (MP for Moorcross), that the house had full confidence in the chairman of the Ministers' Council

They will be debated on the same day as a motion of no confidence in Mr Rajbansi which has been introduced by the

Call for election in bid to outflank alliance

leader of the alliance, Dr J N Reddy, leader of the Opposition in the House of Delegates

Mr Shah's motion read " that the stature of this House in light of events from August 28, 1984, can be improved by the holding of a general election at the earliest possibility "

While alliance members now outwardly support the election move, a few days ago they were totally opposed to anything which could lead to an election because they believed this would delay inquiries they have called for into alle-

gations of bribery and maladministration

Mr Reddy's own motion could, if the alliance's majority holds firm, lead to an election according to some observers

In terms of the constitution the State President, Mr P W Botha, can call an election if there is a motion of no confidence in the Ministers' Council and it is being argued that a motion of no confidence in the chairman is by implication a motion of no confidence in the whole Ministers' Council



MR RAJBANSI

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710 12/5/88

Rajbansi ^{Sowetan} 13/5/88 **attacked** 258

THE National People's Party of Mr Amichand Rajbansi had led the Indian community on a disastrous path because it had aligned itself with the National Party, so tightening the nuts and bolts of apartheid, Mr Mahmoud Rajab (PFP Springfield), said in the House of Delegates.

It was for that reason that Mr Rajbansi should resign, Mr Rajab said in debate of the budgetary and auxiliary services Budget vote

All members elected to the House of Delegates had promised the electorate that they would do everything possible to remove the nuts and bolts of apartheid but very few had done so. On the contrary, Mr Rajbansi had helped entrench apartheid

Mr Rajbansi in

particular had brought the House into grave disrepute because he had failed to ask the State President, Mr P W Botha, to appoint a commission of inquiry into all the allegations of corruption which had been made in the past, he said

The State President was also to blame. The fact that he had failed to appoint a commission of inquiry when he had the full right to do so was cause for grave concern

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Raj plays the baiting game

The reputation of the House of Delegates (HoD) lies in ruins. Only by an act of political genius, or an excoriating investigation, can public faith be restored.

Sadly, both for those HoD members who remain concerned about such things and the community it serves, neither process is likely. Not until P W Botha, the master of political strategies, is prepared to sacrifice his close ally and the constant target of the periodic rebellions in the house, Amichand ("Raj") Rajbansi (See Leaders)

The intriguing question which lingers is why Botha should allow this situation to continue. He chides the (coloured) House of Representatives for failing to produce acceptable leadership — and yet it is the HoD which clearly deserves such criticism.

"Rajbansi's tactics," muses Professor Mervyn Frost, head of the Department of Political Science at the University of Natal, "brings into the open what one must suppose goes on behind the scenes quite a lot."

"If the tricameral system was not already in disrepute before, this brings it into grave disrepute. And if the State President were intent on salvaging some respect for the system, he would have to institute some inquiry, or make a public statement."

"If he doesn't do so, one must assume he is condoning what has happened."

If recent history serves as a guide, the HoD is thus destined during the next few days to stumble from its present "crisis" to yet another humiliating stalemate. This is likely to leave "Raj" nominally in control of the house and more deeply indebted to his

political patron — but at the price of increasing public disillusionment with not only the HoD, but the entire tricameral apparatus.

Already the first cracks have appeared in the shaky coalition established last week among 11 dissidents from Rajbansi's National People's Party (NPP) and the 11-member official opposition, Dr J N Reddy's Solidarity. Threatening their marriage of convenience — struck with the exclusive purpose of unseating Rajbansi — is dissatisfaction about the outcome of the horse-trading that produced their "agreement of coalition."

The agreement was presented by Solidarity in the absence of Botha to Tuynhuys administrator Jannie Roux, as "proof" of their majority and to support an appeal for the State President to reconstitute the Council of Ministers in the HoD.

An evidently unfazed Rajbansi (who has declined to talk to the FM until a press conference called for Friday), later crassly enlarged on the prospect of MPs going to the polls. "I have not yet spoken," he told political correspondents, "and the day I do the talking some people will never be able to face society again."

Rajbansi also referred scathingly to "dangling carrots" in his quest to either woo back to his fold sufficient numbers of dissident NPP members, or lure opposition members to his support. It is a technique he has previously applied with success and the coalition knows it stands an odds-on chance of working again (He denies using the "carrots" phrase, but that is disregarded).

Responding to the rumours of tension within the coalition, Reddy told the FM this week that the positions agreed to could be renegotiated, adding that "at present the gentlemen who came away (from the NPP), are holding their own."

Reddy described as merely a "first test," the outcome of a vote to elect the chairman and deputy chairman of committees. This vote was due as the FM went to press. He believed this would show Rajbansi had lost the majority — a prediction which fails to take into account the possibility that Rajbansi might instruct his remaining faithful to vote with the coalition and thus obfuscate the outcome.

In any event, said Reddy, a drawn-out process then loomed, during which the coalition would have to explore its constitutional options. A vote of no confidence in the Ministers' Council looked increasingly unlikely, he suggested, since this might embarrass those new members of the "opposition" who until last week were (and to date remain) ministers.

Cynics suggest such a vote is even less likely, since it could lead to an election. In the meantime, prospects of Rajbansi winning his "baiting game" must be rated very strongly.

□ Notice of two motions calling for Rajbansi's resignation was given in the HoD on Tuesday. Also tabled were motions calling for commissions of inquiry into land allocation and Indian education. All will be debated on May 19.

ANGOLA TALKS

Double games

Foreign Minister P W Botha believes it is "bitterly ironic" that just when serious moves are being made to restore peace in southern Africa, American legislators are preparing to pass the toughest ever sanctions package against the region. Speaking as talks in London between SA, Angola, the US and Cuba ended in London last week, Botha said US legislators should "pause and think" and "come to their senses."

And as to give weight to his words, Botha and Defence Minister Magnus Malan were this week preparing to attend further talks in Brazzaville, Congo.

But a new threat to peace in southern Africa is looming on the horizon. It is reported that Cuba — one of the players in the peace drama — may be preparing a surprise attack on South African forces in southern Angola in a bid to undermine the four-nation peace talks now underway.

As the bargaining for peace gains momentum, there are reports in Portugal that the Cubans are advancing on South African forces holding positions in Cunene province. One Portuguese estimate says SA has 8 000 troops stationed in the south, Unita 22 000, and the Angolans-Cubans 220 000.

A recent report from the battlefield said Cuban forces, resupplied through the southern port of Namibe, had been advancing gradually along the Lubango-Xangongo axis south of the Cunene River and had taken up positions at Evale, 90 km from Namibia.

Military observers in Lisbon were concerned at the development, suggesting that Havana may be seeking to sabotage the current peace talks by launching a maverick attack against South African forces.

Meanwhile, optimism is high over the possible outcome of the Angolan peace process. The Portuguese Foreign Ministry held consultations this week with envoys from SA, Cuba and Angola prior to the second round of talks in Brazzaville. It is understood that



1988



Amichand Rajbansi

A Rajbansi game of dangled carrots and revolving seats

By Weekly Mail Reporter, Cape Town

THE game of political musical chairs in the House of Delegates will carry on next week when various motions are debated about the position of the beleaguered chairman of the Minister's Council, Amichand Rajbansi.

If the eight ex-Rajbansi supporters do not break rank, or are not enticed back into the fold by "carrots" dangled before them, it seems likely a People's Party/Solidarity alliance will take control of the House of Delegates, with Dr JN Reddy taking over Rajbansi's position.

But for how long will such an alliance hold together?

The track record of the House of Delegates, whose members were elected in 1984 on an effective 16 percent poll, suggests it won't be long before the alliance will be in trouble, particularly with Rajbansi in opposition without the sometimes time-demanding burdens of office. Not to mention the "carrots"...

But it may not come to all that. Rajbansi has a trump card: an election.

It is clear no one in the House of Delegates but the ruling National People's Party is in any condition to face the polls, however low they may be

In a number of recent by-elections, the NPP has thrashed Solidarity and other splinter parties, suggesting Rajbansi has control of a party machine which is able to organise. As long as that machine has not been broken by the latest rebellion, he should be able to come back with a comfortable majority — provided more popular movements continue to boycott the tricameral system.

Certainly, Rajbansi seems very confident about winning an election. On Monday, the first day of debate in the House after the rebellion which resulted in three of his four Mini-

ster's Council colleagues deserting him, Rajbansi boldly sported a flower rosette and then managed, during the debate on the Justice vote, to say he was wearing it in anticipation of a great NPP victory in the election.

Rajbansi would prefer not to go to the polls and he evidently hopes the threat of an election and the "carrots" of office will bring enough people back to his side to ensure a majority.

But if an election is his last option, Rajbansi will go for it — and if the contestants are limited to the parties currently in the House of Delegates he will, in all probability, win it comfortably.

The remarkable aspect of the whole comedy, which is not doing the im-

age of the tricameral system much good, is that, ideologically speaking, there is little political difference between MPs in the House, save two, Pat Poovalingham and Mahmood Rajab of the PFP.

The conflict over power and position between Rajbansi and Reddy goes back to the days of the defunct South African Indian Council. Ever since Rajbansi managed to oust Reddy from office, the Solidarity leader has battled to revenge that defeat.

In some respects, the government would be happy with Reddy, whose urbane, serious nature and very conservative politics — for instance, he publicly rejects one-person-one-vote as unworkable — would make him a

very presentable "leader" of the Indian people.

But Rajbansi has impressed Nationalist leaders by his role within the cabinet. They say there has never been any suggestion of disclosures of confidential information from cabinet discussions and he delivers what he has said he would do. "When Rajbansi commits himself to something, you know it is a commitment," one Nationalist said.

So, although for different reasons, President PW Botha and the government can live with either Rajbansi or Reddy, but they are unlikely to want to perpetuate a situation where the House of Delegates is dominated by personality clashes, coup and counter coup. Botha may feel an election is the only way out, particularly if it results in a clear winner. For both Rajbansi's and Botha's purposes, an election may take place soon.

Although that may produce a result in the short term, it is doubtful whether it will stop the competition for position and power in the House of Delegates. But it may be the only way out.

Allegations fly over breakaway

DURBAN — Allegations concerning the amazing power plays of two prime figures in the turmoil surrounding the House of Delegates were disclosed last week.

Isipingo MP Mr Nizam Khan, a former member of Mr Amichand Rajbansi's National Peoples Party (NPP) and one of the main organisers of

the walk-over of 11 MPs to form the breakaway Peoples Party, has accused Mr Rajbansi, chairman of the Minister's Council and Mr Khan's former leader, of making threatening telephone calls and late-night visits in a desperate attempt to rally support to himself.

Mr Khan said that he and other PP members recently attended a meeting where Mr Rajbansi appealed to them to return.

When they refused, Mr Rajbansi became irrational, threatening and abusive, he said.

Solidarity leader Dr J N Reddy's role is said to have been equally remarkable.

The defections would have occurred earlier this year, when Dr Reddy was abroad on a Government-sponsored trip, but were delayed, sources said.

In the meantime, it is alleged, both Dr Reddy's Solidarity party and the House's PFP Members had already decided they would attempt to facilitate a break-up in the NPP by not seeking positions on what they derisively call "the gravy train".

On his return, Dr Reddy allegedly demanded that breakaway MPs should join his party, and that he must be given the top job in the House of Delegates in return for Solidarity's support.

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Power struggle in House of Delegates set to continue

^{P.10 715/88}
Parliamentary Staff
CAPE TOWN — The power struggle in the House of Delegates is set to continue tomorrow when the house resumes sitting after a two day break for the Muslim celebration of Eid.

The newly formed Peoples Party of South Africa (PPSA) — made up of the 11 breakaway MPs from Mr Amichand Rajbansi's ruling National Peoples' Party (NPP) — has claimed that a further eight NPP members are considering defecting to the party.

The MP for Isipingo and the PPSA's spokesman, Mr Nizam Khan, said yesterday that "behind-the-scenes" talks were underway with several NPP members and he was optimistic that when they returned to parliament the NPP

would lose another eight members, leaving Mr Rajbansi with only nine.

"Mr Rajbansi has asked for another meeting with the PPSA in Cape Town tomorrow, but we are going to tell him in no uncertain terms that he must step down as Chairman of the Minister's Council or we'll move a motion of no confidence in him."

"The majority in the house is prepared to face an election somewhat may and threats by Mr Rajbansi to call one would not scare us into running back into the NPP fold."

When approached for comment, Mr Rajbansi confirmed that he was meeting the PPSA tomorrow, but declined to comment on Mr Khan's claims that a further eight NPP members were planning to walk over to the PPSA.

Encouraging performance by Protea 258

Star 18/5/88

CAPE TOWN — A healthy increase in premium income plus a near-doubling in the shareholders' slice of life profits are features of an encouraging performance from Protea Assurance in the first quarter

Detailing the group's fortunes, the chairman, Cedric Walton, told yesterday's annual meeting that the company's Life division continued to make excellent progress with net premium income inclu-

sive of single premiums climbing by 78 percent and net annual premium income up by 63 percent.

"Excellent support from brokers has led to the Life branches achieving an increase of 141 percent in net new annual premium compared with the same period last year"

On the short-term side, there were relatively few individual claims during the quarter with no major fire losses, he noted

In addition, the recurrence of widespread and severe flooding was largely confined to the rural, agricultural areas where the company's involvement was limited

"The recent upturn in the economy, greater consumer awareness of the need to protect property and greater involvement of the police in day-to-day maintenance of law and order are reflected in very satisfactory results in the personal lines portfolio," he said

Bid to oust Rajbansi expected to continue today

CAPE TOWN — Attention may be focused on the House of Delegates today and tomorrow to see how far the new breakaway Peoples Party will go in their bid to have Mr Amichand Rajbansi ousted from power.

Talks with the 11 rebel MPs who left Mr Rajbansi to form an alliance with the Solidarity Party (SP) has so far not produced any indication that the Chairman of the Ministers' Council has been able to re-form a majority

The most potentially damaging motion to Mr Rajbansi which will be introduced today by the leader of the SP, Mr J. N. Reddy, will call on the State President, Mr P. W. Botha, to relieve Mr Rajbansi of his post and appoint a member who commands a majority

Some politicians feel that this could be interpreted as a motion of no confidence in the Ministers' Council, which could pave the way for dissolution of the House and a general election

A former National

Peoples Party (NPP) MP, Mr Nizam Khan, is also scheduled to move a private member's motion calling on Mr Botha to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of bribery and corruption, linked to the House of Delegates and the former SAIC.

MPs said yesterday that as the combined opposition now commanded 26 votes as against the NPP's 19, the motion was certain to be passed. (258)

Another motion to be moved today by the SP MP for Cavendish, Mr Palinasamy Devan, calls for an investigation into Indian education

Mr Rajbansi said at the weekend that he would support the call for an inquiry but would insist its terms of reference should be widened.

However, opposition MPs said it was up to them — and not Mr Rajbansi — to decide whether or not this would be done.

"We have the majority and we will call the tune," one MP said.



MR RAJBANSI

There have been suggestions that Mr Botha, called in Mr Rajbansi last week to discuss the crisis in the House.

Mr Rajbansi told a press conference in Durban last week that he would be prepared to stand down as the chairman of the Ministers' Council for a trial period, provided his NPP caucus agrees. — PS

Rajbansi defiant as the end looms

Stew 20/5/88
Political Staff 258

CAPE TOWN — A defiant but embattled Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council, said today he would not resign despite almost assured success of a motion to dethrone him.

In an amazing succession of events yesterday Mr Rajbansi attempted to use every technicality to avoid a final reckoning while the opposition alliance altered its tactics to avoid an election in the House of Delegates.

The issue is expected to come to a head later today as the opposition alliance push for a vote on an amended motion calling on Mr Rajbansi to resign.

But Mr Rajbansi said "I will not resign. They cannot force me to."

Marathon speech seen as bid to save career

Debate was adjourned in the House of Delegates soon after 10 pm yesterday after the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, embarked on a marathon speech in an apparent bid to save his political career.

This was in response to a motion calling for his resignation as chairman from the Leader of the Official Opposition, Dr J N Reddy.

Dr Reddy said that when the majority in a House changed it should be recognised.

"What we are asking for is recognition of a de facto situation that has arisen in the House (that a major defection has left Mr Rajbansi with a minority)."

Mr Rajbansi said last night he should be allowed to deliver his lengthy speech, since it involved his name and career. He wanted to place on record his side of the story.

He enumerated various political intrigues and warned the Opposition that his party consisted of master tacticians.

He said any governing alliance would be of a temporary nature because very few would tolerate what he had tolerated as chairman.

D.L.B. 20/5/88

Rajbansi's post in balance

Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — Mr Amichand Rajbansi's position as chairman of the House of Delegates' Ministers' Council remained in the balance last night after a surprise adjournment at 10 15 pm

Fighting for his political life against a background of allegations of corruption and maladministration, Mr Rajbansi said defiantly in a

marathon defence that his career was not at stake

"Nobody can point a finger at me," he said shortly before the chairman of the House, Mr Salam Abram Mayet, declared the debate adjourned for the sake of the administrative staff who had been on duty almost continuously from 2 15 pm

It was clear from proceedings that Mr Raj-

bansi had little hope of surviving a vote on the floor of the House, but he gave no indication that he intended complying with the demand to resign

He said he had a "master plan" about which he did not want to talk but instead hinted that the reports of an inquiry would hurt certain members of the new majority opposition alliance between Solidarity and the People's Party

D 10 21/5/88

Rajbansi won't resign despite majority vote

Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — The State President, Mr P W Botha, is considering what to do about the latest crisis in the House of Delegates and the defiant stand by the embattled chairman of the ministers' council in the House, Mr Amichand Rajbansi

Mr Rajbansi, a member of the central cabinet, is holding on to his seat in spite of a motion by the new Solidarity—Peoples' Party alliance calling on him to resign. The motion was passed by 24 votes to 17 after a marathon two-day debate.

Various motions of confidence and no confidence were also passed and rejected which raise a maze of constitutional problems.

One interpretation of the situation is that Mr Botha has no choice but to dissolve the House and call a general elec-

tion for the House of Delegates.

Another, is that he could simply reconstitute the ministers' council and appoint the Solidarity leader, Mr J N Reddy, as the new chairman. The alliance has already published its list of nominees.

But yesterday, only minutes after the alliance clearly demonstrated its numerical majority in the House, Mr Rajbansi declared "I am still in the saddle."

A spokesman in the President's Office said "The state president will react to the decision of the House after he has had the opportunity to consider the matter in terms of the Constitution Act."

When asked what the next step would be, Mr Reddy, said "That depends on the state president. He knows what has happened here. Now it is up to him."

At a press conference

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after the debate, Mr Rajbansi said "I am not going to resign."

"I have no obligation to resign."

He added that he could have had a majority but said he did not try for one because "in this case I am not obliged to resign."

Mr Rajbansi claimed that yesterday's vote was a smokescreen for "a master plan" to get another group into power.

He said that, as far as he was concerned, it would be business as usual.

He said he had "informally" asked the ministers' council to ask the state president for an election but they had been "reluctant."

However, the constitutional problems arise because the alliance called on Mr Rajbansi to resign, which in some circles is interpreted to be a vote of no confidence in his ministers' council.

Rajbansi loses vote but clings to power

Star 21/5/88

258

BRUCE CAMERON
Political Staff

Chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council Amichand Rajbansi was clinging to power by his fingernails last night — with only President Botha standing between him and defeat.

After the overwhelming 24 to 17 vote calling for Mr Rajbansi's resignation yesterday, President Botha declined to give immediate comment.

Mr Rajbansi's opponents are already saying "It's the last days of the Raj".

A spokesman for President Botha's office Mr Jack Viviers, said the President would react to the decision of the House of Delegates "after he has had the opportunity to consider it in terms of the Constitution".

Dr J N Reddy, leader of the opposition alliance, said President Botha should ask Mr Rajbansi to resign.

He said he would try to get a meeting with the President on Wednesday.

Mr Rajbansi was still resorting last night to what he has considered his last threat — an early election.

He said he would ask his Ministers' Council next week to approve a request to the President for elections.

The vote against Mr Rajbansi came after two days of extraordinary scenes and unprecedented confusion in the House of Delegates.

At one point, Mr Rajbansi's NPP had two contradictory amending motions before the House one calling for a vote of confidence in the Ministers' Council, the other calling for a vote of no confidence.

Both were thrown out in favour of the motion calling on Mr Rajbansi to resign.

At a Press conference after the vote, Mr Rajbansi said, "It is business as usual. If I wanted to I could have won the vote."

But unlike last year, when members changed sides again and again, the opposition this time has held absolutely firm, despite pressure from Mr Rajbansi.

Only minutes before the vote, Mr Rajbansi made an appeal to Mr Reddy, leader of Solidarity, and Mr Samaroo Panchal, chairman of the People's Party of South Africa which broke away to wreck Mr Rajbansi's majority, not to force the issue to a vote.

Mr Rajbansi told the

● TO PAGE 2



HEADING FOR THE CROWN Three Miss South African finalists relax before the final lap. They are blonde Cheryl Coombe-Davis from Port Elizabeth, Sibongile (Bongi) Sokhulu of Johannesburg and Halinka Stanidis of Pinelands. Photograph. Sean Woods.

morale is at low point, claims Vlok

Star 21/5/88

four highly trained white terrorists emphasises once again the futility of the organisation's efforts," Mr Vlok said. Information was being regularly received about ANC members who were disillusioned. "The ANC's punishment camp, Quatro, is the fate of many a misled and disillusioned terrorist." Those who wanted to join the ANC had to be realistic. "They are heading for a disaster which eventually means death, long imprisonment or torture in the ANC's Quatro camp. Terrorists who are sent to the Republic are going on suicide missions, because confrontation with the security forces means either certain death or a long period of imprisonment." Mr Vlok said he wanted to warn people not to be misled by the ANC — Sapa.

Black Miss SA finalist needs some reassurance

SARA MARTIN

"If the black people would support me, I wouldn't feel so much like a fish out of water," said Sibongile ("Bongi") Sokhulu, the only black Miss South Africa finalist among the 12 aiming for the title this year.

"I have had so many problems to face to enter the contest. I had to overcome the taboos of my people, many of them who still don't believe in beauty titles as they regard them as degrading to womanhood," said the tall, statuesque TV news reporter yesterday.

"If my people would support me, it will open the way for many more black women to enter the contest in future."

Sitting on the Miss South Africa throne would mean a lot to this talented 24-year-old. For not only would the cash prizes enable her to continue supporting her three brothers and sisters who are still studying, it would also offer her an opportunity to travel.

Bongi, who was born in Umlazi, Durban, the oldest of five children, abandoned her studies prematurely and took up teaching so she could help her mother support the family. Her father had left home when Bongi was in Std 1.

She entered her first beauty contest at the age of 16 and walked off with the title. She has won four titles since, including Miss Nafcoc and Miss Black South Africa.

Bongi has worked as a producer for women's magazines for TV2 in Durban, then as producer of a music programme, and on April 1 she was appointed as reporter for TV2 in Johannesburg.

She is secretive about her love life, but admits with a twinkle in her eye that there is someone waiting behind the wings.

Rajbansi in a corner

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Press conference that there was no moral obligation on him to resign because the members of the House of Delegates did not respect values or conventions.

He said the Ministers' Council, with three rebels in the opposition ranks, would continue to sit normally.

After denying at first that he had been in contact with the President Botha's office during the day, he said "If I had discussions, I can't discuss it."

He made a prediction that anything was possible in the House of Delegates.

PRESIDENT BOTHA this weekend stood confronted by yet another constitutional crisis in the faction-riven House of Delegates.

Startling personal attacks were made this week as the majority of members of the Indian chamber of Parliament sought to unseat Mr Amichand Rajbansi, the wily chairman of the Ministers Council. In a bruising debate on Friday the House voted 24-17 that Mr Rajbansi did not have the support of the House. But Mr Rajbansi is simply refusing to go.

Top-level meetings involving President Botha and Constitutional Development Minister Chris Heunis and parties in the House were scheduled for early this week.

President Botha is confronted by two choices:

- Concede to the wishes of the majority in the House and reconstitute a new Ministers Council without Mr Rajbansi



AMICHAND RAJBANSI



PRESIDENT PW BOTHA

President faced by two choices as Indian MPs rebel

- Dissolve the House and call for new elections.

A spokesman for the State President's Office said yesterday that Mr Botha would react to the new development in the Indian House of the tricameral Parliament "after he has had an oppor-

tunity to consider it in terms of the constitution".

It is understood, however, that President Botha, wary of the constant bickering and shifting of support, will wait to see if there are any further developments.

Meanwhile, members of

Rajbansi should go, but less keen about returning to the electorate to stabilise the situation.

This is the second time President Botha has been drawn directly into a dispute concerning one of the ministers in the two other chambers of Parliament.

Earlier this year he was asked to sack Mr Carter Ebrahim, Minister of Education and Culture, following demands from the Labour Party, majority party in the House of Representatives.

Amended

Yesterday Mr Rajbansi said he had no intention of resigning, whether convention demanded it or not. The House had never had any respect for conventions in the past, anyway, he said.

On Friday, after a long and involved debate, the House voted on an amended motion introduced by the Deputy Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, and also Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr Samaroo Pachai (Natal Midlands) that, since Mr Rajbansi no longer enjoyed the support of the majority of members in the House, he must resign "forthwith".

Faithful

The decision came after a bitter battle of words across the floor between the newly formed 22-member Alliance party comprising the official Opposition Solidarity Party of Dr J N Reddy and the breakaway group of 11 MPs who defected from Mr Rajbansi's ruling National People's Party to form the People's Party of SA (PP), which is led by the MP for Actonville, Mr A L Lambat.

Those who defected and voted against Mr Rajbansi and 16 other MPs, were, apart from Mr Pachai, Ministers Ismail Kathrada (Budget), Raman Bhana (Health Services and Welfare), Kassipershad Ramduth (Education and Culture).

The only Minister faithful to Mr Rajbansi to the end was the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture, Mr S V Naicker.

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

PRESIDENT BOTHA'S CRISIS
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An Indian election must follow inquiry — Reddy 258



DR REDDY

DURBAN — The leader of the opposition alliance in the House of Delegates, Dr Jayaram Reddy, said yesterday that elections for the House should take place once a judicial commission of inquiry into alleged corruption had been held

The combined opposition would ask the State President, Mr P W Botha, to appoint a commission as soon as possible, he said

Dr Reddy said that allegations — linked to the Indian administration and Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi — gave the House of Delegates a bad name in the Indian community

Until the allegations were publicly tested an election would not be advisable, he said

"All members will want to walk tall with their heads held high and only a judicial inquiry will decide whether or not they can do this"

Dr Reddy said he had received a reply from Mr Botha on Friday, in which the State President said he would regard any indication that the allegations harboured truth "in a serious light"

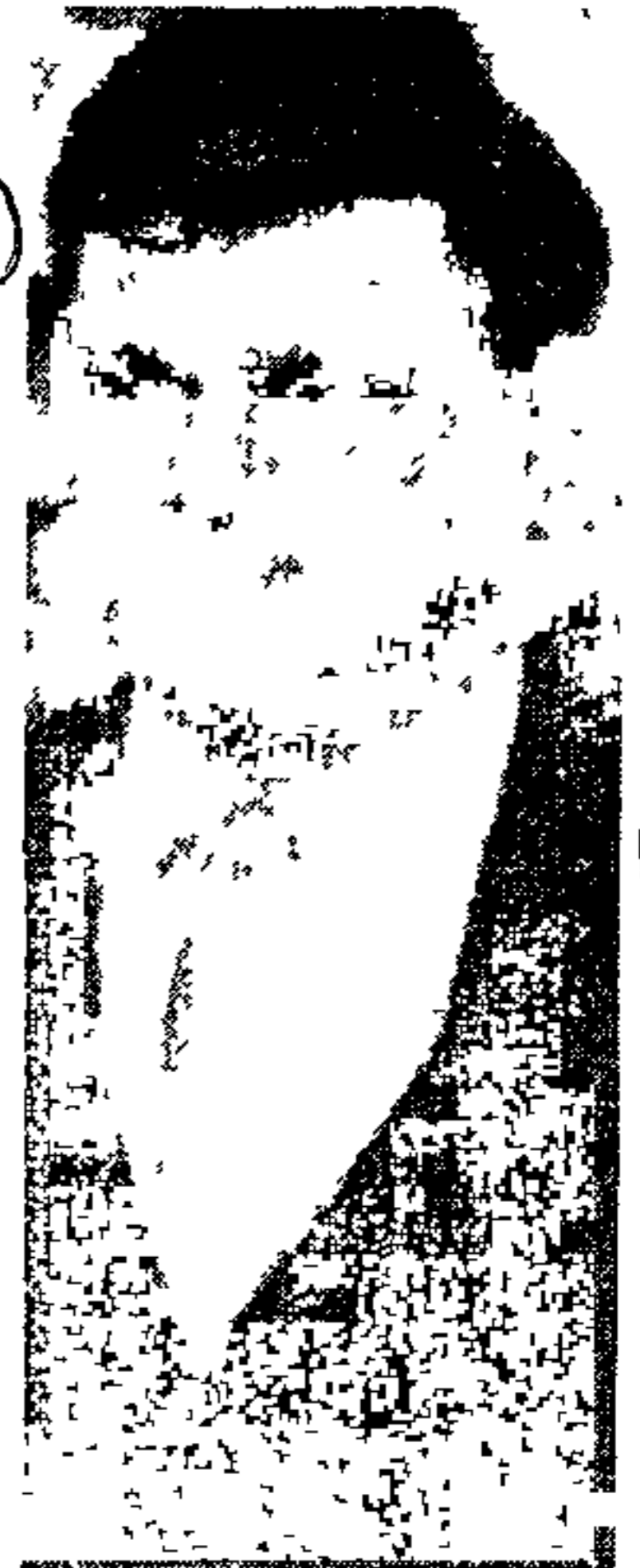
Mr Botha also said he had received no requests from the House of Delegates for a commission of inquiry or for a dissolution of the

house, Dr Reddy added

● Meanwhile, a survey conducted by the Durban-based Institute of Black Research has found that Mr Rajbansi is disliked by most Indians — contrary to his claims of popularity

At a recent press conference Mr Rajbansi said he believed that he and jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela enjoyed equal popularity in the Indian community

An institute spokesman, Dr Fatima Meer, said that the survey — which had the names of 37 Indians listed as leaders of the Indian community — had shown Mr Rajbansi to be the most unpopular personality — Sapa



MR RAJBANSI

Alleged corruption to be investigated

DURBAN — Leader of the opposition alliance in the House of Delegates, Dr Jayaram Reddy, said yesterday that elections for the House should be held once a judicial commission of inquiry into alleged corruption was held.

The combined opposition would ask the State President, Mr P W Botha, to appoint a commission as soon as possible, Dr Reddy said in a statement.

Dr Reddy said allegations linked to the Indian administration and Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers' Council, gave the House of Delegates a bad name in the Indian community.

Until allegations were

Dr Reddy. elections should be held.

publicly tested and proved, an election would not be advisable, he said.

He said he had received a reply from Mr Botha on Friday. The State President said he would regard in a serious light any indication that the allegations harboured truth. — Sapa

Rajbansi leads Indian poll for unpopularity

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STV 23/5/85

DURBAN — A survey conducted by the Durban-based Institute of Black Research has found that House of Delegates leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi is disliked by most Indians.

Mr Rajbansi claimed recently that he and ANC leader Nelson Mandela enjoyed equal popularity in the Indian community.

Institute spokesman Dr Fatima Meer said the survey showed that Mr Rajbansi is the most unpopular personality of all. — Sapa



Amichand Rajbansi ... disliked by most Indians

Rajbansi's fate in PW's hands

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MR Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Indian Minister's Council, was clinging to power by his finger nails with only President P W Botha standing between him and final defeat.

After the overwhelming 24-17 vote calling for Mr Rajbansi's resignation on Friday President P W Botha declined to give immediate reaction.

A spokesman for his office, Mr Jack Viviers said President Botha would react to the decision of the House Of Delegates "after he has had the opportunity to consider it in terms of the constitution."

Dr J N Reddy, leader of the Opposition Alliance, said the president should ask Mr Rajbansi to resign.

He would seek to see the President on Wednesday

Political Correspondent

Mr Rajbansi was still resorting at the weekend to what he has considered his strongest threat — that of an early election.

He said he would be asking his Ministers Council next week to approve a request to the State President for elections.

And for the first time after weeks of hints the NPP claimed that religious differences were behind the move with Mr Abdulla Khan, MP (NPP Brickfield) claiming he had been asked to support a Muslim plot.

Counter 23/5/88

SOWETAN, Tuesday, May 24, 1988

PRESIDENT P. W. Botha faced accusations yesterday that he was protecting Mr. Amichand Rajbansi, the embattled chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council.

And Mr. Rajbansi, fighting for his political life, said yesterday he did not think the ball was in Mr. Botha's court as there had been no motion of no

confidence or a vote against a budget.

However, Mr. Rajbansi threw a new challenge into an already confused situation saying he would consider resigning as chairman if the members,

particularly three Ministers and the Deputy Minister, who deserted his National People's Party, resigned their positions first.

A spokesman for President Botha's office,

Mr. Jack Viers said yesterday no decision had yet been taken on any action to be taken following Mr. Rajbansi's defeat and call for his resignation in a dramatic debate in the House of

Delegates on Friday

He repeated an earlier statement that "the President can only deal with decision of the House after he has considered the decision in terms of the constitution

"He will do so as soon as he has the opportunity."

RAJBANSI
embattled.

D/D 24/5/88

Rajbansi: ethnic bias to elections 258

PIETERMARITZBURG
— The unacceptable policy of electing local authorities on ethnic grounds often resulted in the tailoring of expenditure to the benefit of whites

This was stated by the

Chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, yesterday

Mr Rajbansi told the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs in Natal that local authorities should not

hide behind government policy

While some criticism of Regional Services Councils was valid, the RSC system was an improvement, because it provided for the allocation of services to areas which could not afford

them and because they were non-racial bodies, he said

Mr Rajbansi said all race groups had to be included in the decision making process. "We can not allow for the entrenchment of apartheid to continue" — Sapa

Indians call for better services in Free State

D/P
24/5/84
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BLOEMFONTEIN — The members of the House of Delegates yesterday called for improved services and rights for Asians in the Free State

The Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs was told by the People's Party member for Natal Midlands, Mr S Pacha, that yesterday's proceedings constituted a considerable advancement on the days when Asians had to have written authorisation to travel through the Free State

Mr Pacha, who is the Deputy Minister for Environmental Affairs, also made a plea for a ward for Indians to be opened at the Virginia Hospital

He quoted the case of an Indian family who live 600 metres from the Virginia Hospital, having to travel 32 kilometres to Welkom which was the only hospital in the area that accepted Indian patients

While the National People's Party member for Central Rand, Mr S Collakoppén, called for improved facilities for

Asian businessmen

He also asked that attention be paid to the fact that there were no Asian cemeteries in the Free State

The Labour Party member for West Free State, Mr G Rooskrans, pointed out that Kroonstad had only one district surgeon and, because he had to see between 150 and 300 people every Monday, he could not control his temper and told ill people to "come back tomorrow"

Mr Rooskrans called for the appointment of more surgeons

On a different note, Mr Pacha congratulated the Free State on its preservation of natural resources, which, he said, was complementary to the government's policy of environmental conservation

He said he understood, however, that there was not much acceptance in the Free State for the Keep South Africa Beautiful Association's campaign

Littering was a vast problem, he said — Sapa



MP calls for probe into betting system

CAPE TOWN — The National Party MP for False Bay, Mr A L Jordaan, yesterday called for the Cape Provincial Administration to investigate the "Pick Six" betting system and consider its abolition

Mr Jordaan said during the joint debate on the Cape Budget that there was serious concern in racing circles at the number of outsiders who had won since the "Pick Six" was instituted

He said he regretted to say that, in the search for the cause of this phenomenon, attention had become focussed on the jockeys

Mr Jordaan said he wanted to know who the anonymous people were who won the "Pick Six" and what the amounts were which were won, asking whether it was not time that racing clubs were forced to reveal this information

Another concern, he said, was that, while it was a person's right to bet if he could afford it, many people, lured by the massive payouts on the "Pick Six", staked their very bread and butter and that of their wives and children — DDC

Botha seeks to end Rajbansi impasse

Political Staff

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CAPE TOWN — The impasse in the House of Delegates is expected to be resolved tomorrow when President Botha separately meets the embattled Mr Rajbansi and his Ministers Council, and the leader of the new majority, Dr J N Reddy.

There is no indication what Mr Botha intends to do to break the deadlock, but the new majority alliance gave notice today that it would not abandon its demands for Mr Rajbansi's resignation.

Mr Botha has asked Mr Rajbansi and his Minister's Council, including the three rebel Ministers who broke away to spark the crisis, to meet him at 9 am tomorrow.

Mr Reddy has been called to the President's Tuynhuys offices at 10 am.

It is doubtful whether Mr Botha will attempt to establish any reconciliation between the men following a message from Mr Reddy earlier this week that he would not agree to any coalition with Mr Rajbansi.

Mr Reddy confirmed this today saying the rift was far too deep to permit any working arrangement. Mr Rajbansi was not available for comment.

Reddy threat to pull out

LEADER of the majority opposition alliance in the House of Delegates, Dr J N Reddy, has threatened to pull out of the tricameral system unless reasonable consideration is given to the problems of Indians and coloureds.

Dr Reddy said he could not see himself returning if the Indian and coloured communities could not get a reasonable reaction to their problems.

He said as the whites had constituencies so had the other groups and there had to be a reasonable response in a conflict of interest.

He appealed to the Government not to make the job of meeting the demands of their constituencies difficult by being unreasonable.

Appeal

Speaking in the extended committee of parliament on provincial affairs in Maritzburg, Mr Reddy cited two local problems facing the Indian community in the Durban area as examples.

He said a promise had been made to white voters during last year's white elections that the industrial area of Prospecton should be left in the white town of Amanzimtoti and not transferred to Isipingo.

The election promise had been followed up with a process of meeting with the promise being met.

He said Prospecton had not been developed by Amanzimtoti but by the Tongaat group and handed to Amanzimtoti on a platter.

At the very least could have an agreement on rates.

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50 weeks 26/5/88

50 weeks 27/1/68
Rajbansi to
know fate

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THE State President would have to consider the legal implications carefully before taking any action against the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, the Minister of Information, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, said yesterday.

He told a Press briefing on Cabinet matters that after today's meeting, Mr Rajbansi's position would probably be resolved.

"The way in which the motions (against Mr Rajbansi) were manipulated in the House makes it obvious that they wanted to get rid of Mr Rajbansi but wanted to avoid an election," Mr Botha said — Sapa

Reddy ²¹⁰ asks PW ^{28/18} to take ^{7/18} action ⁽²⁵⁸⁾

PIETERMARITZBURG
— The Leader of Solidarity, Dr J N Reddy, has sent a telegram to the state president, Mr P. W. Botha, asking him to reconstitute the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates

In his telegram, Dr Reddy asks for the reconstitution in view of the fact that the present chairman, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, had lost his majority in a vote on a motion calling for his resignation last week

Dr Reddy said that he, "as the person elected to represent the new majority", rejected suggestions of coming to a "working arrangement" with Mr Rajbansi

He said he was awaiting the state president's reply "with interest"

Indian MPs threaten to bring down House

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

PRESIDENT Botha is facing a serious revolt in the Indian House of Delegates which could lead to the collapse of the chamber's "own affairs" administration.

Striking back, members of the House have threatened to render the administration in there "ungovernable".

The protest came in the wake of President P W Botha's refusal to heed a call from the majority of MPs to fire his controversial Cabinet colleague and Chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

In frank discussions this week President Botha shocked Indian MPs by threatening to fire all the Ministers — whether pro or anti-Rajbansi — or call completely new elections.

He told the delegations from various factions that he had received hundreds of letters and telegrams from members of the Indian community expressing disgust at the antics of the parliamentarians.

But angry MPs and former

PW threatens to fire all Ministers



AMICHAND RAJBANSI
Making last ditch stand

Ministers who left Mr Rajbansi's Cabinet out of protest against his alleged "dictatorship" are gathering this weekend to discuss strategy to counter the President's threat.

Such strategy may include the formation of a new majority party of 22, comprising the 11-member official Opposition Solidarity Party of Dr J N Reddy and the break away 11-member newly-established People's Party of South Africa (PPSA).

which includes the four rebel Ministers.

They would request Mr Botha to recognise the leader of the 22-member merged party, in terms of the Constitution, as the man who enjoys majority support in the House and demand he be appointed Chairman of the new Ministers' Council in terms of the Constitution.

The testing of the validity of Mr Botha's interpretation of the particular clause in the Constitution he relied on to refuse their request in a court of law.

Making Indian own affairs "ungovernable" by using the 22 member majority party with the assured backing of two PFB MPs, Mr Mahmood Rajab and Mr Pat Poovalingam and one or two Independents, to block all further legislation in the House.

A special meeting called by Mr Botha on Friday in Cape Town to try to resolve the deadlock in the House, he shocked the four rebel mem-

bers of the Rajbansi "mini-Cabinet" when he told them he would have no hesitation in firing all of them, including Mr Rajbansi and the one loyal Minister, Mr S Y Nalcker, and then reconstitute the Ministers' Council with totally new Ministers.

Alternatively, he told them he may decide to dissolve the whole Indian House and call for elections.

They should go and think over the matter for a week but he would announce his decision, either way, next Thursday.

The meeting was called to discuss the "hung" status of the House following the defection of four Ministers from the ruling National People's Party (NPP) to form a new party, the People's Party of South Africa (PPSA).

Shock

In an attempt to oust Mr Rajbansi as chairman of the Ministers' Council, the alliance, by a 24 to 17 vote last week, passed a motion of no confidence in him as chairman of the Ministers' Council and called upon him to resign "forthwith".

Mr Reddy said he was "shocked" by Mr Botha's attitude. He said Mr Botha clearly wanted to force an election on the Indian House, shielded by Mr Rajbansi from the possible harmful conclusions of a commission of enquiry into allegations of bribery and corruption in the administration of the House before an election.

The spokesman for the PPSA, Deputy Minister Somaroo Pachal, said "The PPSA is stunned by the State President's attitude. We are in a serious fix and will support Solidarity in seeking legal advice".

The National Chairman of Solidarity and member of the President's Council, Durban attorney Ismail Omar, said "In my opinion, Mr Botha acted beyond his powers".

MP intimidates

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

MP Peter Marais — small in stature but big on spunk — is back in the news for roughhousing.

Fellow parliamentarian Mr Enver Essop has laid a charge against him for allegedly splitting his lip with a well-aimed upper-cut during a squabble in a Maritzburg polling station last week.

"If I had retaliated, I could have broken his neck," said Mr Essop.

Mr Marais said his opponent had only himself to blame for the incident — and laid a counter-charge against Mr Essop.

"He provoked me by pushing his finger in my face in a threatening manner," he said.

"I am much older than he and I think his behaviour was very disrespectful".

This is the third time Mr Marais has been involved in a punch up.



PETER MARAIS
"I was provoked"

Yesterday said he had punched Mr Essop, Labour Party MP for Nureveld, after Mr Essop had become aggressive.

Mr Essop said he had been "fed up" with the Marais supporters.

"The UDP girls, helping with the by-election kept harassing those of us from the Labour Party" with uncalculated remarks.

During the 1984 elections for the House of Representatives, Mr Marais was charged with flooring a UDF heckler who was trying to disrupt a political meeting. He was acquitted.

The latest incident occurred last Monday morning at a polling booth in Maritzburg during a House of Representatives by-election battle.

Mr Marais, who is national chairman of the United Democratic Party (UDP),

28/5/88
29/5/88

Rajbansi row: PW angers Delegates

CAPE TOWN — President P W Botha's constitutional confrontation with the majority in the House of Delegates over the future of Mr Amichand Rajbansi could derail his legislative programme

There is deep anger in the ranks of the majority alliance in the House of Delegates at what they see as an attempt by President Botha to save Mr Rajbansi's skin

Members of the Opposition alliance were saying last week that, if President Botha frustrated their efforts to get rid of Mr Rajbansi, they would retaliate by delaying the legislative programme

If the House of Delegates were to vote against all remaining legislation Mr Botha

would then have to go through the lengthier process of using the President's Council to put it through

If Mr Botha decides to go for an election for the House of Delegates he will have to delay until after the Parliamentary session

He needs all three Houses of Parliament to get through legislation

The majority alliance in the House of Delegates is seriously considering reducing Mr Amichand Rajbansi's salary to a rand a month, according to MPs over the weekend

They said that reducing his salary was a way of showing displeasure at his continued clinging to power without an overall majority — Political Staff, Sapa

MPs look at ways to oust Rajbansi

Political Staff

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CAPE TOWN — The majority alliance in the House of Delegates will weigh various strategies to force Mr Amichand Rajbansi to resign when a series of meetings are held here tomorrow.

Solidarity and the rebel People's Party of South Africa are considering three basic options all of which could be used either to force President P W Botha's hand to fire the beleaguered Mr Rajbansi or make him resign.

The options include:

- Voting for a reduction of Mr Rajban-

si's salary to a nominal amount.

- Taking legal action to force President Botha to reconstitute the Minister's Council.

There is deep anger in the ranks of the majority alliance in the House of Delegates at what they see as an attempt by President Botha to save Mr Rajbansi.

Mr Botha has told the feuding parties that he sees the motion calling for Mr Rajbansi's resignation as a motion of no confidence in the entire Ministers' Council.



PW urged to act on Rajbansi

Mr Pat Poovalingam (PFP Reservoir Hills) yesterday asked the House of Delegates to call on the State President, Mr P W Botha, not to make a complete mockery of democratic principles by sheltering the Chairman of the Minister's Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

In giving notice he

Step 2/16/88
would move that the House express its concern and serious disapproval of any person, "no matter how high his status", who flouted or thwarted the will of the House's majority, Mr Poovalingam said Mr Botha was obliged "in terms of all that was fair and just and proper" to require Mr Rajbansi's

resignation or to dismiss him from office as Chairman of the Minister's Council

The House had clearly declared, by an overwhelming majority, that it no longer supported Mr Rajbansi and in doing so rejected a motion of no confidence in the entire Ministers' Council — Sapa.

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Eglin 'cannot accuse PW of arrogance' ^{Star 3/6/83} (258)

CAPE TOWN.— It was disgraceful of PFP leader Mr Colin Eglin, to accuse the State President, Mr P W Botha, of "arrogance and party political manoeuvring" to save Mr Amichand Rajbansi in the House of Delegates, the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said yesterday.

Mr Heunis said Mr Eglin was the last person

Mr Eglin had accused Mr Botha of not upholding democratic principles after Mr Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council, lost majority support, and of threatening to dissolve the House of Delegates and call elections.

The State President had either the power or the option either to dissolve the Ministers' Council and appoint a new one or dissolve the House and call for an election, said Mr Heunis.

who should accuse anybody else of arrogance

Anti-Rajbansi front crumbles

Star 3/6/88 Political Staff (258)
Chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council Mr Amichand Rajbansi has survived another concerted attack as the majority alliance which had fought for his dismissal broke up in all but name yesterday.

The 11 rebels, who broke away to form the People's Party of South Africa (PPSA) two weeks ago, have decided to toe the line after being faced with the threat of an election or having four of their members sacked from the council.

In another day of high drama on Wednesday, meeting followed meeting with no agreement being reached against the deadline set for yesterday by President P W Botha for the members of the House of Delegates to resolve the situation.

FALLOUT

None of the members of the PPSA or their alliance colleagues in Solidarity were yesterday prepared to comment on what had happened to cause the fallout.

It is understood that President Botha was told yesterday that the PPSA would support a motion moved on Wednesday by independent Mr Fiaz Khan, a supporter of Mr Rajbansi, of full confidence in the entire Ministers' Council.

But members of the PPSA were maintaining that they would continue to sit in the opposition benches and that they would in fact control the Ministers' Council, holding three of the five posts.

The backdown by the PPSA was clearly sparked by President Botha's warning that he could either call an election or that he would reconstitute the Ministers' Council, but without re-appointing a single rebel.

Star 3/6/88

PW 'manoeuvred' to save Rajbansi — Eglin

Parliamentary Staff (258)

President Botha had resorted to party political manoeuvring in order to save the political hide of Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said Progressive Federal Party leader Mr Colin Eglin when he called yesterday for the dismissal of the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates.

Mr Botha's blatant attempts to protect "his political friend Mr Rajbansi" were further examples of the dictatorial and imperial style increasingly adopted by Mr Botha and the Government, said Mr Eglin in the House of Assembly during the Constitutional Development and Planning vote debate.

He said that every established convention, every democratic principle, called out for Mr Rajbansi to be dismissed.

Enough is enough

P W Botha's intervention last week to stop the continuing debacle in Indian parliamentary politics was inevitable. Tough measures to sort out the mess and to prevent its recurrence were due to be announced from Tuynhuys shortly after the *FM* went to press

FM



Rajbansi

It seemed that only a reconciliation (extremely unlikely) between the Ministers' Council chairman, Amichand Rajbansi, and three rebel ministers who broke away from his party last month, would avert all of them losing their jobs or a general elec-

tion for the House of Representatives. Rajbansi, who lost the majority in the house after his National People's Party (NPP) split and an opposition alliance of J N Reddy's Solidarity, the PFP and the newly-formed People's Party of SA (PPSA) passed a motion of no-confidence in him, has steadfastly refused to quit as chairman.

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He claims to favour an election to resolve the issue, but says the rebel ministers (whose backing he says he needs to ask the State President to dissolve the house and call an election) are opposed to the move.

3/6/88

At separate meetings with the Ministers' Council and Reddy last week, Botha is understood to have read them the riot act and given details of letters and telegrams he has received expressing "disgust" with the behaviour of the Indian MPs.

It was reported that Botha threatened to dissolve the house and call an election (although it is argued that he does not have the power to do so, unless such a move is requested by the Ministers' Council) or dismiss all the ministers (which he can do) and form a new Ministers' Council in which none of the current incumbents will be included.

This week, both Solidarity and the PPSA were seeking legal advice while Rajbansi was welcoming the prospect of an election (which would probably favour his NPP far more than the opposition alliance). Either way, it seemed that the escapades of recent weeks were at an end.

Deposed MP still lives in splendour

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Political Staff

One of the "casualties" of the internecine political warfare in the House of Delegates, the Reverend Edward Mannikam, deposed as Chairman of the House, has continued to live in the splendours of high office.

Mr Mannikam, on his election last year as chairman of the House of Delegates, moved into a luxury ministerial house — rent-free — at the Pelikan Park housing estate for Indian members of Parliament on the shores of Zeekoevlei in Cape Town.

But following his removal from office on March 16 he should have moved out at the end of April into one of the more humble houses for ordinary MPs at a nominal rent of R100 a month.

A spokesman for the Department of Public Works at the weekend confirmed Mr Mannikam should have moved out more than a month ago.

RENT FREE

Mr Mannikam had not been paying rent as the houses were rent free. However a rental on the house was now being fixed and arrangements were being made for him to move out.

All the time Mr Mannikam was in his luxury residence he still had possession of two ordinary MPs' homes which were specially adapted and joined together because he has a paraplegic son.

When he moves up in the world his son remained behind.

Mr Mannikam, formerly a Solidarity member, was voted into office last year when Solidarity briefly held the majority in the House.

This year, however, when the National People's Party felt it was firmly in control it made a move to unseat Mr Mannikam who promptly joined the NPP to avoid being dumped.

But it was too late. Members of both sides of the House who were angered by his side-swapping voted him out of office.

DEAR Mr Ibrahim Bawa — Congratulations on being elevated to the status of "a prominent Indian leader" That is not your description, but one bestowed on you by his master's echo, SABC-TV's Network

In truth, as a South African classified "Indian" against my wishes, I have never regarded you as my leader, prominent or otherwise. Indeed, a lot of Lenasians, similarly classified, had not heard of you

I read in a Sunday newspaper that you did not respond to numerous messages its reporters left for you regarding your interview with the National Party's ace propagandist Cliff Saunders. I too tried — unsuccessfully — to contact you

In the circumstances, please forgive us if we are wrong in believing that you are trying to do a P. J. Kooymhof or Amichand Rajbansi or Bhadya Ranchod, not answering some awkward questions we may put to you

For example, in praising the perpetrators of apartheid for scrapping the influx control laws, you claimed that there is now freedom of movement of association, and that job reservation had been scrapped

Really? Then how come the most important job in the land, that of State President, is reserved for whites?

Please explain to us why do so many of our compatriots have freedom of movement but are refused passports?

Do tell us about the Group Areas Act. How free are African people to move house or shop in areas designated for other population groups as defined by your newly found champions of freedom and reform?

How great is the freedom of movement of people classified as "coloured" or "Indian" by your newly found champions of freedom? Is anyone free to move house or set up shop wherever he/she can afford?

Please, Mr Prominent Indian Leader, tell us more about freedom of association

Questions begging for answers

Sowetan 18/6/88

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LAST week, Mr Ibrahim Bawa, former director of the Islamic Council of SA which is opposed to participation in the Tricameral system, told SABC-TV viewers why he was going to participate in the House of Delegates. Ameen Akhalwaya, Editor of the Indicator, questions some of the statements Mr Bawa made

Your champions of freedom have made it repeatedly clear that separate residential areas and schools are non-negotiable. Can you tell us if our children have freedom of association? Can they attend any public school of their choice? Or is their racial classification the first criterion?

Tell us how free you yourself are to sit next to one of your colleagues, Dr Ram Saloojee, at a meeting of the Islamic Council of SA (ICSA) of which, his master's echo informs us, you are editor-director?

In case your thinking has been dazzled by the

bright reforms you perceive, let me remind you that Dr Saloojee is vice-president of ICSA. In February he was again restricted by your newly found champions of freedom. What was his crime? He carried out his Islamic duty to fight injustice and oppression.

In terms of the restrictions Dr Saloojee cannot participate in any activities of ICSA which, in any case, is a small body not taken very seriously by the majority of Muslims. Nor can he participate in activities of the United Democratic Front of which he is Transvaal vice-president.

Freedom

So great is the freedom of movement and association with which your champions of reform have endowed Dr Saloojee, that he is confined to the magisterial districts of Johannesburg and Vereeniging. He may not address meetings at which 10 or more people are present, nor can he in any way be involved in publications which means he can't be quoted.

If he could he might have said that you are talking nonsense.

Thus, while you are at liberty to make questionable, if not fatuous, statements through his

master's voice, Dr Saloojee has to keep his mouth shut or face the prospect of again being locked up in jail which would not exactly be conducive to freedom of movement or association would it?

You told Mr Saunders blacks don't very much like Indians. Can you prove that? Do you not consider yourself black? You regard yourself as "Indian". Pray do tell us how Islam defines an Indian? What in South Africa is an Indian?

As a member of ICSA did you consider yourself as an "Indian" or a "Muslim"? If you regard yourself as a Muslim what about Muslim people in SA who are classified black by your champions of reform? Do they dislike you because you are classified Indian?

Did you ask your colleagues in ICSA if they were classified "Indian" or white or "coloured" or black?

Did you believe that because a person classified "black" disliked you, you had to join the great reformists who are champions of their version of Christian Nationalism?

To Mr Saunders you claimed that Islam was against communism and socialism. Pray, do explain what you mean by socialism?

You said Islam calls for the equitable distribution of wealth, and then you implied that controlled capitalism was the right vehicle for it.

Pardon my ignorance about the subtleties of such things but I always believed — not least from listening to your champions of reform — that equitable distribution of wealth is also a socialist concept.

It is true that Islam and communism cannot be bed-fellows. But surely, if

Muslims are against communism are you saying they must support apartheid by default? Or are you implying that if Muslims were to choose between apartheid and communism between apartheid and socialism, they would have to choose apartheid?

You also claimed that the majority of "Indians" would not vote for the UDF or ANC? If that is indeed so, then why do your champions of free association refuse to let those classified "Indian" or whatever to state publicly where they stand in relation to these organisations?

Why are the champions of free association so scared to let us have genuinely free and democratic elections, irrespective of their racial classification of us so that we can once and for all determine who enjoys our support?

When I say our I speak as a South African, not as a member of some humiliating racial category selected by your champions of reform.

Warned

You commended Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi during your interview. As far as I can recall Chief Buthelezi warned those classified "Indian" and "coloured" against participating in the racist tricameral charade.

You implied that Chief Buthelezi's restraining power had been responsible for preventing "blacks" from having a go at Indians in Natal. Then surely he doesn't dislike "Indians"? Or are you implying that he is an exception, that others such as the UDF's Archie Gumede and Albertina Sisulu, Azapo's Nkosi Molala, or even the ANC's Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and Govan Mbeki and the PAC's Johnson Mlambo dislike "Indians" and might not restrain Africans from having a go at them?

By the same token, are you implying that your newly found champions of reform don't dislike those they have classified "Indians"?

Why is the SABC so reluctant to broadcast religious services of non-Christian groups?

• To Page 7



Political comment in this issue by Aggrey Klaaste and Joe Thloloe. Sub-editing headlines and posters by Sydney Matlhaku. All of 61 Commando Road, Industria West, Johannesburg.

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Please answer

• From Page 6

Why can a Christian, Allen Hendrickse, become a member of the House of Representatives, and not the HoD or the House of Assembly? Why can another former priest, Andries Treurnicht be a member of the House of Assembly and not the HoR or HoD?

Freedom of movement, freedom of association, reform?

Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, spoke out strongly against the notion of any one race group being superior to another. In fact, Islam calls on its followers to pick leaders from the best among us.

If Nelson Mandela, Chief Buthelezi and even P W Botha are regarded by the people as the best, why are they not allowed to vote for them — as leaders of the country?

I also want to ask you: If the majority of "Indians" don't support the UDF or ANC, then whom do they support — The HoD?

If so, then how come less than 20 percent of those classified "Indian" endorsed the Tricameral system? And if the vast majority of "Indians" reject the HoD, is that where you want to be?

And if and when you get into the HoD, will you be speaking only for Indians as an "own affair"? Will the Muslims who are classified "black" or "coloured" or "other coloured" or "white," or any of God's other children for that matter, be someone else's affair?

Either you are politically confused, Mr. Bawa, or I am. Please answer these questions to put my simple mind at ease — Ameen Akhawayah



Reddy



Rajbansi

In a response slammed by HoD members as an "astonishing perversion of democracy," State President P W Botha and Rajbansi simply ignored the vote. For two weeks the 11 NPP rebels (who in the interim had formed the People's Party of SA) were effectively whipped into line.

The outcome was a vote of confidence in the full council (and by implication Rajbansi), passed at Botha's instruction by a June 2 deadline. The alternative, Botha had warned, was that he would either call an election, or form a new Ministers' Council excluding not only the sole original target of the HoD's lack of confidence — Rajbansi — but all of its former members.

Botha's justification was the view that the alliance's attack on his long-time ally Rajbansi was effectively a motion of no-confidence in the entire council. This tactic ignored both the clearly expressed wishes of the HoD majority, the fact that four members of the council were now part of the alliance, and the provisions of the constitution.

Indeed, the HoD had specifically rejected an amendment expressing no confidence in the council (focusing instead on Rajbansi personally). Furthermore, where the constitution is silent the president is bound to apply Westminster conventions. And as a direct consequence of Botha's intervention, the Cabinet in the HoD is now led by a minority figure (Rajbansi), while the leader of the majority alliance (Reddy) is without a portfolio.

However, Botha's threats clearly had the desired effect and Rajbansi thus remains nominally at the helm.

But although the alliance capitulated in its attack on Rajbansi, it survived to force through a motion calling for a committee of inquiry into corruption and maladministration — a call which Rajbansi has effectively squashed for about three years.

In an effort to salvage some respect from their humiliating defeat at Botha's hands, the alliance now emphasises that this inquiry was always the main objective of the recent manoeuvres in the HoD.

If the wild rumours circulating so openly about massive corruption by leading HoD figures have any substance, there is no doubt that the committee's report will lead to not only shock resignations from the HoD, but criminal charges in terms of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The committee's report is due by August 29. ■

HOUSE OF DELEGATES 250

Opening the can

A House of Delegates (HoD) parliamentary committee has finally been convened to inquire into alleged corruption and maladministration in the Indian chamber.

Given the persistence and scale of the allegations, the committee's report will be keenly awaited. Also due is a response to an affidavit alleging corruption submitted to the Advocate General last week by former HoD Housing Minister Baldeo Dookie.

Resolutions calling for the appointment of the committee and expressing no confidence in HoD leader Amichand Rajbansi, were the twin objectives of an alliance formed last month by 11 dissidents from Rajbansi's National People's Party (NPP), and Solidarity, the opposition party led by J N Reddy.

On May 20 the alliance declared (24 votes to 17) that Rajbansi no longer enjoyed the confidence of the majority and should resign as both HoD leader and chairman of the Ministers' Council.

Rajbansi threatens ⁽²⁵⁸⁾ to fire his Ministers

DURBAN — Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, has threatened to fire his Ministers one after the other in retaliation for opposition attempts to topple his MPs from key positions

Mr Rajbansi, still beaming over the failure of attempts to force him to resign from the Ministers' Council, warned yesterday that he would take an "eye for an eye"

A bid to replace one of his national party MPs, Mr Manilal Naranjee, as leader of the House fizzled out when Mr Rajbansi threatened to fire a Minister if the motion was not scrapped. The motion, tabled last week, was withdrawn on the same day.

However, deputy minister, Mr Somaroo Pachal, interim chairman of the breakaway People's Party denied he, or his colleagues had been threatened with dismissal — Sapa

His evidence 'not consistent'

Rajbansi accepted R10 000 for party

Star 14/6/88 (258)

Political Staff

The Chairman of the Indian Minister's Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, accepted a R10 000 contribution to his National People's Party which was made to "facilitate the obtaining of land and contracts".

And a parliamentary select committee said his evidence "does not appear to be consistent with the facts"

The select committee was appointed at the request of Mr Rajbansi after accusations made by Solidarity Chief whip, Mr Yunus Moolia, in Parliament, that he had accepted a cheque during a by-election earlier this year



Mr Amichand Rajbansi... sought committee.

The committee rejected Mr Rajbansi's evidence that he had not personally received a cheque

It accepted that the money was not given to

Mr Rajbansi in his personal capacity but "as donations to the National People's Party"

Evidence was given that R600 in State funds were paid for plans for a proposed personal residence for Mr Rajbansi

The committee found that two cheques — one for R10 000 and another for R5 000 — were given to the NPP by a development company called Citiplan

Mr D G Pillay of the Citiplan Group told the committee that he was instrumental in securing the donations

According to the committee's report, Mr Pillay "admitted that he regarded these donations as an investment with a view to facilitating the obtain-

ing of land and contracts from the Administration of the House of Delegates"

Tender

Mr Pillay "admitted that after the R15 000 had been contributed, he was the successful tenderer for the acquisition of land" while Mr Rajbansi was Minister of Housing

After initially denying that he was acquainted with Mr Rajbansi, Mr Pillay admitted he had prepared the sketch plans for Mr Rajbansi's home and during this time "became well acquainted" with him

NPP treasurer Mr N Jumuna said the R10 000 cheque was handed to him by Mr Rajbansi.

Resign call by Indian MPs

INDIAN parliamentary politics were in turmoil again yesterday with renewed calls for the resignation of Minister's Council chairman Mr Amchand Rajbansi following damaging findings of a parliamentary select committee

Mr Rajbansi faced accusations yesterday from his political opponents that not only had he, on behalf of his National People's Party, accepted money given with the aim of getting contracts and purchasing land but that he also misled Parliament on the issue

Denied

President P W Botha, who refused to fire Mr Rajbansi recently when he lost the majority in the House of Delegates, yesterday declined to comment on the latest furore

In a speech in Parliament on February 24, Mr Rajbansi denied emphatically that neither he nor his party had received any donations from any contractors or development company

And he denied that the House of Delegates dealt with companies called Proctor or Citiplan

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15/6/88

R15 000 was a 'donation to the NPP'

Rajbansi rejects calls to step down

stav 15/6/88

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The Chairman of the Minister's Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, yesterday rejected opposition calls to resign in the light of evidence to a Parliamentary Select Committee on a R15 000 donation.

Instead, he unsuccessfully urged that the House of Delegates recommend to President Botha that a Supreme Court judge be appointed to determine whether the

committee's report was totally supported by the evidence it had heard.

He said in debate on the report in the House of Delegates that it cleared him and proved he had not misled the House.

He wanted to place on record that everything in his administration was done honestly and on the basis of merit.

Contracts were not awarded on the basis of donations.

The report showed that cheques totalling R15 000 from Durban businessman Mr DG Pillay had gone, not into his personal account, but into the National People's Party (NPP) party coffers as donations.

As far as a sum of R600 allegedly paid to Mr Pillay from State funds for plans for a private home was concerned, a thorough search by the Chief Director of Budgetary

Services and the director-general of housing had failed to uncover such a cheque.

Mr Rajbansi accepted that if this had been done, it would be fraud, and the person who did it should resign. He was prepared to refer the matter to the Auditor-General.

The committee had asked leading questions of people who were not giving evidence voluntarily and had acted outside its terms of reference.

Earlier, Dr JN Reddy, leader of the opposition, read extracts from Hansard of a February debate in which Mr Rajbansi said the NPP did not receive donations from any contractor or development company.

He said the committee's findings completely disproved Mr Rajbansi's words.

It contained the submission that Mr Pillay canvassed donations and passed them on to the NPP as an inducement to be dealt with sympathetically when tenders for the acquisition of township land from the administration were considered.

Although the committee's investigation was originally directed at the Solidarity chief whip, Mr Yunus Moolla, on a question of breach of privilege, it had opened up an even graver aspect and the indictment was now directed against Mr Rajbansi in his capacity as Minister of Housing.

"On the basis of this report, the most honourable thing anybody could do is to vacate the official position which is being held," he said.— Sapa



Qualified to excel

Young and world-famous

António de Sousa, C Eng (UK), N Laur Tech — the first student to obtain the National Laureatus in Technology at the Technikon Witwatersrand. This qualification, in Engineering Metallurgy, was achieved after the N H Dip in 1981 and the National Diploma in Technology in 1984 — all with distinction.

At the early age of 27 he was appointed Applications Group Manager of Fedgas and then promoted to Senior Group Manager Applications (Metallurgy). Now, after qualifying as a Chartered Engineer and obtaining an M B A, he has

Probe — Rajbansi suspended from Cabinet (58)

16/6/88

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

Mr Amichand Rajbansi has been suspended from the Cabinet for the duration of a judicial commission of inquiry into alleged irregularities among members of the House of Delegates, President Botha announced last night.

Mr Botha said Mr Rajbansi had requested him to relieve him of his membership of the Cabinet for the duration of the

investigation and he had agreed to the request. Mr Rajbansi would, however, retain his positions as chairman of the Ministers' Council and as Minister of Housing in the House of Delegates.

The State President said he had decided to appoint a commission of inquiry to investigate the matter thoroughly and, if possible, to report back to him before September 30.

"The former Judge

President of Natal, Hon Mr Neville James, will act as the only member and chairman of the commission," Mr Botha said.

The exact terms of reference of the commission will be announced in due course.

● President Botha also announced last night the terms of reference of the commission which has been appointed to investigate the acquisition of a

computer video system by the Department of Education and Training.

This commission, to be chaired by Miss Justice Leonora van den Heever, is to investigate and report on the regularity or otherwise of the transaction, and the regularity or otherwise of any other spending of State funds by that department which should, according to the judgment of the commission, be investigated.

Strip Rajbansi of salary, says Eglin

Political Staff (258) missed, said Mr Eglin

If the rules of Parliament allowed, the Progressive Federal Party would move that the salary of Mr Amichand Rajbansi be excluded from the budget vote for the House of Delegates, said the PFP leader Mr Colin Eglin

Speaking in the House of Assembly yesterday in a short address expressing the PFP's opposition to the House of Delegates administration vote, Mr Eglin said it was an absolute disgrace that Mr Rajbansi had not resigned as chairman of the Ministers' Council and that President Botha had not insisted that he do so

Every democratic convention required that Mr Rajbansi should be dis-

missed, said Mr Eglin
"We are shocked not only that Mr Rajbansi did not resign but that the State President did not dismiss him from the Cabinet"

His speech followed calls by the majority of House of Delegates MPs that Mr Rajbansi resign and a select committee report which found that Mr Rajbansi received a cheque for R10 000 in exchange for making certain benefits available to a Mr Pillay

Mr Eglin said if the PFP could, it would have Mr Rajbansi's salary excluded from the budget altogether or reduced to the price of a bunch of carrots "like the many carrots Mr Rajbansi dangled"

Rajbansi steps down from Cabinet

CAPE TOWN — The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said yesterday he was pleased that the State President had accepted his request that he be recused from the Cabinet

(258)
In a statement released here he said he felt that since he was the political head of the administration it was fit and proper that he recuse himself during the commission of inquiry into alleged irregularities among members of the House of Delegates

He said he welcomed and fully supported the appointment of the commission, which was announced on Wednesday by the State President, Mr P W Botha

"I personally will be placing cer-

tain matters, particularly where there has been corridor gossip, before the commission," he said

Mr Rajbansi said he had received a number of telephone calls about "certain plots"

He said that this week he had received a letter from a person, whom he did not name, confirming this

Attached to Mr Rajbansi's statement was a photocopy of a portion of the letter

The writer said that Mr Rajbansi's opposition was dangling money in his (the writer's) face

"I must speak out, they are prepared to pay me, what I ask for (lots of money genuine)"

Mr Rajbansi said the letter writer was known to him — Sapa

Indian MPs battle to oust Rajbansi

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Source: 20/6/88

A SELECT committee of the House of Delegates has found that Mr Rajbansi's version of the truth does not appear "consistent with the facts".

This is the most serious blow to hit Mr Rajbansi and according to convention he was expected to resign. He didn't, and he isn't going to if he can help it.

As Mr Rajbansi has said "Anything is possible in the House of Delegates".

He holds that the inquiry's findings are not supported by the evidence. Now his opponents are calling on the State President to fire him. At first it was thought President Botha though angry might do no more than rap him over the knuckles in private.

Corruption

But Mr Botha's reaction after three years of corruption allegations in which he has been seen to be protecting Mr Rajbansi, came as a bombshell. Mr Rajbansi is out of the Cabinet ("at his own request" according to a statement by Mr Botha) for the duration of a probe by a one-man commission of inquiry by the former Judge President of Natal, the Hon Neville James.

Mr Rajbansi stays on as chairman of the HoD while the James Commission which is expected to report back by September 30, investigates charges and counter-charges of

FOCUS

"Irregularities" in the HoD.

A senior National Party source said the continual corruption allegations against Mr Rajbansi have become an embarrassment to Mr Botha, who came to power with a pledge of clean administration.

Up to now NP sources conceded, Mr Botha has done his best to accommodate the one leader of colour who has proved to be a compliant partner in the tricameral set-up. Mr Rajbansi provides no political problems, as did the Rev Allan Hendrickse.

A senior NP source said "Whatever else people may say about Raj he concerns himself with helping his people and it's paid off. He's always on TV talking about housing or pensions and he doesn't get involved with national politics. He has a large and grateful constituency. His opponents know they only have to support a vote of no confidence in the Ministers' Council and the President will dissolve the House. They

FIRST there was Watergate. Then came our own Muldergate. And last week Parliament witnessed the House of Delegates' storm over alleged maladministration. Malgate? That's the name of the House of Delegates HQ in Durban and it featured as Indian MPs sought to force the resignation of Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council, for allegedly misleading the House over two cheques totalling R15 000 which a House probe found were paid by a building contractor

dare not do this because the NPP will decimate them — allegations or not.

"But it is fair to say President Botha is concerned and angry over the continual allegations of crooked administration."

The NP, even though it might sound paternalistic and racist, is of the opinion that it doesn't matter who runs the HoD. The feeling is that the tricameral partners are new to Parliament and some of them don't view certain apparent irregularities as seriously as do members of the white House of Assembly. The source claimed:

"No matter who is in charge of the HoD it is a powder keg even if only 10 percent of the allegations are true."

Cheque

Mr Botha was finally prodded into action by the HoD's acceptance of a select committee's finding that, among other things, Mr Rajbansi received a cheque from a building contractor during the Tongaat by-election.

It also examined in passing the apparently irregular payment of R600 by the State for sketches of a private home planned by Mr Rajbansi.

When the allegation about a cheque was first made in Parliament, Mr Rajbansi to his credit, called for the probe because he felt it appeared as if he had received the money for personal gain. But the committee has provided the last findings he could have hoped for.

When the committee was appointed most of the members were from his NPP. Then the NPP suffered defections which meant the new opposition alliance gained the majority in the HoD. By the time the report blasting Mr Rajbansi was delivered this week it was noted that the five-man

committee had only one NPP member left. Two other former NPP committee members had defected giving the new opposition alliance a majority on the committee.

The one NPP member of the committee, Mr Mohamed Shah, has now issued a statement saying he does not agree with part of the report.

The committee set out to establish whether Mr Yunus Moolia, chief whip of Solidarity, was in breach of privilege when he alleged Mr Rajbansi had received a cheque from a building contractor during the Tongaat by-election.

They did this in the light of two subsequent statements by Mr Rajbansi that:

"No Honourable Member on this side of the House received any money or any cheques from any developer or anyone else in connection with the Tongaat election," and

"This party did not receive any donations — I am placing this on record — from any contractors or any development company."

But the probe found that a Mr D G Pillay of Citiplan Group had secured donations amounting to R15 000 from Citiplan Contracting for the NPP.

He admitted that he regarded these donations as an investment with a view to facilitating the obtaining of land and contracts from the Administration House of Delegates. Mr Pillay also admitted that after the R15 000 had been contributed, he was the successful tenderer for the acquisition of township land, while Mr Rajbansi was Minister of Housing.

Mr Pillay and his wife, the committee said, were both closely involved or associated with Citiplan Procor and Clarion Homes, which were

involved in obtaining contracts and land from the HoD's administration.

Mr Rajbansi denied, when giving evidence, that he had personally received any cheques from a building contractor or relating to anything else during the Tongaat election.

But this evidence, the committee noted, "does not appear to be consistent with the facts".

It stated: "In the light of the conclusive evidence to the contrary, your committee is unable to accept the chairman of the Ministers' Council's assurance."

In Parliament, Mr Rajbansi had to concede this week that he was present and had "seen"



MR AMICHAND Rajbansi

cheque from Citiplan which was deposited to NPP funds.

But he holds defiantly that the findings of the committee are not supported by the evidence it heard.

Confusion grew because in Parliament he quoted evidence of his own party's treasurer which confirmed a certain cheque had been deposited in the NPP account.

He told Parliament he wanted the findings submitted to a judge to see whether the evidence supported the findings, but his motion was unsuccessful.

On the question of the R600 payment for services regarding his planned house, Mr Rajbansi offered a flat denial.

Tomorrow, the PFP's Mr Mamoo Rajab will move that the House find that Mr Rajbansi deliberately misled the House when he said neither he nor the party received any donations from any contractors or development company.

The motion, drawn up before Mr Botha announced the commission of inquiry, calls on the House to find Mr Rajbansi is not a fit and proper person to occupy the position of chairman of the Ministers' Council or a Cabinet seat and "therefore resolves that the State President relieve him of the position."

The motion appears sure to be carried.



Political comment in this issue by Aggrey Klaaste and Joe Thlolo. Sub-editing, headlines and posters by Sydney Mathaku. All of 61 Commando Road, Industria West, Johannesburg.

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23-29/6/88 (258)

South NEWS

Sufu

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Raj - donor tired of 'sordid' affair

DURBAN. — The man who gave Mr Amichand Rajbansi's National People's Party (NPP) a R15 000 cheque allegedly in return for a development contract says he now wished "to flush the whole affair down the sewer".

Durban businessman Mr Deena Pillay, at the centre of the controversy which rocked Parliament last week, said the "goings on" in the House of Delegates over the past few months had caused him to "lose faith completely in the NPP and in Mr Rajbansi's ability to lead the Indian people".

"I only gave the donation after much discussion with members and MPs of the NPP. They spoke of the positive things they could do for the Indian people.

"But now, after I have seen the events of the current session of Parliament, with members crossing the floor and obviously only doing things for their own personal gain, I no longer believe that the NPP and Rajbansi can or want to do anything for the people."

Commenting on the findings of a parliamentary select committee

that he had "admitted" regarding the R15 000 donation as an investment in exchange for land and contracts from the administration, Mr Pillay said the word "investment" had a different meaning to him.

"The questions asked by the committee were loaded. I gave the donation for a NPP convention in November. The only investment I was talking about was in terms of the growth of the NPP and the rewards it would bring for the Indian people as a whole. But since I no longer have any faith in that, I will never make such an

investment again."

Mr Pillay said his company, Citiplan, had been awarded only a comparatively small tender by the House of Delegates to develop virgin land without any essential services into an 81-stand residential area in Pietermaritzburg.

He had not been in contact with Mr Rajbansi since the committee made its findings known.

"I am tired of the whole sordid affair and would like nothing better than to see it flushed down the sewer," he said. — *PRESS TRUST OF SA*

1999

Sturdevant

TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 1988

2000

of Control	Sport Activities	None	R21 480
Bredasdorp Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R14 050
College R F C	Sport Activities	None	R2 060
Caledon Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R7 181
Despatch Municipality	Sport Activities	None	R30 231
Eastwood Tennis Club	Sport Activities	None	R817
Enon Management Committee	Sport Activities	None	R3 146
Kromfontein Culture and Recreation Organization	Sport Activities	None	R1 000
Krakeelriver Management Committee	Sport Activities	None	R30 577
Morningsstar Swimming Association	Sport Activities	None	R3 200
Municipality Patense	Sport Activities	None	R2 204
Municipality Cradock	Sport Activities	None	R11 706
Mount Pleasant Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R2 742
Mamre Management Committee	Sport Activities	None	R27 160
Newton Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R5 522
Perseverance Rugby Football Club	Sport Activities	None	R2 292
Perseverance Bowling Club	Sport Activities	None	R3 572
Pineview Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R9 730
Pearson Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R3 761
Portlands Netball Union	Sport Activities	None	R205
Rietbron Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R23 760
Struisbaai Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R5 300
Somerset East Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R2 598
Steylerville Sports Board of Control	Sport Activities	None	R1 799
Wentworth Cricket Club	Sport Activities	None	R3 364
Western Cape Body Building, Weightlifting and Powerlifting Association	Sport Activities	None	R4 550
Yoney Badminton Club	Sport Activities	None	R350
Dodoneas Women Club	Women Activities	R75	None
Do and Think Ladies Club Bronville	Women Activities	R225	None
Thaba Patchoa Moedersbond	Women Activities	R592	None
Knyana Coloured Women's Organization	Women Activities	R3 800	R3 800
Nyu Women's Club	Women Activities	R330	R523
Alfreda Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R614
South African Women's Culture Organisation	Women Activities	R2 872	R2 100
South African Union of Women Clubs	Women Activities	R6 200	R9 864
FAHISA	Women Activities	R1 700	None
Belvia Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R614
Magnolia Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R614
Rosebuds Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R620
Starling Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R614
Woelker en Woel Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R614
Caritas Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R1 128
Nuweplas Women's Club	Women Activities	None	R1 854

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2001

Sturdevant

TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 1988

2002

HOUSE OF DELEGATES	(ii) (aa) 836 square metres and 1 500 square metres respectively
†Indicates translated version	(bb) 152 square metres and 335 square metres respectively
For written reply	
<i>General Affairs</i>	
Houses for Ministers/Deputy Ministers	
8 Mr Y MOOLLA asked the Minister of Public Works and Land Affairs	
(1) Whether his Department has purchased houses for Ministers and/or Deputy Ministers of the House of Delegates in the Durban area, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many houses were purchased, (b) for which Ministers and/or Deputy Ministers were they purchased in each case, (c) what was the (i) cost of each house and (ii) (aa) extent of the land and (bb) floor area of the house in each case and (d) what criteria were applied in selecting each of these houses,	(d) Location of the property, the facilities the house has to offer, the construction, condition and quality thereof, the possibility to safeguard the house and the costs in regard thereto and the market value of the property
(2) whether the services of a registered valuator were engaged to appraise these houses, if not, why not, if so, what was the valuation of each house,	(2) Yes R310 000,00 and R275 000,00 respectively
(3) whether his Department received any offers from prospective sellers in connection with the acquisition of these houses, if so, (a) from whom, (b) at what price, and (c) what was the (i) extent of the land and (ii) floor area of the house, in each case,	(3) Yes (a) About 60 properties which were offered for sale by various estate agents were investigated (b) and (c)
(4) whether his Department was informed of any such offers having been received by Ministers and/or the Administration of the House of Delegates, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant particulars of these offers?	(4) No Particulars were not kept of all the properties that have been investigated which were in the market
The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS	Own Affairs Arena Park Secondary School size of hall
(1) Yes	99 Mr M BANDULLA asked the Minister of Education and Culture
(a) 2	(1) With reference to his reply to Question No 1 on 5 May 1988, (a) what is the floor area of the hall built for the Arena Park Secondary School in 1987 and (b) how many persons can it accommodate,
(b) Messrs R Bhana, Minister of Health Services and Welfare and S Pachar, Deputy Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture	(2) whether this hall is larger than the average school hall built by his department, if not, what is the size of an average school hall, if so, (a) why and (b) who authorized the size of this school hall,
(c) (i) R310 000,00 and R275 000,00 respectively	(3) (a) how many tenders were received for the construction of this hall, (b) (i) what was the amount of each tender and (ii) from whom was each received and (c) to whom was the tender awarded?

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Hansard

Permanent residence permits: failure to disclose information in applications

1305 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Home Affairs

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 990 on 25 May 1988, he will furnish information on persons who failed to disclose previous convictions and other essential information in their applications for permanent residence permits over the past 10 years, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many such cases were brought to his attention, (b) who were the persons concerned, (c) how many such permits were cancelled as a result of information of this nature becoming known to him or his Department at a later stage and (d) in respect of what period is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(a) to (d) Statistics on the basis as required by the hon member are not being kept. However, the hon member's information it can be mentioned that permanent residence permits in respect of 48 persons were withdrawn during the period 1 January 1978 to 23 June 1988 due to previous convictions and other essential information not being disclosed.

Bureau for Information: newspapers

1306 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Information, Broadcasting Services and the Film Industry

(1) (a) What total number of newspapers was produced by the Bureau for Information in 1987 (b) what was the title of each, (c) how many copies of each were printed, (d) to whom were they distributed in each case, (e) what was the total cost of (i) printing and (ii) distributing each such newspaper and (f) (i) who was the editor of each and (ii) what were his or her qualifications.

(2) whether these newspapers elicited any response if so, what was the nature of each such response?

The MINISTER OF INFORMATION, BROADCASTING SERVICES AND THE FILM INDUSTRY

(1) (a) Eight

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(b) 1 Metropolitan Digest
2 Light/Khanya
3 Sulu
4 Pausano
5 Karet
6 Umso
7 Phoenix
8 Izindaba

(c) 1 1 200 000
2 900 000
3 270 000
4 1 200 000
5 1 380 000
6 600 000
7 360 000
8 480 000

(d) 1 Mainly distributed amongst the Black population of the Rand
2 Mainly distributed amongst the Black population of Pretoria and vicinity
3 Mainly distributed amongst the Black population of Nelspruit and vicinity
4 Mainly distributed amongst the Black population of the QFS
5 Mainly distributed amongst Coloureds in the RSA
6 Mainly distributed amongst the Black population of the Eastern Cape
7 Mainly distributed amongst the Indians in the RSA
8 Mainly distributed amongst the Zulus of Natal

(e) (i) As a result of the fact that each Regional Office has only one account for the production of publications, with the inclusion of newspapers, it is extremely difficult to ascertain the total cost of each individual newspaper. The total cost for all regional publications was R2 366 956,46

(ii) Distribution cost is included in the amount mentioned in (e)(i)

(f) (i) The editors of the regional newspapers act in their capacity as officials of the Bureau. They do

Hansard

not act in their individual capacities and are not ultimately responsible for the content of their newspapers. This responsibility resides in the Deputy Minister of Information and in the Head of the Bureau. The names of the editors of the regional newspapers are accordingly not relevant.

(ii) Falls away

(2) Yes. Primary reaction consists of thousands of requests per month from new subscribers.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS

Yes

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Residential Area (a) Acacia Park

Number

Post Level

Senior Provisioning Administration Officer (He is also responsible for Pelican Park and Laborra Park)

Principal Horticulturist

Horticulturist

Senior Provisioning Administration Clerk

Truck Driver

Chief Cleaning Services

Senior Foreman Cleaning Services

Gardener

GA III Cleaner

GA III Garden Labourer

GA II Garden Labourer

GA I Cleaner

GA I Garden Labourer

Horticulturist

Truck Driver

GA III Cleaner

GA III Garden Labourer

GA II Garden Labourer

GA I Cleaner

GA I Garden Labourer

Horticulturist

Truck Driver

GA III Cleaner

GA III Garden Labourer

GA II Cleaner

GA II Garden Labourer

GA I Cleaner

GA I Garden Labourer

Horticulturist

Truck Driver

GA III Cleaner

GA III Garden Labourer

GA II Cleaner

GA II Garden Labourer

GA I Cleaner

GA I Garden Labourer

(b) Post Level

Senior Provisioning Administration Officer

Principal Horticulturist

Horticulturist

Senior Provisioning Administration Clerk

Truck Driver

Chief Cleaning Services

Senior Foreman Cleaning Services

Gardener

GA III Cleaner

GA III Garden Labourer

GA II Garden Labourer

GA I Cleaner

Pay Scale

R25 371 x 1 179 - 31 266

R22 224 - 23 013 x 1 179 - 26 550

R13 395 x 576 - 15 123 x 789 - 17 490

R10 371 x 432 - 11 667 x 576 - 15 123 x 789 - 17 490

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

2063

Truck Driver
 Chief Cleaning Services
 Senior Foreman Cleaning Services
 Gardener
 GA III Cleaner
 GA III Garden Labourer
 GA II Cleaner
 GA II Garden Labourer
 GA I Cleaner
 GA I Garden Labourer

R10 371 X 432 - 11 667 X 576 - 13 395
 R9 939 X 432 - 11 667 X 576 - 14 547
 R7 932 X 381 - 9 075 X 432 - 11 667 - 12 243
 R6 441 - 6 789 X 381 - 9 075 - 9 507
 R4 353 X 348 - 5 745
 R4 353 X 348 - 5 745
 R3 735 X 270 - 4 005 X 348 - 5 049
 R3 735 X 270 - 4 005 X 348 - 5 049
 R3 195 X 270 - 4 005 - 4 353
 R3 195 X 270 - 4 005 - 4 353

Employment figures

1313 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Manpower

How many (a) Whites, (b) Coloureds, (c) Indians and (d) Blacks were employed in Pretoria Johannesburg, East London, Port Elizabeth and Durban, respectively, in each of the latest specified five years for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER

(a), (b) (c) and (d) The Department of Manpower does not keep this information and is therefore unable to furnish the figures requested

Trade unions: members

1314 Mr P J PAULUS asked the Minister of Manpower †

How many (a) Whites, (b) Coloureds, (c) Indians and (d) Blacks were members of each of the 11 trade unions, the names of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, on 31 March of each year from 1983 up to and including 1988?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER

(a), (b), (c) and (d) The particulars furnished by individual trade unions is regarded as confidential and making them known is in the public interest, not regarded as desirable. The joint figures for the trade unions concerned are as follows

Year	Whites	Coloureds	Indians	Blacks	Total
1983	136 041	28 843	0	60 000	224 884
1984	139 308	31 193	0	111 402	281 903
1985	142 565	24 629	0	268 738	435 932
1986	143 689	24 114	0	266 907	434 710
1987	146 520	24 114	0	267 066	437 700

Figures for 1988 will be submitted in 1989 only

Africans, permanent residence

1325 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Home Affairs

(a) How many (i) Zulu, (ii) Tswana, (iii) Northern Sotho, (iv) Venda and (v) Shangaan-speaking Africans reside permanently in (aa) the Witwatersrand area (bb) the Eastern Transvaal (cc) the Northern Transvaal, (dd)

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
(aa)	678 867	364 235	248 269	57 221	122 114
(bb)	456 690	11 126	198 907	3 891	84 378
(cc)	22 364	59 034	1 752 513	78 523	609 942
(dd)	18 451	440 495	9 031	1 466	13 297
(ee)	14 644	28 415	66 557	6 102	15 132

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(a) Figures in respect of persons residing permanently in the different areas, are not available — *de facto* survey results are furnished

(b) the Western Transvaal and (ee) Pretoria and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

(b) 6 May 1980

NOTE Areas as follows

(aa) Magisterial districts of Krugersdorp, Randfontein, Roodepoort, Westonaria, Randburg, Johannesburg, Kempton Park, Germiston, Alberton, Benoni, Boksburg, Brakpan, Springs and Delmas

(bb) Development region F

(cc) Development region G

(dd) Transvaal portion of Development region J

(ee) Pretoria Magisterial district

Financing/purchasing of publications

1327 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Information, Broadcasting services and the Film Industry

Whether the Bureau for Information is involved, directly or indirectly, in the (a) financing and/or (b) purchasing of publications put out by a certain organization, the name and local address of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, if so, (i) what (aa) is the name of this organization and (bb) are the names of the publications concerned and (ii) what total amount is involved?

The MINISTER OF INFORMATION, BROADCASTING SERVICES AND THE FILM INDUSTRY

(a) No
 (b) No

(i) (aa) Falls away
 (bb) Falls away

(ii) Falls away

The Bureau for Information is however a subscriber to a certain number of copies of some of the publications of this organization, but I do not believe that this is what the honorable member meant by this question

Toll roads

1352 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Transport Affairs †

Whether it was recently decided to increase the

toll charges for the various roads in the Republic, if so, (a) (i) why, (ii) when, and (iii) by what percentage, and (b) (i) when was the previous increase granted, and (ii) what was the percentage increase, in each case?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS

No
 (a) and (b) Fall away

Motor Vehicle Accidents Act, special courts

1354 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs

(1) Whether he has received any representations for special courts to be established to hear cases in terms of the Motor Vehicle Accidents Act, No 84 of 1986, if so, what was the main content of these representations,

(2) whether it is the intention to establish such courts, if not, why not, if so (a) where and (b) when,

(3) whether delays of up to eight years are experienced in connection with claims covered by this Act, if so, (a) what are the reasons for these delays and (b) what steps are being taken to expedite the settlement of such claims?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS

(1) Yes, the honourable member is referred to the Report of the Commission of Inquiry to the Handling of Litigation in terms of the Motor Vehicle Accidents Act, 1986 (Act 84 of 1986) (RP35/1987)

(2) The Department of Transport is not involved in this matter

(3) Yes, in some cases

(a) The late submission of claims amongst others in respect of minors and delays in establishing the event of injuries to claimants, and

(b) Parties concerned are induced to settle the claims without delays

Diaz/Huguenot/Great Trek festivals

1365 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Agriculture

(1) Whether his Department has contributed or intends to contribute to the (a) Diaz

DET'S REPLY: WE'RE RETURNING TO NORMALITY ²⁵⁸ w/Meuli

THE Department of Education and Training admitted in a statement this week that "sporadic" disruption of educational programmes had occurred in some Soweto secondary schools since the beginning of the year, but denied it would be forced to close 17 schools if boycotts continued.

Press reports had noted DET spokesman Job Schoeman commenting on a statement by Sam

de Beer, deputy education minister, that the government might consider closing the schools. But Schoeman told *WM* this week he did not mention any number of schools, "nor did I use the term closure of schools". Contrary to reports, he said, due to the disruption of programmes in some schools, several programmes had been introduced "in order to return to normality".

Captain RV Bloomberg of the South African Police Press Liaison Division told *WM* a house was damaged in Soweto following a petrol bomb attack on Sunday. He said he would not comment on allegations that police had sealed off an area of Pimville Zone Six, as such a comment would be in conflict with Emergency regulations that forbid closing security force activities.

24-30/6/88

House of Delegates suspends Rajbansi

By Peter Fabricius
Political Staff

PARLIAMENT — Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, was suspended from the House yesterday

He was suspended until next year's session of Parliament for "deliberately and intentionally misleading" the House by telling it that no building contractor had given him or his party any funds

Dr JN Reddy, leader of the Opposition, said that Mr Rajbansi had contradicted his statements to the House in evidence to a parliamentary committee investigating the incident in which a builder gave Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party a donation

Mr Rajbansi has already been suspended from the Cabinet by President Botha pending a judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates

It is not known if Mr Rajbansi, who was trav-



Parliament '88

elling to Durban when he was suspended, will submit to the decision of the House

Mr Mamoo Rajab (PFP, Springfield) first proposed that Mr Rajbansi should be relieved permanently of his official positions of chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing

Mr Rajab said that President Botha had shown "double standards" by suspending Mr Rajbansi from his Cabinet in the name of clean administration while keeping him on in his two official positions

'Tell truth,' witness to Rajbansi inquiry is told

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The first witness in the James Commission of Inquiry into the involvement of members of the House of Delegates in alleged irregularities, Mr Govinsamy Vedajalam Pillay, was told yesterday to be honest with the commission as he had not told the truth

On January 27, Mr Pillay made a statement to the Advocate-General outlining Mr Amichand Rajbansi's business dealings

Mr Anton Ackermann, leading the evidence, read the statement to the commission

Mr Pillay then said he had subsequently retracted the statement, as it was made under duress and most of it was lies

His affidavits withdrawing the statement were handed to the commission. In them, Mr Pillay said the Solidarity Party had used him for political purposes

One affidavit "was also prepared by Mr Ismail Omar, national chairman of Solidarity, and typed at the Durban office of Solidarity's leader, Dr J N Reddy

"The fact that Solidarity paid all the costs, including the cost of my travel by air to the Transvaal to deliver the affidavit to the Advocate-General, proves that I had been misled and, on reflection, I decided to advise the Advocate-General that I have decided to withdraw the complaint"

He said his depressed state of mind had made him feel falsely very angry towards Mr Rajbansi and "I had come to incorrect conclusions and have done a great deal of disservice to him"

Mr Pillay said in the retracting affi-

davits that he had acted under duress at the time and Solidarity politicians "took advantage over my ailing business and offered me inducements with a view to being used against Mr Rajbansi"

Mr Pillay said a former member of the Ministers' Council, Mr Baldeo Dookie, had offered to arrange a loan of R150 000 for him through the New Republic Bank

Mr Dookie said he could be of assistance in an insurance claim following a fire at Mr Pillay's pharmacy as he "knew a certain Mr Kharwa of the New Indian Assurance Society".

Mr Pillay said "I very deeply regret having been mesmerised and used by politicians"

Mr Pillay told Mr Ackermann yesterday that he could not remember the answers to many questions about letters and telegrams sent to the Advocate-General on June 24 withdrawing the first statement

'TELL TRUTH'

At one stage Mr Ackermann said "Don't you think you should start telling us the truth?"

Mr Pillay said he drafted the withdrawing affidavit of June 24 unaided. After initially saying a friend, "Mr Reddy", typed the affidavits, he told the commission they were typed in Mr Rajbansi's office

Mr Pillay said he gave one telegram to a friend to send off Mr Ackermann read an affidavit from an employee of the House of Delegates that he had sent two telegrams to the Advocate-General

The commission continues today

Rajbansi off to court to oppose suspension

Mr Amichand Rajbansi said yesterday he was going to the Supreme Court to fight against his suspension on Wednesday from the House of Delegates

The House carried a motion calling for him to be suspended until next year because he had misled Parliament or "disregarded the truth"

This related to statements by him that neither he nor his party had received any donations from a building contractor

NOT SUBJECT OF INQUIRY

According to the motion, Mr Rajbansi had later admitted to a committee of inquiry that his party had received a cheque from the contractor.

Mr Rajbansi said his grounds for opposing the suspension were that he had not misled Parliament and that the committee of inquiry's report confirmed this

He said MP Mr Yunus Moola had been the subject of the inquiry and not him; and so he had not been called to substantiate his statements

Mr Rajbansi also indicated that the motion of suspension had been irregular as it had not been on the order paper. The motion was debated and carried while he was out of the House — Political Staff

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Attempt made on MP's life

Sowetan 14/7/84

AN ATTEMPT was made at the weekend on the life of chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, when a gunman in a moving car opened fire on his house.

Two South African Police constables who were guarding the house in Arena Park, Chatsworth, had to duck for cover, but before they could return fire the gunman sped off.

Mr Rajbansi was not at home at the time. His wife, Mrs Asha Devi Rajbansi, was in the house with her five children and mother.

This is the second attempt made on the life of Mr Rajbansi. In August 1985 a hand grenade was thrown at his home, shattering windows. He was in the study at the time, but escaped injury.

Major Charl du Toit, SAP Public Relations Officer for Port Natal yesterday confirmed the incident and said police had opened an attempted murder docket.

It is believed that just after 7pm a mint-coloured Ford Granada motor car was driven slowly towards the house and a gunman — believed to be an Indian — fired one shot.

The two policemen from the SAP's guard unit, Constable P Govender and Constable K Chetty ducked for cover. The car had gone before they could return fire.

I'm innocent, says Rajbansi letter

By Esmaré van der Merwe, (258)
Political Reporter

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, who was suspended from the House of Delegates last month after allegedly misleading the House about donations received by his National Peoples' Party (NPP), has sent a letter "proving his innocence" to President Botha, a spokesman for Mr Rajbansi said yesterday.

The letter was also sent to Dr J N Reddy, who now leads the House, after the forming of an alliance between his Solidarity Party and the newly-founded Peoples' Party of South Africa.

In another letter to Dr Reddy, disclosed to The Star, Mr Rajbansi asked to be reinstated as chairman of the House when Parliament reconvened in August.

This follows Mr Rajbansi's suspension for alleged-

ly making contradictory statements to a parliamentary committee investigating an incident in which a builder gave the NPP a donation.

Submitted to the State President and Dr Reddy was a letter from Citiplan, a company of estate agents, home and financial planners, saying it had donated two cheques amounting to R15 000 to the NPP in November last year in response to a request for funds for the party's Natal provincial congress.

Copies of the two cheques, one for R10 000 and the other for R5 000, were attached to the letter.

The letter said the company was not a firm of property developers or building contractors.

Citiplan should not be confused with a company called Citiplan Group which were consulting architects and property procurers, the letter read.

Bonuses for ⁽²⁵⁸⁾ cheque accounts

The First National Bank has a bonus for wives (and husbands) of cheque account holders. It is offering them their own cheque accounts at up to half the cost of their husbands' (or wives') accounts.

"Married couples can now run two cheque accounts for the cost of as little as one-and-a-half," said Mr Norman Axten, general manager at First National.

Each cheque account will be processed separately, and husband and wife will receive separate, confidential statements, he said.

Spouses who open a new cheque account may also qualify for a new First-card free of card fee charges for a year and may also avail themselves of other linked services, such as overdraft facilities, Bob cards and debit and stop orders.

First National has also announced a new 10-year savings and investment bond which will be operated by the Old Mutual. The bonds must run for a minimum period of 10 years to qualify for tax-free maturity benefits. The minimum monthly contribution of R50 may be increased annually to keep pace with inflation.

'Witness has short memory'

Sowetan 29/7/58

THE second day of the James Commission's inquiry into allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates brought an angry reaction from Mr Govindsamy Pillay who accused advocate Anton Ackermann of harassing him.

The hearing resumed at the Durban Magistrate's Court yesterday. Mr Pillay said that Mr Ackermann, who is leading evidence for the commission, was asking him questions which he had already answered and that he was being harassed.

Former Judge President of Natal, The Honourable Mr Neville James, who is chairman of the commission told Mr Pillay that the questions were not unfair and that "you will answer them".

The cross-examination

of Mr Pillay continued when Mr Ackermann questioned him about his affidavits to the Advocate General in which he asked that his allegations be withdrawn and that he did not want to give evidence.

He admitted that the withdrawal affidavits were typed at Mr Amichand Rajbansi's office and that he had done so without the suspended Cabinet Minister's advising him or encouraging him to do so.

When pressed for an answer on the number of times he visited Mr Rajbansi, Mr Pillay said, "I am so confused now I don't know whether I am coming or going. I have a short memory and we could get a doctor's certificate to attest to this."

(Proceeding)

Commission ²⁵⁸ hears of deal ^{29/7/58}

In his evidence to the James Commission probing alleged corruption in the House of Delegates, witness Mr Govindsamy Pillay yesterday spoke about how he had made a "straight deal" with members of the then opposition Solidarity Party

Solidarity had wanted Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amichand Mr Rajbansi "destroyed"

Mr Pillay admitted, under cross-examination, he had asked an advocate to draw up an agreement in which he would give information about Mr Rajbansi and his methods of operation to Solidarity who, in turn, had to undertake not to interfere in a business venture with Checkers

He had been approached by Mr Baldeo Dookie and asked to make an affidavit so they could get rid of Mr Rajbansi and take control

When it was pointed out to him it was he who had been trying to use Solidarity, not the other way round, Mr Pillay said he had been coerced into making certain allegations against Mr Rajbansi. The hearing continues — Own Correspondent

Rajbansi did not coerce me — Pillay

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STW 29/7/88

DURBAN — Businessman Mr Govindsamy Pillay yesterday denied Mr Amichand Rajbansi had coerced him into retracting damaging allegations he had earlier made against Mr Rajbansi.

Mr Pillay, who has known Mr Rajbansi for nearly 20 years, was being questioned in the Durban Magistrates' Court during the second day of the James Commission of Inquiry into alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates.

Mr Anton Ackermann, leading evidence for the commission, put it to Mr Pillay during cross-examination that he had not "played open cards" with the commission, and that he had tried to minimise the role of Mr Rajbansi in drawing up a series of affidavits to the Advocate-General — retracting earlier allegations against Mr Rajbansi.

Mr Pillay had alleged in a sworn statement to the Advocate-General in January this year that he had become "disgusted with Mr Rajbansi's corruption", particularly with Mr Rajbansi's alleged "improper and irregular interference" in the development of a shopping centre in Chatsworth Durban.

Later, in a series of further sworn statements to the Advocate-General and the secretary of the commission, Mr Pillay retracted his allegations against Mr Rajbansi.

When Mr Ackermann sug-

gested to Mr Pillay he had tried to mislead the commission, Mr Pillay confirmed that some of the retracting statements were typed at Mr Rajbansi's office.

"But if you are asking me whether he (Mr Rajbansi) coerced me into it, then the answer is no."

Later, the chairman of the commission, Mr Justice Neville James, asked Mr Pillay "When did you get disenchanted and decide to help Mr Rajbansi?"

"Are you saying that I am now trying to help Mr Rajbansi?"

Mr Justice James said he was asking Mr Pillay when it was that he decided that he would no longer stand by his affidavit (against Mr Rajbansi).

Mr Pillay said he thought it was around April or March this year.

"I felt it was now politics, and that I was a political pawn."

Mr Pillay told the commission that Mr Baldeo Dookie, the former Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, and Mr Ismail Omar, the national chairman of Solidarity, had coerced him into making a statement to oust Mr Rajbansi from power.

Asked why he had decided to withdraw the original affidavit, Mr Pillay said he agreed with suggestions by Mr Rajbansi that it had "pricked his conscience" — Sapa.

Dramatic disclosure at hearing

Rajbansi threatened probe team'

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S/W 30/7/88

DURBAN — The third day of the James Commission of Inquiry ended dramatically yesterday when it emerged that Mr Amichand Rajbansi had threatened to call in the National Intelligence Service to investigate members of the commission's investigating team

Intrigue deepened when the suspended Cabinet Minister and chairman of the Indian Ministers' Council told the commission he had reason to suspect that his ministerial telephone was being tapped

The disclosures were made while Mr Rajbansi was questioning the commission's first witness, Mr "Dave" Govindsamy Pillay, on a meeting between Mr Pillay and members of the investigating team. The team includes senior police officers and an advocate, Mr Anton Ackermann (who has been appointed to lead evidence on behalf of the commission)

Mr Pillay, a businessman and long-standing associate of Mr Rajbansi, said a senior police officer told him he would be charged with perjury if he decided to retract an earlier affidavit implicating Mr Rajbansi in irregular or corrupt practices

Mr Justice Neville James, the chairman of the commission, intervened to ask Mr Rajbansi about the relevance of his line of questioning

Mr Rajbansi said he was trying to establish that the police investigating officers were applying pressure on Mr Pillay

At this point the commission was told that Mr Rajbansi had said he would "put NIS (the National Intelligence Service) on this"

SATURDAY STAR CORRESPONDENT

Mr Ackermann stood up to say that he would like to put it on record that Mr Rajbansi had said "we (the investigating team) would be investigated by NIS"

Mr Ackermann added that he believed the proper function of the NIS was to investigate spies working for foreign powers

Mr Rajbansi intervened to say

"I have reason to suspect that a Ministerial telephone may be tapped"

Shortly afterwards, Mr Rajbansi indicated it was normal practice to call in NIS "if we suspect that our offices are bugged"

But he did not elaborate on who he suspected of tapping his telephone

Resuming his cross-examination, Mr Rajbansi questioned Mr Pillay about a typewriter and Parliamentary letterheads allegedly used in compiling the "poison-pen letters" intended to discredit Mr Baldeo Dookie, the former Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture

Asked by Mr Rajbansi whether he had ever been

on friendly terms with any members of the House of Delegates, Mr Pillay said he had been friendly with several members, including Mr Rajbansi

"And how many House of Delegates members are you close to at the moment?" asked Mr Rajbansi

Amid loud laughter, Mr Pillay answered "None"

Mr Pillay, confirming that he had visited Mr Rajbansi's home "countless" times, said he had gone there once to make representations on behalf of a trader who faced being evicted from a shopping complex

Mr Pillay said he was unable to comment on Mr Rajbansi's policies, but confirmed that he was asked to take the typewriter away

Mr Rajbansi then asked Mr Pillay if he was aware that this typewriter was the only one at his house

Mr Pillay said he could not say for certain, because "there are a lot of junks (sic) at your house"

— Sapa

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COMMISSION HEARS ALLEGATIONS

DURBAN — A Member of Parliament in the House of Delegates was paid R12 500 to cross the floor, according to allegations made at a meeting between the Advocate-General, the chairman of the Solidarity Party and Govindsamy Pillay during January this year, the James Commission heard yesterday.

The commission, headed by former Judge-President of Natal Neville James, was appointed to investigate alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates.

Chairman of Solidarity Ismail Omar was reading from a statement about the meeting in which Pillay made a number of allegations — among them that an unnamed Member had crossed the floor for the payment of R12 500.

Other allegations were that teachers who did not canvass votes for Amichand Rajbansi's National Peoples Party were not only denied promotion, but were posted to the "Bundu".

Pillay is alleged to have said that a teacher who was a child-molester was

brought back into the profession because of his support for Rajbansi's party and that no action had been taken against another teacher in a northern Natal town who was molesting little girls.

In the meeting with the Advocate-General, Pillay said he was taken one evening to a hotel room in Chatsworth where he met Rajbansi who pressed him to withdraw the allegations he had made to the Advocate-General.

Pillay told Rajbansi he could not because it would be perjury. He said Rajbansi told him to put in an affidavit contradicting his previous one and to leave the rest to him because he had contacts.

Also in the statement was the struggle police had in getting a typewriter from Rajbansi's house.

The typewriter was wanted in connection with the investigation of poison pen letters relating to former Housing Minister Baldeo Dookie.

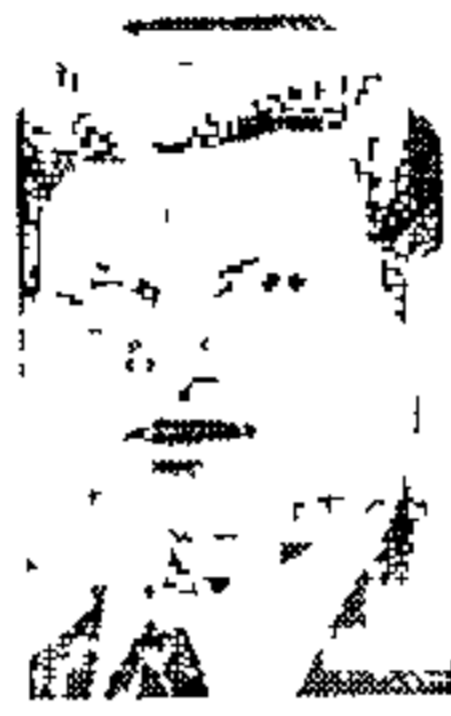
The hearing continues. — Sapa.

B/Day 2/4/88

Rajbansi guilty of attempts to deceive inquiry

PARLIAMENT

— House of Delegates chairman Amichand Rajbansi has been found guilty by a parliamentary inquiry of "glaring" maladministration and of attempting to deceive the inquiry.



● RAJBANSI

A Select Committee into allegations of maladministration said in its report Rajbansi had pressured two other ministers — who were scared of losing their jobs — and officials of the House of Delegates into the overhasty purchase of Durban's Odeon Cinema complex as a cultural centre for R1,1m and it was now a "white elephant".

Evidence before the committee was that it was unsuitable as a cultural centre, that the owners had been trying to sell it for years, and, that only Rajbansi and Dr G K Nair, the chief director responsible for planning in the Department of Education and Culture, favoured the deal

Political Staff

— which the committee said was a "serious misuse of public funds"

The purchase price had been about R400 000 higher than the evaluations

Nair had confessed to "professional incompetence and gross negligence" He was found to have been "quite dishonest in his evidence" and was a "seriously unreliable witness"

"Whether he should continue holding his present post may deserve the attention of the Minister of Education and Culture," said the report

Rajbansi had at first denied initiating the purchase of the cinema complex under the guise of expropriation. However, when confronted with a letter, dated March 2, 1987, and signed by him, instructing that the property be bought before March 31, he changed his evidence and admitted the letter had constituted a directive

He had adopted the attitude before the committee that he had not been particularly concerned about whether the deal went ahead or not

"Your committee is satisfied that in this pretended attitude Rajbansi was being deceitful," said the report

Rajbansi warned

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THE chairman of the commission investigating allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates, Mr Justice Neville James, warned National People's Party leader, Mr Amichand Rajbansi not to try and take over the proceedings during the cross examination of a civil servant, Mr Victor George Hunt.

Mr James made a number of remarks to restrain Mr Rajbansi during his evidence.

The proceedings have been adjourned until August 27.

I refused deal, hearing on Rajbansi told

Own correspondent

DURBAN. — On the sixth day of the James Commission, the chairman of the Solidarity Party, Mr Ismail Omar, said that his organisation was not prepared to make a deal with Mr Govindsamy Pillay, who wanted indemnity in exchange for making allegations of corruption against the Chairman of the Ministers Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

Mr Omar said that Mr Pillay wanted him present at a secret meeting with lawyers where he was prepared to sign an affidavit which would be submitted to the Advocate-General.

He said that Mr Pillay wanted him and other members of Solidarity to sign a document in which Mr Pillay would be given indemnity.

"I was not prepared to make a deal and sign the agreement. That document was never signed," said Mr Omar.

COPY OF AFFIDAVIT

In his evidence, Mr Omar said that Mr Pillay was given a copy of an affidavit in which he made allegations against Mr Rajbansi and that he was aware of and understood its contents.

Earlier in the hearing, Mr Pillay denied he had a copy of the affidavit and said he was not allowed to read it. He said the affidavit containing most of the allegations was fabricated by Solidarity.

Mr Omar said that Mr Pillay told him he had leaked certain information to two journalists. One received the information for his (Mr Pillay's) own personal assurance and the other was to divulge the information if anything happened to him.

Mr Omar then told the hearing of his journey with Mr Pillay to the Advocate-General's office in Pretoria. He gave details of the meeting and how he had forgotten to take with him the affidavit which contained the allegations against Mr Rajbansi.

The commission is headed by the Hon Neville James, former Judge-President of Natal.

The hearing continues.

'ENRICHED HIMSELF'

MR AMICHAND Rajbansi had interfered with the allocation of valuable trading sites in Indian areas and "improperly enriched himself" as chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, the James Commission of Inquiry was told in Durban yesterday

The allegations were made by Mr Baldeo Dookie, a former colleague and government minister in Mr Rajbansi's administration

Mr Dookie, who was

"relieved" of his portfolio of Minister of Housing on April 8, 1987, has presented nearly 600 pages of written evidence to the commission appointed by the State President to inquire into allegations of irregularities in the House of Delegates

Mr Dookie, who subsequently joined the Solidarity Party, said he had reason to believe that Mr Rajbansi had directly or indirectly been enriched or received advantage by acting in "an unlawful or im-

proper manner" 258

Giving evidence before the commission chairman, Mr Justice Neville James, on Monday, Mr Dookie referred to the affidavit in which he accused Mr Rajbansi of interfering with the allocation of trading sites in a "dictatorial manner" and of deliberately taking over the housing portfolio so he could allocate sites to his "favourite applicants"

Mr Dookie said he had not been supplied with reasons for his dismissal as Minister of Housing, either by the State President, Mr P W Botha, or by Mr Rajbansi

He was satisfied that he had been ousted because Mr Rajbansi wanted to be in charge of the portfolio

The hearing continues

17/10/88 Some fan

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BUS

Dookie says Rajbansi pulled rank

DURBAN — Ministers' Council chairman Amichand Rajbansi was yesterday alleged to have given priority to a man who made fraudulent statements in a service station application.

Sacked Housing Minister Baldeo Dookie said this while giving evidence to the James Commission.

Dookie, led by his lawyer, Azim Bacus, said there were 52 applications for six service stations.

A short-list of six was turned down but Rajbansi allocated a Chatsworth site to a Mr R Rambarian for R400 000.

Refused

He said when he went to discuss allocation of sites Rajbansi almost threw him out of his office.

He said normally, when a recommendation was made, it would be referred to him for approval. Once he signed the documents it was up to the director general to implement the agreement.

Dookie added that in the Mr Rambarian case he refused to sign.

The hearing continues.

□ A defamation action, in which Dookie is suing Rajbansi, for R20,000, was adjourned until December 7 in the Supreme Court at Durban yesterday.

Dookie claims that on June 5 last year Rajbansi sent a telex message to The Daily News saying, among other things, that Dookie did not exercise his duties impartially and acted arbitrarily and in a fickle manner. — Sapa.

Two stood to make R11,5m — Rajbansi

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18/8/88
B/Day

DURBAN — Two people stood to make R11,5m profit if one of two residential areas on the East Rand were declared Indian, according to evidence given today to the James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates.

Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House, in cross-examining Baldeo Dookie, asked him whether he knew about a R1,5m commission payable to anyone who could get the residential areas of Villa Liza or Windmill declared for Indian occupation.

"Somebody, and I don't mean you, stood to make a R10m profit if either of these two residential areas was declared for Indians," said Rajbansi.

Dookie in his reply said he had heard this "talk" going around, but did not know the details.

Rajbansi put it to Dookie that both of them at one time were opposed to either area being declared for Indian occupation

However, Dookie said that subsequently Villa Liza had been declared for Indian occupation.

Former Judge-President of Natal Neville James, chairman of the commission, is hearing evidence.

The second session yesterday started with Dookie and Rajbansi blaming each other for leaking information to the newspapers.

Rajbansi asked Dookie whether he denied that he had informed newspapers he was about to be replaced as Housing Minister

"I deny it. The reporter told me that you, Mr Rajbansi, told him that I was to be replaced as Minister of Housing," he said.

Letters exchanged between the two men were handed in as exhibits.

The judge then put it to Dookie that his relationship with Rajbansi was "not the easiest one."

"There must have been some tension between you two," he said.

The inquiry is proceeding —

Sapa

Coup bid alleged

A "coup" to take over the Ministers Council of the House of Delegates backfired on the very people who tried to grab power, according to Mr Amichand Rajbansi who was cross examining sacked Housing Minister, Mr Baldeo Dookie, at the James Commission hearing at the magistrate's court, in Durban

Mr Rajbansi put it to Mr Dookie that he resigned from the council five weeks after he was sacked as housing minister in May last year because he (Mr Dookie) believed that a "coup" to grab power would be successful

Sowetan
19/8/88
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Parliament was 'kept in the dark'

By RYAN CRESSWELL

A CABINET Minister withheld sensitive information from Parliament and threw ministerial correspondence into a rubbish bin, a senior official of the House of Delegates told a special commission of inquiry.

The allegations came at the end of a week that saw the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, in the hot seat.

He was appearing before the James Commission of Inquiry headed by Mr Justice James in Durban.

The commission was appointed by President P W Botha to investigate alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates.

The director of Local Government and Development, Mr Victor George Hunt, said Mr Rajbansi altered the replies to written questions from an MP and removed documents from a file before throwing them away.

Mr Hunt also corroborated claims by former Indian Housing, and Agricultural Minister Baldeo Dookie that Mr Rajbansi set up a "secret committee" to circumvent his authority as a Minister.

Licences

Mr Dookie alleged that Mr Rajbansi used irregular procedures to allocate licences for petrol stations, for example through the acquisition of a R1.2 million Chatsworth cinema complex which could have been bought for nearly R500 000 less, interfered with the national tender system by forming regional tender boards and acquired his ministerial home irregularly.

Earlier the commission heard allegations that Mr Rajbansi was behind a poison pen campaign against Dookie.

He was relieved of his position as Minister of Housing on May 18 last year and resigned soon after.

New party may topple Rajbansi

DURBAN — Solidarity and the Peoples' Party (PP) which formed a loose political alliance in the troubled House of Delegates, are set to merge to form a single, powerful party and thus take control of the Indian chamber.

Although the alliance has 24 MPs (including two independents) in the 45 member House, Amichand Rajbansi, who the alliance wants to see ousted as chairman of the Minister's Council, has claimed his National Peoples' Party (NPP) with 19 members is still the single biggest party.

However, a merger between Solidarity and the PP could put paid to Rajbansi's claim.

The only obstacle at the moment, it is understood, is finding a suitable name for the new grouping, as Solidarity leader Jayaram Reddy is loathe to drop his party's name.

The 11 PP members, who broke away from the NPP last year and voted with Solidarity's 11 to defeat the NPP on several matters, would prefer a new name and image. One PP member suggests the party be called the Peoples' Solidarity Party.

Somaroo Pachai, national chairman of the PP, and Baldeo Dookie, deputy chairman of Solidarity — both former senior members of the NPP — said yesterday they favoured a merger of the two parties. — Sapa

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Calls for Rajbansi to quit

DURBAN - Leaders of the Natal Indian Congress and the United Democratic Front in Natal have called on Mr Amichand Rajbansi and his fellow members in the tricameral Parliament to resign following allegations of corruption and bribery in the Indian House of Delegates.

The call follows evidence currently being heard before a Commission of Inquiry headed by a former Judge President of Natal, Mr Neville James - into the activities of Rajbansi.

Evidence thus far has unraveled a web of alleged bribery, corruption and graft, with many witnesses characterising Rajbansi as a "bully" who frequently resorted to "threats and intimidation".

According to Mr Mewallal Rangobin, executive member of the Natal Indian Congress, the alleged corruption and bribery was a strong reflection on the deep flaws in the entire tricameral system.

"The evidence being led in the James Commission is indicative of the fact that there are serious problems in an institution created by the Government," said Rangobin.

"The most potent reflection on this is the fact that these people do not represent the will of the majority of the Indian people. It is within the terms of such an institution and non-representation that there is this kind of internecine wrangling and carrot-dangling."

"That Rajbansi is on the carpet at this stage is perhaps the tip of the iceberg. What needs to be looked at is the entire tricameral system - the tricameral Parliament itself is a manipulative component of the government."

"As far as we in the Natal Indian Congress are concerned, it is not only imperative that the House of Delegates members should resign, but that the entire tricameral system should be abandoned and replaced with a system compatible and consistent with people's democracy."

NIC president Mr George Sewpersadhoo echoed Rangobin's call for the immediate resignation of HOD members.



Amichand Rajbansi

Rajbansi is accused

258 30/8/88 Sawejan

CHAIRMAN of the Indian Minister's Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, has again been accused of a vast array of irregularities from lying to Parliament through to using land deals to gain political support.

The allegations are made in the third and final report of the investigations conducted by a House of Delegates Committee into allegations of maladministration in the Indian administration.

The committee has

been conducting an investigation in tandem with the James Committee of Inquiry into the many allegations of corruption and maladministration made over the past four years

Mr J N Reddy, leader of the majority alliance in the House of Delegates, has called on President P W Botha to suspend Mr Rajbansi as a member of and as chairman of the Minister's Council until further investigations are concluded

"It is quite clear that

there has been a reckless disregard of ministerial responsibility, including lying to Parliament."

Mr Rajbansi has already been suspended as a member of the Cabinet and as a member of the House of Delegates

The 86-page report submitted by committee chairman, Mr M Thaver, is due to be debated over the next two days in the House of Delegates.

The committee said that in its inquiry "evidence was placed before it of examples of very serious maladministration, amounting to disgraceful conduct on the part of Mr Rajbansi"

Among other things the committee has alleged that Mr Rajbansi.

- Was apparently involved in a conspiracy with a Mr Jivan Seebran to commit fraud with the allocation of a petrol service site which was to be sold to Mr Seebran for R401 000 and would



MR Rajbansi . . .

realise more than R1 million.

- Misused his position and was "deceitful and devious" in dealing with officials instructing them to do things that were "wrong and improper" against their better judgement

- Intended "to conceal important information and that he intentionally misled the House" in the allocation of petrol station sites

"It transpires from the evidence that at the very time Mr Rajbansi was telling this deliberate falsehood to Parliament, the alienation of land was actually taking place"

Rajbansi, civil servant clash over purchase

Own Correspondent

Former civil servant Mr Roy Blumerick and Mr Amichand Rajbansi yesterday clashed over the purchase of Malgate House in Durban during the James Commission hearing in Durban yesterday.

Mr Blumerick said Mr Rajbansi had instructed him to make the purchase as a matter of urgency, but the suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates said he had not told anyone to buy any building.

"Yes, you did," said Mr Blumerick.

"No, I did not and neither have I told anybody to buy a building," said Mr Rajbansi.

Chairman Mr Neville James asked Mr Blumerick "Are you surprised?"

"Mr chairman, I'm shocked," said Mr Blumerick.

The clash came when Mr Rajbansi was cross-examining Mr Blumerick for the second time.

The confrontation between the two emerged after attorney Mr Azim Baccus, counsel for sacked Housing Minister Mr Baldeo Dookie, asked Mr

Blumerick why he chose retirement when he still had another five years' service.

Mr Blumerick "I was very unhappy at the department."

He said Mr Rajbansi had interfered with the day-to-day workings of the department, which was really Mr Dookie's responsibility.

"I did not like the way the chairman of the Ministers' Council was acting; at times he bypassed the director-general and myself. He asked Mr Hunt (another civil servant) to buy a building without contacting us," he said.

He also said Mr Rajbansi had interfered in the allocation of shops and that in one case a shop had stood empty for 24 months when there was a list of people who wanted it.

Mr Rajbansi denied he had interfered in the allocation of the shop and pointed out that a number of people, who were displaced traders, had not been interested in the store and, after a request from an MP, he decided to recommend two people to the department.

The hearing continues.

258 57m 1/9/88

Rajbansi leant on me, says witness

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The former chairman of the Housing Development Board, Mr Willem Jacobus van der Marais, told the James Commission yesterday that the chairman of the Ministers Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, had put pressure on him on a number of occasions to approve projects which sometimes he felt he should not.

Yesterday was the 16th day of an investigation by the commission into allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates.

He said Mr Rajbansi had asked him why housing projects were not awarded to two utility companies which he later discovered had never before built a house.

Mr Anton Ackermann, who is leading evidence for the commission, asked Mr Marais whether he knew that one of the companies, Clarion Homes, had as a director a Mr Dave Pillay, who was Mr Rajbansi's friend. Mr Marais said he did not.

STRONGER FIRM

He told the commission that when his board queried the allocation of a tender to Clarion Homes, which put in the second-best bid to build 180 homes in Maritzburg, he was telephoned by Mr Rajbansi and asked why his board did not let the bid go through.

He said that another company, Radiant Designs, had put in a better bid and he felt that they should have got the contract.

He was then told by Mr Rajbansi that Clarion Homes had the infrastructure and the capital to get the job done.

"Mr Rajbansi told me that Clarion was a stronger company and was equipped to get the job done and with this in mind the contract was given to Clarion Homes."

Under cross-examination, Mr Marais agreed that at no time did Mr Rajbansi give instructions to overturn the board's decisions.

Follies galore

When the knives are out in the Indian House of Delegates (HoD), it seems, little mercy is shown. This much deposed HoD chairman Amichand Rajbansi must have learnt this week when, in his absence from the chamber, his parliamentary future was discussed.

To get the wide range of allegations of maladministration, scandalous behaviour, dishonesty and fraud on record in *Hansard*, three members of the governing alliance of the Solidarity and People's Party of SA took turns to read the 86-page report on these matters issued this week. Members of Rajbansi's National People's Party left the chamber.

Earlier, President P W Botha was urged to suspend all transactions relating to a service station site allotted to a friend of Rajbansi, still a member of the Minister's Council. In a letter to Botha, HoD MP George Thaver, who chaired the House committee which looked into the allegations, wrote that this aspect will probably be handed over to the Attorney General. Thaver stated that evidence of a startling nature was received during the various meetings of the committee.

In a letter from Botha's office, Thaver is requested to bring the findings of the House committee to the attention of the James Commission, which is investigating the matter. Alternatively, the information could be forwarded to the Advocate General.

The committee says in its report that it has received several complaints of alleged interference by Rajbansi with persons who were about to or did give evidence.

The report also deals with Rajbansi's personality and claims it is clear that he "wielded with a heavy hand the considerable power held by him."

On August 8, Rajbansi told the commission that he had problems with the anti-Indian attitudes of senior white officials. The name of one official, a chief director, was given to them by Rajbansi, says the committee.

It adds that the official — against his own better judgment — had to follow Rajbansi's instructions and later "under oath made a clean breast of the facts." Until then Rajbansi had not complained to any responsible person that the official was anti-Indian, the committee points out.

Among the allegations contained in the report, mention is made of the misuse of staff and stationery; strange behaviour within the administration of the HoD involving Rajbansi and junior officials; and the attempted destruction of documents.

Typically, Rajbansi responded by condemning the report as "politically prejudiced," saying that Progressive Independent Party MP Pat Poovalingam had played the part of judge and jury member.

Rajbansi said the committee had wasted taxpayers' money by not abiding by a request by the Speaker of parliament, Louis le Grange, that the committee disband and its evidence be submitted to the James Commission.

The Rajbansi drama will perhaps come to an end once the commission has reported. ■

2/9/88

Malpractice rife in Indian education, hearing is told

ARGUS - 2/9/88 (327) 253

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN — The secretary-general of the Teachers' Association of South Africa, Mr Sathish Tiruben Jaggernath, has told the James Commission that Indian education was riddled with mismanagement, irregularities, abuse of teachers, malpractices, nepotism and arrogant attitudes

Mr Jaggernath was called by the association's lawyer, Mr Vas Som, to give his evidence-in-chief yesterday.

He said that these malpractices had a detrimental affect on parents, children were losing mo-

rale and there was a growing cynicism among teachers

The blame lay "fairly and squarely" on those at ministerial level to "petty bureacrats" and "political underlings".

Mr Jaggernath said that two schools in Cape Town had been downgraded so that the headmasters could not get promotions Bellmore School in Cape Town had been downgraded but its status had been restored in an out-of-court settlement.

"It was clear that teachers who campaigned against the tricameral parliamentary system had

been victimised by politicians trying to degrade the school"

Mr Jaggernath said that Rylands Secondary School in Cape Town had also been downgraded so that the headmaster, Mr I Waja, could be denied promotion

Mr Waja was regarded as a political activist, he said

Teachers who did not support the tricameral system were not given study leave while a member of Mr Amichand Rajbansi's National People's Party was given this privilege

(Proceeding)

Student
CAPE Times 2/9/88
teachers
258
were on
blacklist
— claim

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A former official of the Department of Indian Education yesterday told the James Commission of Inquiry of the existence of a "blacklist" of 69 Durban student teachers — allegedly drawn up to victimize them for their political views.

Mr Helgard Michael Saayman, a former under-secretary of the department who was second-in-command of budgeting, finance and personnel, told the commission the blacklist was drawn up on the instructions of Mr G K Nair, the former rector of the Springfield College of Education in Durban (now a chief director in the Indian education department).

Mr Saayman said a second blacklist of 11 student teachers was later drawn up and sent to the department in November 1983 to influence the first-year teaching appointments of the students in 1984.

Several allegations

Mr Saayman alleged that Mr Amichand Rajbansi (then chairman of the executive committee of the South African Indian Council) had instructed that a Newlands West student at the top of the list, Mr Inbanathan Naidoo, should not be posted to a school in Lenasia — but "shunted" instead to a school in the politically conservative Transvaal town of Schweizer-Reineke.

Evidence about the blacklist was among several allegations presented to the commission in a lengthy memorandum by the secretary-general of the Teachers' Association of South Africa (Tasa), Mr Sathish Tirubeni Jaggernath.

Other allegations made in the affidavit were that Indian Education was "plagued by mismanagement and gross inefficiency".

Mr Jaggernath said his association intended proving that political considerations were applied in the promotion, or non-promotion, of teachers and officials.

He said the association had been advised that according to the terms of reference of the commission, it was not required to prove that a minister or member of the House of Delegates had personally perpetrated the acts complained of.

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Indian education 'now at its worst'

DURBAN — The state of Indian education is at its worst, according to the secretary-general of the Teachers' Association of South Africa, Mr Sathish Jaggernath

Mr Jaggernath gave evidence yesterday to the James Commission here which is investigating allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates

He said there had always been unhappiness in the ranks of teachers since a takeover by the government. While there had been problems, the situation had not been as bad as it was currently

"Even under the Department of Indian Affairs we had problems, but nothing as serious as the problems at present," said Mr Jaggernath

He said that while the qualifications of teachers had been upgraded, it did not mean that the standard of education had improved

He alleged that in the past five years since the takeover — first by the South African Indian Council and then by the House of Delegates — there had been political victimization and irregularities in the promotion and the administration of the Department of Education

Mr Jaggernath was recalled to give evidence by the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, who cross-questioned him at length

Commission hears evidence

about complaints made by Tasa to the James Commission, in which charges of irregularity were levelled at members of the Ministers' Council and Mr Rajbansi

When Mr Rajbansi put it to him that there had been a dramatic improve-

ment in Indian education, pointing out that the number of pupils who received an A aggregate in matriculation examinations had risen from 69 a year to 155, Mr Jaggernath said that that was not a true reflection, especially if more pupils wrote examinations compared with those who wrote in previous years

"There has been no dramatic improvement like Mr Rajbansi is trying to show. There has been 1% improvement a year in matric results, except for last year, when there was 7% more," he said

Mr Jaggernath said teachers were fed up the way things were being done.

"We are talking about the human factor in Indian education, the complaints, the disgruntled people. It does not mean that if more teachers get a better assessment now then the status of education is better," he said

Mr Colin Mann, counsel for the Indian Education Department, said that all the evidence that the association could muster were six affidavits, but Mr Jaggernath said that if the commission wanted more, they had a great number of people who would submit statements — Sapa

(258) Stan 1/9/88

Ex-DET chief gives evidence

By Deborah Smith
Pretoria Bureau

The former director general of the Department of Education and Training, Dr Braam Fourie, said if he had known that his son was involved with a company from which the department purchased R4,8 million of computer equipment, he would not have sanctioned the deal.

Dr Fourie was yesterday testifying before a commission of inquiry.

The DET allegedly bought the computers from Learning Technologies without calling for tenders in 1985.

Dr Fourie said he learnt of his son, Mr Willem Fourie's involvement with the company only in 1987 when a magazine revealed his son helped found the company.

7/9/88 Star

Alliance seeks concessions

Heunis to ⁽²⁵⁸⁾ meet parties in attempt to end boycott

Political Staff

The Minister of Constitutional Development, Mr Chris Heunis, is to meet the majority alliance parties from the House of Delegates today in an attempt to break the boycott of the Government's legislative programme.

The majority alliance last week refused to tag along with the House of Representatives when it broke off its boycott, which arose from the controversial tightening of the Group Areas Act.

The two parties in the alliance — Solidarity and the People's Party of South Africa — are seeking concessions and assurances from the Gov-

ernment on a fairer allocation of land before agreeing to drop the boycott.

Even, as appears likely, the boycott is dropped, the majority alliance is expected to follow the Labour Party and continue to oppose firmly the Group Areas Act amendments.

The five controversial Bills, including the Group Areas trilogy, which led to the recent constitutional crisis, have been re-published, without any change to the original principles, to allow them to be re-submitted for consideration by the joint standing committee on constitutional affairs.

Heunis's Moutse, Constitutional appeals fail Bills rejected in Delegates

CAPE TOWN — Legislation validating government actions in Moutse since its incorporation into KwaNdebele in 1985, and an amendment to the Constitution, were unanimously rejected yesterday by the House of Delegates

This was in spite of appeals during debate by both the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, and his deputy, Mr Roelf Meyer, to members to support the Bills

The Moutse (Validation of Actions) Bill provides for the validation of government actions in the area since its proclaimed incorporation into the homeland of kwaNdebele in 1985 until a Appeal Court judgment earlier this year rescinded the move

The Constitution Third Amendment Bill provides for the State President to table in Parliament reports of decisions and advice of the President's Council "as soon as practically possible" instead of within 14 days, as the Constitution now stipulates

Opposing the Constitutional amendment, the Deputy Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr S Pachai, who is acting chairman of the opposition Peoples Party of South Africa (PPSA), said that although it was the result of a practical problem, "we are not convinced of the need (of the Bill) at all"

Mr Mohamed Shah (NPP Lenasia Central) said his party also did not approve of the Bill

Replying, Mr Heunis said he hoped he could "at this late hour, persuade members to change their decision"

He said the Bill in no way affected the powers and functions of the President's

Council, which, although its structure was being reviewed, was an institution all MPs had accepted as a part of the new constitutional dispensation entered into in 1984

"This Bill deals only with the timing of tabling of reports of the President's Council," Mr Heunis said

Explaining the practical problems caused by the current constitutional stipulation, he said Parliament had had to convene earlier this year, before the 1988 session started, so that a report of the President's Council could be tabled

Executive in trouble

Opposing the Moutse legislation, Mr Pat Poovalingam (PFP Reservoir Hills) said he recognised that the executive was in trouble, but the point was the situation was entirely of its own making

The Government had forced the incorporation through regardless of humanity and legality and it was only thanks to the judiciary that the Moutse people had obtained justice at last

Mr Pachai, for the PPSA, said Moutse had been an area which was calm and almost unknown, but was now in the political limelight because of the Government's policy of separate development

The Moutse issue was an "extreme case of insensitive application of this policy"

The Moutse people were suspicious of the Government's intentions because they felt they were being used for the sake of political expediency

The region's infrastructure of roads, schools and hospitals was "far advanced" to that of the rest of kwaNdebele

Teachers, nurses and clerks had resisted transfer into the kwaNdebele administration

Replying, Mr Meyer argued the Bill was giving effect to the Appeal Court's decision rescinding the incorporation of Moutse, which it accepted, and that rejection of the Bill would amount to a refutation of the court's decision.

If the Bill was not accepted, Mr Meyer said, members would have to abide with the implications of their action, which involved the liability of administrative actions in Moutse since 1985 being open to challenge in court

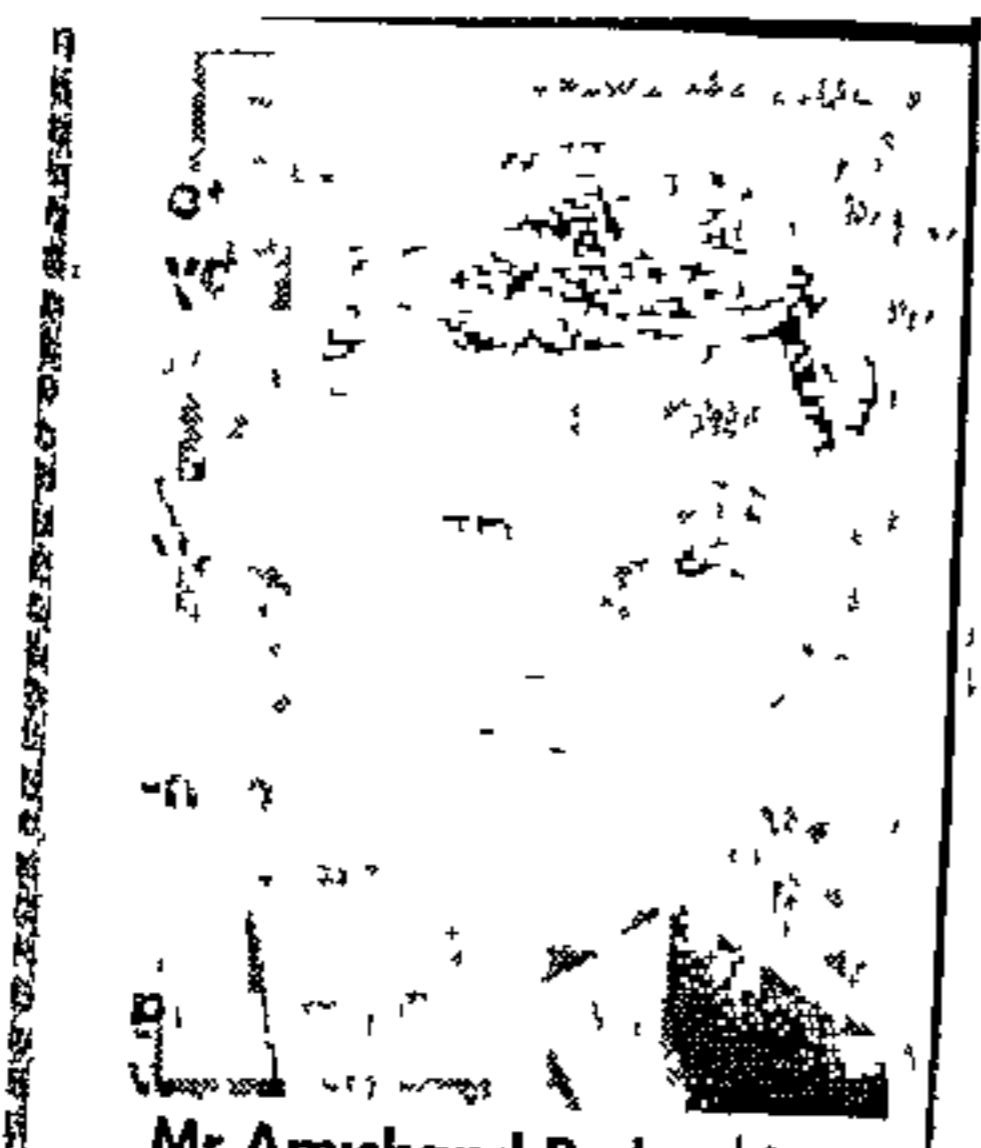
This included executive and administrative actions and decisions relating to, among others, pension payments, salaries, budgets, expenditures and a host of other actions

Members had argued about the incorporation of Moutse into kwaNdebele, but ignored the Government's appointment of the Rumpff Commission of Inquiry into the region's future

Speaking next, Mr Heunis said the debate had actually little to do with the relevance of the Bill itself

Referring to the Rumpff Commission, the Minister asked why members were arguing and opposing the Bill as if it involved the actual incorporation of Moutse into kwaNdebele

The measure concerned protection of the rights of Moutse people and it was wrong for members of the House of Delegates to blatantly ignore these for the sake of scoring political points — Sapa



Mr Amichand Rajbansi questions on transfer.

Rajbansi

quiz on teacher's romance

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The James Commission investigating alleged corruption in the House of Delegates was told yesterday how Minister of Health, Mr Raman Bhana, tried to get a Tamil schoolteacher who was in love with a Gujarati girl transferred from the Cape to Durban in a bid to break up the romance

The chief director of Indian education, Mr A K Singh, was being cross-examined by the suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, about approaches Mr Bhana made to him (Mr Singh) to investigate the teacher and get him transferred to Durban.

"He was opposed to a Tamil marrying a Gujarati," said Mr Singh. "I received two telephone calls from Mr Bhana who asked me to do something and I told him that the matter was being investigated," said Mr Singh.

No evidence was led on what eventually happened.

ALLEGED PRESSURE

At the start of the second session yesterday, Mr Anton Ackermann, who is leading evidence for the commission, told the chairman, Mr Justice Neville James, of an allegation that the Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Kessie Rambuth, had been forced to give evidence

Mr Ackermann said Mr Rajbansi had told him that Mr Rambuth said he had been forced to give evidence by Mr Ackermann.

"What is even more disturbing is that it seems that there has been contact between Minister Ramduth and Minister Rajbansi and may I point out that Minister Ramduth is still under oath," said Mr Ackermann.

Mr Rajbansi denied that he told Mr Ackermann that Mr Ramduth had told him this.

"Minister Ramduth told me that he was called to give evidence and that's why he gave it," said Mr Rajbansi.

Mr James asked Mr Rajbansi when he had contacted Mr Ramduth.

"I spoke to him before he gave evidence," said Mr Rajbansi.

Mr James asked Mr Rajbansi for an assurance that he was speaking the truth and then issued a general warning that if anybody interfered with witnesses he (Mr James) would not hesitate to act in accordance with the powers laid down by the commission.

CHANGE IN GRADES

Mr Singh also told the commission yesterday how documents were altered to ensure the promotion of two educators.

He said that in 1985 he was summoned to Mr Rajbansi's office and instructed to include the names of two teachers, Mr C Panday and Mr B Singh, on a promotion list.

He said that he included the names and then reported the matter to the director general, Dr James Gilliland, a senior director, Mr Zwiggeler, and the Minister, Mr Ramduth. All of them told him to leave matters as they were, he said.

Mr Singh read from a report in which he said it was discovered that alterations had been made on the files of the two educators but these did not appear on the copies of assessment forms in his possession.

Handwritten notes in the left margin: "258" inside a circle, "Sta", and "8/9/88".

renewed economic approach by the Government

... bail of R500 and the case was postponed to November 2

House of Delegates confusion spills over to municipal poll

Pretoria Correspondent

The political confusion in the House of Delegates has spilled over into the municipal elections

When nominations closed yesterday for the Laudium management committee election — representing Pretoria's Indian community — all 25 candidates indicated they were "independents", with no sign of candidates from the political parties.

The United Action Team Committee fielded one candidate in each of the five wards, but stressed in its manifesto that they would represent "the people of Laudium and not any political parties"

The Laudium Member of Parliament in the House of Delegates, Mr Boetie Abramjee (National People's Party), confirmed last night that there would be no party-political involvement in Indian municipal elections, "not in Pretoria nor anywhere else in the country"

The NPP and Solidarity formed a coalition which subsequently led to the formation of the breakaway Progressive Reform Party, later disbanded when its members joined the Progressive Federal Party

Mr Abramjee said against this background it was seen as premature for political parties to become involved in Indian municipal elections, and although there were candidates with strong party ties they would not receive any assistance from the official party organisation

Star

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8/4/88

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Minister 'forced to give evidence'

DURBAN. — At the start of the second session of the James Commission into allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates yesterday morning, advocate Mr Anton Ackermann told the chairman, Mr Justice Neville James, of an allegation of someone being forced to give evidence

He said that the suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, had told him that Minister of Education and Culture Mr Kessie Ramduth had told Mr Rajbansi that Mr Ramduth was forced to give evidence by Mr Ackermann

"What is even more disturbing is that it seems that there has been contact between Mr Ramduth and Mr Rajbansi and may I point out that Minister Ramduth is still under oath," said Mr Ackermann

Mr Rajbansi denied that he

'Caste discrimination' in teacher's 'transfer'

DURBAN. — The James Commission investigating alleged corruption in the House of Delegates was yesterday told how the Minister of Health, Mr Raman Bhana, tried to get a Tamil school-teacher, who was in love with a Gujarati girl, to be transferred from the Cape to Durban in a bid to break the romance

The chief director of Indian education, Mr A K Singh, was being cross-questioned by the suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, about approaches Mr Bhana made to him (Mr Singh) to investigate the teacher who

was not named in evidence and to get him transferred to Durban.

"He was opposed to a Tamil marrying a Gujarati I told him that the matter would be looked into," said Mr Singh.

Mr Rajbansi asked Mr Singh whether he was aware that Mr Bhana was a member of the Gujarati community.

He said he was, but Mr Singh said then that he left the matter to the chief director, Mr B Panday

"I received two telephone calls from Mr Bhana who asked me to do something and he told him that the matter was being investigated." — Sapa

told Mr Ackermann that Mr Ramduth had told him that he was forced to give evidence

"Minister Ramduth told me that he was called to give evidence and that's why he gave it," said Mr Rajbansi

Mr Justice James asked Mr Rajbansi when he had contacted Mr Ramduth

"I spoke to him before he gave evidence," said Mr Rajbansi

The chief executive director of

Indian Education, Mr A K Singh, told the commission that documents went missing and others were altered to ensure the promotion of two educators who were not liable to be upgraded

He said that in 1985 he was summoned to Mr Rajbansi's office and instructed to include the names of two teachers, Mr C Panday and Mr B Singh, on the list of educators for promotion — Sapa

Rajbansi wanted jobs for 147, hearing told

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The deputy director of personnel in the Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services, Mr A J Louw, yesterday told the James Commission in Durban — which is investigating allegations of corruption in the House of Delegates — how the former chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, had "strongly requested" jobs for 147 people, blocked the promotion of one man and prevented the transfer of another.

Mr Louw told the commission that Mr A K Mohamed did not have the necessary experience to work in the personnel department, but efforts to transfer him to another section were blocked by Mr Rajbansi.

REFUSED TO SIGN

Another member of his department, Mr Dennis Veerasamy, was promoted but six months later his new position was not yet confirmed because Mr Rajbansi refused to sign.

"I was informed by the chief director that Mr Veerasamy was not loyal to the department," said Mr Louw.

He said Mr Mohamed applied for

leave on two occasions in 1987.

Mr Mohamed wanted leave because there were elections in Tongaat and Mr Rajbansi telephoned him (Mr Louw) and asked him to consider the leave application favourably.

He said Mr Rajbansi requested him to appoint at least 147 people as clerks over a 33-month period.

Mr Louw said he received a request from Mr Kessie Ramduth to appoint a Mr D K Maharaj as a clerk in the administration in this department.

He was later told that Mr Maharaj was Mr Ramduth's son and said he had not been appointed because it was felt that it would not be a good idea to appoint a Minister's son in the same department as his father.

Questioned by Mr Rajbansi, Mr Louw conceded that at a time graduates did not get jobs while persons with lower qualifications had been placed.

Mr Rajbansi said of all the people he requested jobs for, only about 10 per cent were successful.

Mr Louw denied a suggestion by Mr Rajbansi that it was departmental policy to keep out graduates.

The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.

Rajbansi allegedly made men sign false affidavits

20/9/88

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Two Indian civil servants yesterday told the James Commission, which is investigating allegations of irregularities in the House of Delegates, that they made false affidavits against a white colleague on the instructions of the chairman of the Ministers Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

Mr Sathaseelan Pillay and Mr Kisten Konar said Mr Rajbansi told them to make out affidavits accusing Mr Victor George Hunt of being unco-operative, unethical, negative and anti-Indian.

Mr Pillay told the commission he made the affidavit out of fear and he did not even know the meaning of unethical

"I did it out of fear. I am even scared to be here. The chairman asked me to sign the affidavits. No, they are not the truth," said Mr Pillay

He said that in the administration it was Mr Rajbansi who cracked the whip

Mr Pillay, the private secretary of another Minister in the House of Delegates, Mr S V Naicker, said he had a

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Mr Amichand Rajbansi cracks the whip in the administration, said witness.

very good working relationship with Mr Hunt

Mr Konar, who is Mr Rajbansi's private secretary for housing, said he regretted very much making the affidavits

Mr Anton Ackermann, who is leading evidence for the commission, said he did not see the affidavit in which Mr Konar made allegations against Mr Hunt and asked him with whom he

had lodged it

"I gave it to the chairman," he said

Mr Ackermann then questioned Mr Konar about another affidavit in which he said he was in Mr Rajbansi's office on March 25 1988 when Mr Rajbansi removed certain documents from a file and threw them into a dustbin

Mr Ackermann produced a receipt for a railway ticket which showed that Mr Konar was in Cape Town on that day.

Mr Konar admitted that he was on his way to Cape Town and it was not possible for him to be in Mr Rajbansi's office when the documents were removed

Questioned about his working relationship with Mr Hunt, Mr Konar said he had no qualms about the man

"Do you regard him as anti-Indian?" asked Mr Ackermann

"No comment," said Mr Konar

"I want you to comment," said Mr Ackermann Mr Konar then said he had a very good working relationship with Mr Hunt and found him to be friendly and a very good person

The inquiry continues

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Evidence: 'NPP teachers' got preference

Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — The former national secretary of Mr Amichand Rajbansi's National People's Party told the James Commission yesterday that between 60 and 80 Indian teachers were promoted or transferred after they joined the party when it was voted into power in the 1984 elections

"It is corruption, maladministration and highly irregular that teachers get promoted on the basis of their political affiliations," said Mr George Thaver

When asked by Mr Rajbansi to name some of the 'eight to 15'

teachers Mr Thaver said had visited Mr Rajbansi about being transferred, Mr Thaver could name only two.

Mr Rajbansi then accused Mr Thaver of "fabricating" the story

South Africa's largest importer of books was questioned on the substantial school book allocations his firm received from the House of Delegates after donations were made to Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party

Mr Arvind Roopanand of D Roopanand Bros, whose three book and stationery outlets have all enjoyed substantial jumps in

their allocations since 1986, said this was because of the company's "good track record"

Mr Roopanand conceded that he donated R500 to the NPP in 1985 and R1 000 after receiving letters of request, but said he was a "neutral businessman" who did not support any particular political party or organization.

Mr S Zwigelaar, former executive director of Indian Education, testified that Mr Rajbansi had instructed him to allocate new orders for school books to D Roopanand Bros

Handwritten notes: 258, CPT 11915 22/9/88

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R281-m earmarked for Indian housing 'unused'

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, yesterday told the James Commission that a total of R281 million, earmarked for housing, was returned unused to the Treasury over a three-year period

He made this disclosure while cross-examining Mr Roland Peter Wronsley, director-general of the House of Delegates. He said that for the 1985/86 year R98 million was not used. In the following year R83 million of the R155 million earmarked was unused and that for the current year, which ended in March 1988, R100 million of the R222 million allocated by the Government was returned.

He said this contributed to

the disillusionment among the public who needed homes

Mr Wronsley said it was unfortunate that money had to be returned to the Exchequer unused, but that officials had to be very careful when making allocations for housing projects when money of this magnitude was involved.

Mr Rajbansi put it to Mr Wronsley that the House and the Ministers would be criticised for returning half the money earmarked for housing.

"It is unfortunate," said Mr Wronsley, "it is not as if we have lost the money. It would be carried over to the next year. It would be ideal to be able to spend the money as it is allocated."

The commission is investigating alleged irregularities in the House.

The hearing continues

26/9/88

THE JAMES INQUIRY

Dealing in Phoenix

The James Commission of Inquiry has begun hearing details of what could prove to be the hardest allegations yet brought against ousted House of Delegates (HoD) chairman Amichand Rajbansi — they involve property transactions. This follows two months of evidence on just about every conceivable issue the administration of the Indian chamber could be involved in and a lot more besides. Commission chairman Justice Neville James has had to listen to minute and arcane allegations of personal clashes between Rajbansi and members of his administration, about private donations to his National People's Party and the blacklisting and rapid promotion of teachers and officials in the education department.

258
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30/9/03

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**Amichand Rajbansi . . .
questionable deeds in Phoenix**

On more than one occasion he has objected to the "trivial" line the questioning has taken. But the property sales issue, especially the sale of two sites to supermarket group Checkers after they were purchased from the Durban City Council, could turn out to be the meat of the commission.

Earlier this week, the Director General of the HoD, Ronald Wonsley, told the commission that Rajbansi twice prevented him from signing the deed of sale on a property in Phoenix which Checkers wanted to purchase, saying Checkers subsidiary Coreprop planned to impose too high a rental.

At the same time, the Durban City Council was preparing a memorandum to submit to the commission offering the sequence of events leading to four property deals they entered into with the HoD.

The council's management committee was this week due to decide on the final draft of its report before presenting it to the commission.

Recess for commission (258)

Stw 7/10/84 Correspondent

DURBAN — The James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates will go into recess for two weeks from October 14

The hearing, which has heard 61 witnesses, will reconvene on October 31.

The recess was requested by the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, to allow him to help candidates in the municipal elections on October 26

Rajbansi questioned ²⁵⁸

Star 8/10/88

**SATURDAY STAR
CORRESPONDENT**

DURBAN — The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, has been told to explain to the James Commission how he spent R25 000 given to him in 1984 by a Chatsworth businessman for an election campaign.

The commission is investigating alleged irregularities in the House.

Mr Mack Naidoo said in evidence yesterday that he had donated the R25 000 to Mr Rajbansi's election campaign after making a pledge in 1981 when he gave Mr Rajbansi R10 000 for the SA Indian Council elections.

Mr Anton Ackermann, who is leading evidence for the commission, produced a bank deposit slip which showed the cheque was put into Mr Rajbansi's personal account.

Commission chairman, the Hon Neville James, then asked Mr Rajbansi to explain what he did with the money.

"Mr Chairman, Mr Naidoo is a well-known philanthropist," he replied.

"I am not interested in Mr Naidoo's philanthropy. I want to know what you did with the money," said Mr James.

"Some of it was used for election purposes and I am holding some in trust," said Mr Rajbansi.

Mr James told Mr Rajbansi to provide proof of what he did with the money when the hearing resumed on Wednesday morning.

Mr Naidoo admitted under cross-examination that he was having money problems at the time of making the R25 000 donation.

Mr Ackermann produced records of Mr Naidoo's bank account which showed that he was R47 000 overdrawn.

Earlier in his evidence, Mr Naidoo said he had applied for a bottle store licence but there were objections. He then approached Mr Rajbansi for help.



MR RAJBANSI: Asked about spending.

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Delegates probe bill is soaring (258)

Star 11/10/84

DURBAN — The James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates could cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of rands.

The commission has heard evidence for 38 days. This week it will sit for another three days before adjourning until October 31.

Already five advocates and nine attorneys have taken part. The transcript is more than 3 000 pages — and the end is nowhere in sight.

Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House, said that this week he will call a number of witnesses.

With Mr Anton Ackermann, the special prosecutor for the commission, still to call an undisclosed number of witnesses, the hearing could go into December.

While some individuals and organisations have to pay for their own legal representation, the taxpayer foots the bill for the commission, which includes the salaries of chairman Mr Neville James and Mr Ackermann and his assistant.

The taxpayer will also have to pay for the services of lawyers and advocates representing members of the public service; for the technicians recording the proceedings; the typist who completes the transcripts; and rental for the use of the magistrate's court building.

There are also travel expenses for witnesses called to give evidence for the commission, and the cost of their stay in Durban.

The salary of the special investigator, Colonel H S Blight, will also have to come out of government coffers.

Top Indian education officials are suspended

258
Own Correspondent
19/11/88

DURBAN — Indian education was rocked yesterday with disclosures that three top education officials, who featured prominently at the James Commission inquiry into alleged maladministration in education, had been temporarily suspended from evaluating teachers for promotion posts.

Those suspended are chief education directors Dr Ganesh Nair (planning) and Mr Brij Panday (control) and chief educational superintendent Dr Chandra Shah. All three served on the efficiency rating committee of the Education Department of the House of Delegates and have been temporarily suspended from this committee.

Mr Panday and Dr Shah have also been temporarily suspended from a committee which deals with the rating of teachers for promotion posts.

Education and Culture Minister Mr Kassie Ramduth confirmed that the delegated duties conferred on the three had been withdrawn until further notice.

He said the decision was taken by the director-general of the House of Delegates, Mr Peter Wronsley, who had discussed the matter with him.

Mr Ramduth emphasised that the three officials were not accused of anything and the action taken against them was of a temporary nature until further notice.

Mr Ramduth said he wanted his department to run without any hitches and he had given full powers to Mr Wronsley to take "whatever action was necessary for the smooth running of the department."

"It is in the interest of all parties concerned that the promotion of teachers are handled in such a way that it does not create any doubt on the mind of people," Mr Ramduth said.

Lenasia tenants threaten to hold back their rent

Star 31/10/84

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By Sally Sealey

Tenants of a duplex housing complex in Lenasia Extension 10 have decided to withhold their monthly rents until their grievances have been answered by the House of Delegates

The tenants have written several letters to the Department of Housing since 1984 but nothing has been done, they say

The residents claim they were initially sold their homes on a "voetstoets" basis but were not allowed to inspect the interiors before buying them

No option

The chairman of the Extension 10 Duplex Housing Committee, Mr Suresh Dewa, said "This may sound strange but we had no option. We were forced to accept this due to the serious lack of housing in the area"

Mr Dewa said they were also not granted a subsidy as first-time home owners

The residents said that, when sold, the duplexes had serious structural defects and this has been corroborated in an independent study by a reputable quality testing agency

The agency found the duplexes were "poorly designed" and that major financial institutions would reject the homes as possible investments

The report said many of the homes were damp and that there were several structural cracks

In a letter to the House of Delegates

housing division on October 19, the residents demanded that the price of the homes be reduced by R15 000 so that they could themselves effect repairs

The residents said they were "deeply disappointed and frustrated at your (House of Delegates) lack of sensitivity on this issue"

"We have been communicating with you in various forms for a period of almost one year with no results

"Since all normal channels have produced no results, we are left with no alternative but to withhold our monthly rental payments until this issue is resolved to the satisfaction of all families concerned"

"We stand united and, with the support of various religious and community organisations, hope to persuade the House of Delegates to accept our demands"

Attempts to contact Mr C J Grundling, the regional representative of the House of Delegates on the Witwatersrand, were unsuccessful

When The Star previously published the plight of the duplex residents in July, Mr Grundling said the authorities were looking into the matter

He said he had sent engineers to survey the houses

"Several photographs were taken and all the documentation has been forwarded to Durban. We expect to have a resolution to the problem soon," he said

Developer 'sponsored' NPP rally

258 Own Correspondent 2/11/88

DURBAN — Property developer and architect Mr Dheendayalan Ganesh Pillay told the James Commission of Inquiry yesterday that he had paid R15 000 to the National People's Party to sponsor a convention in the Durban City Hall last year.

Mr Pillay said he spent a week with Mr Amichand Rajbansi, leader of the NPP and chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates, last year.

He was imbued with the political enthusiasm and spirit of Mr Rajbansi and later went to speeches and party meetings.

At a rally in Chatsworth in June last year Mr A G V "Suthie" Naidoo, a ministerial repre-

sentative in Durban and public relations officer of the NPP said they intended to have a congress at the city hall.

"Because I wanted them to have a good function I said 'Put me down'," he said.

On November 5, he paid R5 000 by cheque and handed it to Mr Naidoo "I wrote the cheque," Mr Pillay said.

After the function he was informed by Mr Rajbansi and Mr Naidoo that the cost was R12 000.

"I received numerous telephone calls from Mr Rajbansi and Suthie about the balance."

Mr Rajbansi told him that by not paying the balance he had embarrassed him and "if I did not intend to pay I should not

associate myself with him or his party"

Mr Pillay said he drew a cheque for R10 000 and drove to an NPP election office in Tongaat. He dropped the cheque on a table in the presence of Mr Rajbansi and senior members of the NPP and walked out.

Mr Pillay agreed this was not the version of events he had given to the Thaver Committee, a House of Delegates house committee that looked into alleged irregularities.

He said this was because Mr Rajbansi told him the House committee had been concocted by Mr Thaver and Mr Pat Poovalingham against him and "I should distance myself from that payment."

'I wanted a simple ministerial home'

R500 000 house plan for Rajbansi

Star 3/11/88
(258)

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — A Durban property developer yesterday told the James Commission, which is investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, that he planned a R500 000 home for the suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, which would be able to withstand terrorist attacks.

Mr Dheenadayalan Ganesh Pillay told the Honourable Mr Neville James that Mr Rajbansi had summoned him to his office and asked him to plan a ministerial home on the hills of Chatsworth

Too expensive

Under cross-examination by special prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann, Mr Pillay said the house would have covered more than 700 sq m and cost R500 000. He had even built a model of the home.

He said the first time he drew a sketch for a home to be built on a piece of land which had yet to be acquired, it was rejected by Mr Rajbansi as too expensive. He subsequently drew two other plans for a house which would withstand rocket and grenade attacks.

Mr Rajbansi said all he had wanted was a simple ministerial home.

He said R500 000 was not his estimate, and he had rejected the plans because of the price.

He also said that the land on which it was intended to be built was not suitable.

Mr Rajbansi said the second sketch was scrapped because again the land was not suitable. It was too near a sports stadium and there were no access roads

for a quick getaway. He said it was also expensive.

Early on in his evidence, Mr Pillay said that Mr Rajbansi had asked him to write a letter to use at a press conference. Mr Rajbansi wanted the letter to say that his company, which gave a R15 000 donation to the National People's Party (NPP), was not a building contracting firm.

He said he wrote the letter for Mr Rajbansi who checked it. It was then given to his secretary to type.

Mr Ackermann produced a copy of an advertisement placed by a company in which Mr Pillay was a director.

The advertisement praised Mr Rajbansi and the House of Delegates for certain achievements. The wording of the advertisement had been done jointly by Mr Pillay, Mr Ian Jackson (a fellow director) and Mr Rajbansi.

He said the advertisement caused considerable controversy and after one insertion in the *Sunday Tribune* it was withdrawn.

R10 000 donation

Mr Pillay was then questioned about a R10 000 donation which he gave to the NPP.

He told the commission that one other Cabinet Minister, Mr Kessie Ramduth, and two sitting MPs, Mr George Thaver and a Mr Jumuna, were present when he handed over the cheque. He said that the public relations officer of the NPP, a Mr Naidoo, who was also a ministerial representative, was also present.

The hearing continues.

Indian (258)
exams start
tomorrow

By Zenaide Vendeiro,
Education Reporter

Indian pupils begin their senior certificate examinations tomorrow with two practical papers, technical drawing and typing

The last examination, an English first language paper, will be written on December 2

The Department of Education and Culture, House of Delegates, says 13 353 pupils have registered for the examinations this year, which is about 900 more than last year

The bulk of the candidates — 11 599 pupils — are in Natal, with 1 530 writing in the Transvaal and 224 in the Cape Province.

Of the 13 353 pupils, 7 671 want to obtain a university entrance qualification

Last year, 11 575 of the 12 429 candidates obtained their senior certificate, a pass rate of 93,12 percent

There were 4 625 who passed with matriculation exemption

The pass rate in 1986, when 11 359 pupils wrote the exams, was 85,98 percent, and 3 783 pupils obtained their matriculation exemption

The department says that the results are expected to be released sometime between December 31 and January 3 1987

Rajbansi accuses his officials of conspiracy 258

Own Correspondent

Star 4/11/88

DURBAN — The suspended chairman of the Ministers Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, made a number of sensational accusations against his own officials in the House of Delegates while cross-examining a civil servant during yesterday's proceedings of the James Commission in Durban.

Mr Rajbansi was cross-examining Mr Martin Friedrich, director of Housing and Works in the Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, when he told the commission chairman, the Honourable Neville James, that there was a conspiracy and a plot which involved a number of his officials including the Director of Administration, whom he described as one of the "actors" of the plot.

He told Mr James that he was trying to substantiate the moves against him by officials and that he would be leading evidence to this effect.

Mr James asked Mr Rajbansi to elaborate on his allegations but Mr Rajbansi declined, saying he would do so later when he took the stand.

Mr Rajbansi then accused his officials of shoddy administrative practices and of allowing themselves to be manipulated by some people who wanted sites in Cato Manor. Earlier this week he accused the officials of double standards when giving out work to white companies in preference to Indian-owned establishments.

Mr Rajbansi, in his cross-examination of Mr Friedrich, said that he (Mr Rajbansi) was not responsible for a utility company, Clarion Homes, having its allocation of building sites increased to 93.

The company has as one of its directors Mr Dheena Dayalan Ganesh Pillay, who gave Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party a R15 000 donation.

Mr Rajbansi said that it was officials who increased the allocation from 80 to 93 sites and that he had even submitted a note to Mr Friedrich requesting him to reduce the number of building plots given to Clarion Homes.

Mr Friedrich conceded this but pointed out that after the allocations were made a final submission was handed to Mr Rajban-

si for his approval.

Mr Rajbansi then asked Mr Friedrich if it was not true that building allocations were made to Comihousing, a utility company, which is owned by whites and which had a leading National Party member, a Senator Klopper, as chairman.

Mr Rajbansi pointed out that officials saw fit to give this utility company work but withheld work from Clarion Homes, which was an Indian-owned company.

Mr Friedrich said that it was decided not to give Clarion Homes any work because of Mr Pillay's donations to the NPP and it was decided to wait until the outcome of the James Commission.

A Natal North Coast man, Mr N Maistry, yesterday told the commission he was not a voter, but that during the by-elections in Tongaat last year he had cast a special vote, posing as his brother-in-law who lives in Port Elizabeth.

He said that he cast the vote in order to help his sister who was in financial difficulties to secure a job, which was offered to her if she got 15 votes for the NPP.

Support for me stifled Raj

DURBAN — Suspended chairman of the Ministers Council Mr Amichand Rajbansi and special prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann clashed during a hearing of the James Commission yesterday

The commission is investigating irregularities in the House of Delegates

Mr Rajbansi complained at the beginning of yesterday's session in Durban Magistrate's Court about the manner in which proceedings were being conducted

Reading from a prepared statement, Mr Rajbansi said several witnesses who had applied to give evidence to contradict allegations against him had been "summarily refused"

He added that he had submitted several written requests for witnesses to be subpoenaed and received no replies

"It appears to me that while there is no difficulty in finding witnesses to give evidence against me, sometimes and on more than one occasion those who wish to contradict the allegations are not being called, or given the opportunity to testify"

Mr Ackermann said he had received requests from Mr Rajbansi to call 53 witnesses and that 15 had already given evidence

He said Mr Rajbansi was free to call any witnesses he wanted

Mr Ackermann said he did not want to call a certain witness yesterday because a criminal investigation was under way against him and he did not want to prejudice his case

Mr Perumal Manthiri said in evidence yesterday he was concerned about so many untruths being told — "especially in view of the high cost of the hearing to the taxpayer"

He challenged evidence concerning garage sites

The next witness, Mr Rabychand Rambarun, was to have provided a business licence and order notes from a petroleum company. He told the hearing he could not find the documents

Mr Rambarun was instructed to get a copy of a licence he said his family had

The hearing continues:
— Own Correspondent

Rajbansi denies whites ran HoD's administration

DURBAN — The suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, told the James Commission yesterday that he was shocked, speechless and almost fainted when an Indian civil servant accused him of allowing white officials to have the upper hand in his administration.

Mr Rajbansi was cross-examining his private secretary, Mr Saddique Ismail, when he told the commission that Mr Ray Pillay of the Department of Local Government had stunned him with the accusation.

Mr Ismail told the commission that Mr Pillay accused Mr Rajbansi on at least three occasions and said he was appalled that, when Mr Pillay gave evidence to the commission, he denied having made the charge.

Mr Ismail said Mr Pillay also said the Director of Local Government, Mr

Victor George Hunt, was anti-Indian, unco-operative and made recommendations which were not in line with the thinking of Indian management committees. He said Mr Pillay told "blatant lies" when he testified before the commission.

Mr Rajbansi then questioned Mr Ismail about the election campaign of Mr Boetie Abramjee, MP for Laudium, Pretoria. Mr Ismail said they had collected R40 000 and the money was deposited into Mr Abramjee's personal account.

He said the cash was eventually transferred when a special campaign account was opened and used for the election. None of it went to the National People's Party (NPP), but Mr Abramjee had made a personal donation of R1 000.

The hearing continues — Sapa

Rajbansi not easily accessible, inquiry told

Own Correspondent

258
DURBAN — In a surprise move, the private secretary of Mr Amichand Rajbansi, suspended chairman of the Minister's Council, took the witness stand yesterday to give evidence to the James Commission which is investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates

Even before Mr Sasiq Ismail could give evidence, Mr Rajbansi objected, saying that he was given the impression that a Mr Ramlall would be called to the witness stand

Mr Ismail said that evidence that Mr Rajbansi was easily accessible to anyone was not true

Under cross-examination, he said that nobody had free access to Mr Rajbansi and that it was not possible for anyone who did not have an appointment to just saunter into the Minister's office

He said that he monitored all telephone calls and if anybody presented themselves at Mr Rajbansi's office, and if he did not know that they had an appointment, he would first clear it with Mr Rajbansi

He said that it was possible that Mr Rajbansi could have made appointments without his knowledge but that did not mean that visitors would be immediately ushered into Mr Rajbansi's office

Mr Ismail conceded that Mr Rajbansi did have a private line and he could have telephoned people and anyone who had the private line number could telephone in without his knowledge

He was then questioned about visits and telephone calls made by a Chatsworth businessman, Mr Dave Pillay, who was the first witness to appear at the James Commission

He said that during October 1987 Mr Rajbansi had told him that Mr Pillay would telephone and that he should tell Mr Pillay that the Minister was not available

Asked why the Minister did not want to speak to Mr Pillay, Mr Ismail said that Mr Rajbansi told him that Mr Pillay was trying to put undue pressure on him

The hearing continues

James Commission faces recusal crisis

Star 12/11/84
258
SATURDAY STAR CORRESPONDENT

DURBAN — After 47 days of evidence and 70 witnesses, the James Commission is facing a crisis

Suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, is locked in consultations with his lawyers on whether or not they should go to the Supreme Court in a bid to have the Commissioner, Mr Neville James, recuse himself

One bid for recusal failed yesterday when an application by Mr Rajbansi was turned down

Now a second attempt — through the courts — is being contemplated

Mr Rajbansi wants Mr James removed because he (Mr Rajbansi) does not believe that a fair and unbiased report would be made to the State President, who set up the Commission to investigate alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates

In his application, Mr Rajbansi said Mr James's remarks and conduct did not display open-mindedness, impartiality and fairness

He complained that Mr James's general demeanour indicated impatience and disbelief. There were threats and coercive conduct, curtailment or unwarranted interference in cross-examination, double standards, sarcasm and snide remarks, he added

The commission's special prosecutor, Mr Anton Ackermann, opposed the application and said the law made it clear that it was an investigative body which made no charges or convictions

Wronsley blames me — Rajbansi

258

Official accused of council coup attempt

STV 15/11/88

Own Correspondent

Mr Amichand Rajbansi told the James Commission investigating allegations of irregularities in the House of Delegates yesterday that the Director-General, Mr Peter Wronsley, was trying to take over the Ministers' Council

Presently, Mr Rajbansi is the suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council and he was replying to allegations made by Mr Wronsley against him in evidence already given to the Commission

Mr Rajbansi said that Mr Wronsley was not a member of the Ministers' Council and that while he attended their meetings, he did not have a say

"But when Mr Wronsley attended the first Ministers' Council meeting, he just dominated the proceedings," said Mr Rajbansi

He said when Mr Wronsley did it again at the next meeting, he decided to chat to him about it

Mr Rajbansi said that he then wrote a letter to Mr Wronsley about the matter and received a reply from him

"But what he did was to send



Mr Amichand Rajbansi . . . denies pressurising other Ministers

copies of his replies to other Ministers," said Mr Rajbansi

He said that while Mr Wronsley was not anti-Indian as he (Mr Rajbansi) understood the term, the director-general was one of those white officials who did not like to work "under an Indian".

He said that Mr Wronsley had also accused him of exerting a lot of pressure on other Ministers

"This is not true We usually

meet once a week at the Ministers' Council meeting and we rarely see each other after that"

He also hit back at Mr Wronsley, who told the Commission that Mr Rajbansi was at the eye of every storm in the House of Delegates

"Mr Wronsley is blaming me for the storm I don't agree with that I do not cause the storm, but I get caught in it Take the example of disability grants being refused

"Disability grants are being cancelled as never before and this is done by doctors But I get blamed for this I have lost 40 percent of my voters because of this," said Mr Rajbansi

Mr Rajbansi then turned on sitting MP Mr Nizzie Khan, who denied in his evidence that he (Mr Khan) described Mr Wronsley as "anti-Indian"

"Mr Khan told me on three occasions that we must watch out for Mr Wronsley because he is 'anti-us'," said Mr Rajbansi

He told the commission that Mr Khan took great glee in leaking confidential information

The hearing continues

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Proceedings before the James Commission, which is investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, came to an abrupt halt yesterday.

After the tea adjournment, Mr Amichand Rajbansi told the commissioner, Mr. Justice N. James, that his presence was urgently required in Maritzburg to take part in negotiations between his legal representatives and those representing the Commission.

Mr Rajbansi had applied in the Su-

preme Court in Maritzburg for an order against Mr Justice James to control the public gallery, to recall certain witnesses and to allow Mr Rajbansi to cross examine certain witnesses without interference.

The issue was resolved in Maritzburg to the satisfaction of both parties.

Earlier in the day, the proceedings were adjourned when an urgent telephone call was made to Mr Justice

James from the Supreme Court in Maritzburg.

After 10 minutes, the hearing resumed.

Mr Rajbansi accused three members of the council and the director-general in the House of Delegates of a conspiracy and a plot against him dating from February this year.

Mr Rajbansi accused Mr Peter Wronsley, the director-general, of taking sides in the political split in the

Rajbansi leaves James hearing for legal talks

House of Delegates

He said that he spoke to Mr Wronsley about the leaking of confidential information from his office and he said that the director-general told him it could have been members of the staff.

"But I told Mr Wronsley it was the same staff which served under Dr James Gilliland and that there were not any leaks of any kind then."

The hearing continues

'Others will go down with me'

DURBAN. — The suspended chairman of the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, is fighting for his political life — and he plans to take his former colleagues with him.

Rajbansi made his intentions known to the James Commission of Inquiry that is presently investigating allegations of bribery and corruption in the House of Delegates.

He made the threat just before applying to the Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg for the recusal of the chairman of the commission of inquiry, Mr Justice James, whom he accused of being biased.

The application was resolved out of court on Tuesday following negotiations between the counsel for the opposing parties. No details of the

settlement have been disclosed.

At the commission's hearing, Rajbansi indicated that if he "fell" he would take down with him Mr Ismail Kathrada, who is the Minister of Health; Mr Ramam Bhana, Minister of Budget Affairs; Mr Baldeo Dookie, former Minister of Housing; Mr Samaroo Pachal, the Minister of Housing; and Mr Nizzle Khan, one of Rajbansi's

colleagues in the National People's Party.

He said evidence by Bhana and Kathrada that he favoured Hindi-speaking applicants was an election ploy.

Referring to Pachal, he said the Minister had recently publicly opposed the Group Areas Act but had privately asked him (Rajbansi) to create a buffer zone between Indian and African

residential areas.

He described his self-confessed "former general" Khan, — who told the Commission that Rajbansi's henchmen had bullied people into joining his party — as a court jester who enjoyed disseminating news.

Referring to Dookie, Rajbansi said his portfolio had been adjusted over a period of time by the State President on his advice.

Secret evidence plan gets 'No' (258)

DURBAN — Mr Neville James, chairman of the commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, yesterday turned down a proposal by the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, for evidence to be given *in camera*.

Mr James said he was not interested in any evidence that was not given in public.

Mr Rajbansi made the proposal, while giving evidence, that in order to clear up certain matters, he would be prepared to explain them in private.

He was replying to allegations about alleged irregularities in Indian education.

Stov
17/11/84 Own Correspondent

During the afternoon session, Mr Rajbansi denied that he was aware that a Natal North Coast man, Mr N Maistry, allegedly voted in the Tongaat by-election using the identity man who now lives in Port Elizabeth.

Mr Rajbansi also denied that he had drawn up orders for school books and allocated them to sellers.

Mr James said fingers had been pointed in a number of directions over some sellers getting bigger orders than others.

"One of those fingers are pointed in your direction," said Mr James.

SOMETHING
YOUTH AFRICA

Random Check

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL Mr. John de

Commission of Inquiry approached its 50th day in session this week

Instead, there was a flurry of activity as lawyers acting for Amichand Rajbansi, suspended chairman of the Minister's Council, first tried to get commission chairman Mr Justice Neville James to recuse himself on the grounds that he had given the impression of being "biased" against Rajbansi

When the bid to get rid of the commission's chairman failed — Judge James replied he was confident he was not biased and would make a "proper report" to the State President, who appointed him to head the hearing, and the recusal application was not permissible in terms of the legal nature of the commission — Rajbansi's lawyers turned to the Supreme Court

At the time of going to press, Rajbansi was awaiting the outcome of an urgent application for an order directing Judge James to show cause why he should not allow Rajbansi to recall and cross-examine certain witnesses who have already given evidence before the commission

In a supporting affidavit, Rajbansi complained that the commission's chairman had failed to control the conduct of the proceedings so as to discourage "general disorderliness in the public gallery," thereby leading to evidence "not being heard in a dispassionate and objective atmosphere"

In reply, prosecutor Anton Ackermann, who has already crossed swords with Raj-

JAMES COMMISSION

The man himself

Alleged irregularities and maladministration in the House of Delegates (HoD) were effectively shoved off the agenda as the James

FMML 18/11/88

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bansi several times during the hearing, said the application was nothing more than an attempt to discredit the commission

Taking the stand for the first time, Rajbansi opened by handing in a thick compilation detailing his political career and personal life, complete with sketches and photographs of himself.

It was while he was telling the commission of the more than 800 letters of support he received a month ago that Judge James said "I don't want to be accused of being biased,

but I don't think these letters are relevant. They merely create a feeling of sentimentality towards you"

Still dipping into the compilation, Rajbansi later said "I don't know if you are interested, but my speeches are never less than an hour, and once I spoke for four hours"

Replied Judge James. "I am interested, but I am glad you are not going to repeat them here"

Meanwhile, Rajbansi, who set out con-

ducting his own defence, is now assembling a heavyweight legal team to represent him

It was learned this week that he intends using the services of Anton Mostert SC, the former "Info Scandal" judge who defied PW Botha and released his findings on the misuse of millions of rands of taxpayers' money which implicated Eschel Rhodie, Connie Mulder, and other government officials

Mostert resigned after the controversy
Legal help like that certainly doesn't come cheap

Star 18/11/88

Rajbansi tells inquiry about 'coffin for P W'

Own Correspondent

258

DURBAN — There was another heated exchange yesterday between Mr Neville James, who is heading a commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, and the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

This time they clashed over evidence led by Mr Rajbansi on how pupils at a Cape Town school, with the encouragement of teachers, built a coffin to bury President P W Botha.

Mr Rajbansi said the incident occurred in 1986 and Mr James wanted to know from him what had been done administratively about the matter.

Mr James said it was very irresponsible evidence to bring up the issue more than two years after the incident.

"What is this evidence? Have you seen this coffin?" asked Mr James.

"No," said Mr Rajbansi.

"How long have you know about this?"

"Since 1986."

"That should have been treated administratively. This is very, very irresponsible evidence," said Mr James.

Mr Rajbansi said it had been left up to the Administration to deal with the matter, but after eight months nothing had been done.

"We cannot let our children be used as cannon fodder for left-wing forces," said Mr Rajbansi.

He said he had been greatly concerned and acted responsibly to make sure that Indian education was not hijacked by left-wing forces.

The inquiry continues.

Rajbansi and judge clash over evidence

Top Indians 'used thugs to get info'

12/11/88

158

B/day

DURBAN — Top Indian businessmen used thugs, henchmen and strong-arm men to get confidential information from House of Delegates members, according to evidence led in the James Commission yesterday.

Amichand Rajbansi, who is giving his evidence in chief, said he was warned the "big boys" would remove them and would not allow them to become ministers if they did not leak confidential information.

He said thugs were posted outside government offices at the H F Verwoerd building in Cape Town and that an MP, Nizzie Khan, told him that if they (House of Delegates members) did not run towards these "big boys" like puppies they would be removed.

Rajbansi said "But I did not cower under such threats."

He said Khan had claimed in evidence to the commission to have been treasurer of the National Peoples' Party (NPP), but he was not. But Khan did at one time serve as assistant treasurer.

Khan could not have known how much money was coming into the party's coffers and money certainly was not pouring in as Khan had suggested in his evidence.

In 1984, party members — who stood for election — had to give a R1 000 dona-

tion to the NPP and at the same time pay all costs for their respective campaigns.

Rajbansi accused Khan of blatant lies and said Khan, in spite of his denial, did make an application for a service station site. "I posted his application on his behalf."

Commission chairman Neville James pointed out to Rajbansi there was no record of such an application.

Rajbansi said he had official documents which would prove Khan did make the application.

Heated

Rajbansi also denied Tony Adams was his henchman or bodyguard as alleged by Khan. "I don't agree that he is a strong-arm man. He is a well-known businessman. It's utter rubbish to say that Mr Adams was my bodyguard."

There was another heated exchange between Mr Justice James and Rajbansi over evidence led by Rajbansi on how Cape Town pupils, with the encouragement of teachers, built a coffin to "bury" President P W Botha.

Rajbansi said the incident happened in 1986 and Mr Justice James wanted to know from him what was done administratively about the matter.

Mr Justice James said it was irresponsible evidence to bring up the issue now more than two years later — Sapa

Rajbansi denies official's claim

Own Correspondent

(258)

SJA 22/11/87

DURBAN — Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amichand Rajbansi yesterday told the James Commission, investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, that he had not instructed any officials to make submissions relating to the allocation of petrol service station sites

It was Mr Rajbansi's fifth day on the witness stand

He told commission chairman Mr Neville James he had not vetted applications for the sites

He denied allegations by a director in the House, Mr Victor George Hunt, who told the commission that Mr Rajbansi chose the applicants and had even placed them in order of priority

Mr Rajbansi said it was the Allocations Board that made the recommendations, and he saw the applicants only after they had been placed on an approved list.

He said Mr Hunt was not correct in his submissions relating to a number of applicants and said that, in one instance, a man who did not qualify for a service station site had been put on the approved list

DESERVED

Mr Rajbansi said he had supported an application made by a Ramlall family who had lost 150 ha of land when Chatsworth was being developed

He said the family lost shops, offices, an industrial site and a petrol pump site He felt they deserved a

site and should be assisted

Mr James said there was conflicting evidence about who had allocated the service station sites

He said that, according to Mr Hunt, it was Mr Rajbansi and, according to Mr Rajbansi, the Allocations Board

Mr James said that, after weighing up the evidence, he would decide which version to accept

Mr Rajbansi also denied earlier evidence that a family named Hoover did not qualify for a petrol service station site

He said the family, of Cato Manor, had more than just a diesel pump and he was satisfied from his enquiries that they qualified for a service station site

The inquiry continues

Fiery exchanges in Durban

Rajbansi accused of trying to discredit hearing

Star 23/11/88 (258)

DURBAN — Special prosecutor Mr Anton Ackerman, who is leading evidence for the James Commission, yesterday accused the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Representatives, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, of trying to plot, undermine and discredit the hearing from the very first day it was announced by President Botha.

The cross-examination started in a fiery exchange between the two men, and their exchanges are expected to last for at least four days.

Mr Ackerman accused Mr Rajbansi of not telling the truth in an application to the Supreme Court of South Africa against the chairman of the commission, Mr Neville James. He also accused Mr Rajbansi of denying the commission the "sheer courtesy" of informing it of his intention to bring an action to ask for Mr James' recusal.

"From the very first day of this commission you plotted to undermine and you took steps to discredit this commission," said Mr Ackerman.

"Not correct," snapped back Mr Rajbansi. And when Mr Ackerman pointed out to Mr Rajbansi that his wife Ashadevi had left her seat in the public gallery and taken up a position in the well of the court when he (Mr Rajbansi) began giving evidence, Mr Rajbansi said angrily "Keep my wife out of his."

Mr Ackerman accused Mr Rajbansi of playing up to the press and asked him if it was not true that he had phoned the newspapers to inform them of his move to try to unseat Mr James.

Mr Rajbansi said he had telephoned

Own Correspondent

the editor of the *Post Natal* on some matter. He had informed the editor that he would be giving evidence. He had also telephoned a reporter at the *Natal Mercury* to speak to him on another matter and had only spoken to a journalist who had answered.

Mr Ackerman also asked Mr Rajbansi whether it was true that he had passed notes to members of the press covering the James Commission.

Mr Rajbansi said that while the press was important to him, he did not use it to give him too much exposure.

Biased and unfair

Mr Ackerman then referred to Mr Rajbansi's application to unseat Mr James. "That was going to be your big day. You were going to show just how biased and unfair the commission was. And did you not wear a red carnation on that day?" asked Mr Ackerman.

Mr Rajbansi said he treated that question "with the contempt it deserves" and said he always wore a carnation.

His lawyer, Mr Vernon O'Connell, said he expected Mr Ackerman to cross-examine his client on something substantial — not just on botany.

Mr Rajbansi said he was neither upset nor ruffled. "I am too experienced a politician to let that happen."

Mr Ackerman then put it to him that statements he had made in a Supreme Court action against Mr James were untrue on a number of matters.

The hearing continues.

Rajbansi cross-examined for third day

I don't fight dirty, commission told 258

DURBAN— The chairman of the Minister's Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, told the James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates that he did not "fight dirty" against his political opponents

Mr Rajbansi was being cross-examined for the third consecutive day by special prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann when it was put to him that he had "a chance in a lifetime to discredit the Opposition Solidarity Party"

Mr Ackermann was questioning Mr Rajbansi about another witness, Mr Dave Pillay, who at first made a host of allegations against him and subsequently withdrew them in a second affidavit

Mr Rajbansi said that he was shocked at the allegations made in the affidavit by Mr Pillay, who showed him a copy after telling him that members of Solidarity had put him (Mr Pillay) up to it

Mr Ackermann put it to Mr Rajbansi that when Mr Pillay told

Own Correspondent

him that he wanted to withdraw the affidavit which had already been handed to the Advocate-General, it gave him a chance of a lifetime to discredit Solidarity

"It was up to Mr Pillay to do it," said Mr Rajbansi

But Mr Ackermann asked Mr Rajbansi why he did not act on it

"I don't fight dirty But I would have taken up the matter at the appropriate time," he said

Mr Ackermann then asked Mr Rajbansi about the drawing up of Mr Pillay's affidavit and what role, if any, he played in it

Mr Rajbansi said Mr Pillay drew up the affidavit and handed it to him, he corrected the grammar and passed it on to a typist

Mr Ackermann then put it to Mr Rajbansi that he persuaded Mr Pillay to withdraw his affidavit containing allegations against the Minister's Council chairman

Mr Rajbansi denied it

"Did you not rehearse what Mr Pillay should tell the Commission?"

You were the organ grinder and he was just the monkey," said Mr Ackermann

"No, Mr Pillay is a very intelligent man," said Mr Rajbansi

"Have you suggested that he (Mr Pillay) leave the country?" asked Mr Ackermann.

"No," said Mr Rajbansi

Assuming that the allegations against you were proved, would you resign the next day?"

"It can't be proved," replied Mr Rajbansi

Mr Ackermann repeated the question several times and each time Mr Rajbansi replied "It can't be proved"

Mr Ackermann then put it to Mr Rajbansi that he used the "Checkers deal" to dangle as bait to get Mr Pillay to withdraw his affidavit

The inquiry continues

● The Checkers deal relates to the supermarket chain building a complex in Chatsworth in which Mr Pillay wanted to secure a partnership with a consortium

Star 24/11/88

Saira Essa . . . sponsored play to open in March in Durban.

James hearing turned into play

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The James Commission, which is investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, is to be the subject of a stage play by a Durban husband and wife team.

Actress-director Saira Essa and her lawyer-director husband, Charles Pillai, have begun writing the play after securing a sponsorship, which will pay for the production and allow tickets to be sold at the lowest possible price.

The play is due to open in Durban in March next year for a six-week run before going on a country-wide tour.

Ms Essa said there would be 10 characters, the two main roles being those of the commission chairman, Mr Justice N. James, and the chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi.

NO SIDES

Other real-life persons to be portrayed in the play will be the commission's special prosecutor, Mr Anton Ackermann, businessman Mr Dave Pillay, who made allegations against Mr Rajbansi and then withdrew them, a few Members of Parliament and Mrs Ashadevi Rajbansi.

Ms Essa said the play would depict the proceedings without taking sides.

"It is going to be a major production, due to the fact that the commission has widespread interest. This will be my major project for next year."

Throughout the proceedings, Ms Essa and Mr Pillai have had a representative, Mr Mohamed Patson, taking notes for the play. He has not missed a single day's proceedings and has collected a great deal of in-

Star 25-11-84

Amichand Rajbansi disputes accuracy of recorded conversations

Stunning tale told by tapes

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DURBAN — People attending the James Commission inquiry sat riveted yesterday as a tape recording of Mr Amichand Rajbansi telling businessman Mr Dave Pillay exactly what to say at the commission blared from a large loudspeaker.

The conversation was one of many taped by Mr Pillay, who signed an affidavit in January detailing Mr Rajbansi's alleged corruption and then in June signed another vouching for his (Mr Rajbansi's) upright character and commitment to a clean administration.

Having listened to the taped conversations — many telephonic and one at his Malgote office — for hours yesterday, Mr Rajbansi said the tapes had been tampered with and were not all of his voice.

MINISTER'S EXPLANATION

There were some discrepancies between the transcripts and the tapes he said, referring to his alleged statement "Yes, Hunt (Mr Victor Hunt, director of local government in the House of Delegates) is a very big anti-Indian."

"I could have said I was informed Mr Hunt was anti-Indian," he said, which is what he has repeatedly maintained at the Commission of Inquiry into alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates.

Mr Rajbansi alleged the first tape — on which he was heard rehearsing what Mr Pillay was to say at the commission when he gave evidence the next day (August 1) — was a combination of conversations he had with Mr Pillay either before Mr Pillay gave evidence or after he had been excused.

Mr Pillay had wanted to discuss the commission,

Mr Rajbansi said, but he had refused.

"I did not discuss anything with him while he was in the witness box," he said.

Because Mr Pillay had hurt him with his evidence, he had wanted him to go back and testify for the third time and he (Mr Pillay) agreed, but later "got cold feet".

Mr Anton Ackermann, leading evidence for the commission, who said there were still two tapes to be heard, dismissed the explanation as "nonsensical".

Although Mr Rajbansi was heard asking Mr Pillay whether he had "fixed up" his passport, he denied having encouraged Mr Pillay to flee the country.

"Did you say 'all right, you must just vanish'?" asked Mr Ackermann, quoting from the transcript.

Mr Rajbansi said he did not and had in fact strongly advised him not to go overseas.

When Mr Pillay appeared as the Commission's first witness on July 27, he said he had known Mr Rajbansi for about 18 years and had been a close associate and financier of his National Peoples' Party.

Before the tapes were played, Mr Ackermann said Mr Rajbansi would be heard coercing Mr Pillay to give false evidence and influencing him to mislead the commission appointed by the State President.

On the tape Mr Rajbansi is heard referring to Mr Pillay's initial damning affidavit.

Mr Rajbansi says Mr Pillay should say the advocate who drew it up, Mr Jeremy Lapping, had "added things on".

He tells Mr Pillay not to worry about what Mr Lapping may say to the commission because he has "dynamic" against Mr Lapping "which will destroy

him".

"When I am finished questioning you, I am gonna summarise questions to you," says Mr Rajbansi.

"That's tomorrow," says Mr Pillay.

Later, Mr Rajbansi is heard to say "Now I am gonna say certain things. You must fight with me. Another thing, you must not smile at me. You know that man (presumably commission chairman Mr Justice N James) is watching your face."

Mr Rajbansi is also heard telling Mr Pillay to say he was coerced to make the affidavit by members of the opposition party Solidarity and that he was later plagued by his conscience.

"Use the word harassed, come back on it."

SECOND TAPE

Asked by Mr Rajbansi how many times he was taken out for dinner by Solidarity members, Mr Pillay says he had about half a dozen dinners with Mr Pat Poovalingam.

"Half a dozen? Half a dozen is not harassment. Say 12 times," Mr Rajbansi is heard to say.

He also speaks of informing the National Intelligence Service (NIS) that commission advocate Mr Anton Ackermann was not being neutral.

"You see it will remove Ackermann to start all over again," he says.

Another tape contains various telephone conversations between Mr Rajbansi and Mr Pillay at the beginning of July, several weeks before the commission got underway.

On it Mr Rajbansi is heard to say "I want you to give me a sworn statement. And then, at the end of July, you pull out." — Sapa

SS 27/11/88

The Raj fights to save his power base

By NORMAN WEST: Political Reporter

SUSPENDED Cabinet Minister Amichand Rajbansi is a rajah without a throne. Now appearing before the James Commission, Mr Rajbansi, still chairman of the Ministers' Council although four of his five Ministers have deserted him, must realise his political career is fast disintegrating.

Although in full-time attendance at the James Commission, he still theoretically remains "Indian Prime Minister", earns a handsome salary, continues to enjoy the perks of a Cabinet Minister, and is chauffeur-driven in a tinted-window Merc to and from the hearings.

But the 46-year-old teacher-cum-businessman-turned-politician has admitted his fragile hold on power as leader of the ruling National People's Party in the House of Delegates is evaporating.

But whether he will still be there next year is another question. Or will this much-maligned and beleaguered politician bounce back again, as he has done so many times?

Survived

In the past, in spite of serious accusations and attempts at character assassination, the man has been clinging to power, sometimes only by his fingernails, but somehow always ending on his feet.

During the past parliamentary session Mr Rajbansi, the political cat with nine lives, showed his prowess when he survived yet another attempt by a cabal within his party to undermine his authority and usurp his throne.

All these behind-the-scenes manoeuvres seem to be the kind of intrigue on which he thrives. But he has admitted to getting tired of the uncertainty surrounding his leadership, which was increasingly being "white-anted by phantoms who masquerade as Rajbansi loyalists in the open but act like cockroaches in the dark".

"The Raj", as he is popularly known, says he believes in "disagreeing with dignity".

In the no-confidence debate Mr Pat Poovalingham, MP for Reservoir Hills, who makes no bones he would like Mr Rajbansi's head on a plate, repeated allegations of "corruption and irregularities in the administration of the House of Delegates", run by Mr Rajbansi.

It was the white-bearded nominated MP and attorney, Mr Ranji Nowbath, who tried to describe the goings-on in the House of Delegates: "Hilarious, tragic, pathetic, comic, farcical — perhaps Polonius in Hamlet has the answer."



AMICHAND RAJBANSI
Will he bounce back?

Mr Rajbansi says he is a public figure and is prepared for public criticism and even name-calling.

"I believe in public accountability, but at the same time I am not going to endure unsubstantiated accusations that reflect on my integrity and good name."

"Pat Poovalingam is scared to repeat outside accusations he makes under parliamentary privilege. He knows I would rip him to pieces in court."

The Raj's uncertain hold on power in the House of Delegates surfaced for the first time in September 1984.

● The night before President Botha named him as chairman of the Ministers' Council, the Opposition Solidarity Party had lured some of Mr Rajbansi's MPs to their side. But Mr Botha stepped in and said, constitutionally, Mr Rajbansi could lose power only if a motion of no confidence was passed against him in the House of Delegates — and not outside it.

● Then twice last May his party was defeated during divisions in the House.

● Finally, some of his own MPs voted in a secret ballot with the Opposition for an Opposition candidate.

Compounded

Mr Rajbansi's problems were compounded by the launch of an investigation into allegations of impropriety in the House of Delegates administration.

The commission under Mr Justice James quickly turned into a gladiatorial contest between Mr Rajbansi and public servants, political rivals and the advocate leading evidence before the commission. Mr Rajbansi also threatened the unprecedented step of seeking a court interdict to have Judge James replaced as chairman.

The public gallery has been packed every day of the hearing — occasionally breaking into raucous laughter at some of the sallies between parties.

In 1976, the man described as the "stormy petrel in Indian politics", made a prediction: "Everything in my life is planned. My entry into politics was no accident. This is what I wanted to do and, by God, I am here to stay and be heard for a long time."



Rajbansi tells of religious veto of Indian appointment

Ad 445
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The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — The James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates was told by Mr Amichand Rajbansi, Chairman of the Ministers Council, that a religious objection had been raised against a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, Mr Ronnie Charles, being appointed chief executive of Indian Education.

Giving evidence here yesterday he said he believed Mr Charles should have been appointed and he felt Mr A K Singh, who eventually got the job, was a junior.

Mr Rajbansi said he had reservations about Mr Singh's getting the job and felt that since Mr Charles was nearing retirement, he (Mr Singh) would have benefitted working under him for a few years before taking over.

"I know that up till this day, Mr Charles has not forgiven me for his not being appointed head of Indian Education," said Mr Rajbansi.

He said that he felt that Mr Charles should have been appointed to the chief executive's post but because of religious objections from other quarters, he was not given the job.

Mr Singh had come to him and asked that he be given five years onto his pension and he would resign.

He said Mr Singh had told him that the African National Congress would take over and that they would all lose

what they had worked for all their lives.

Cross-examined by special prosecutor, Mr Anton Ackermann, Mr Rajbansi denied that he did not accept Mr Singh's appointment.

He said that he had had reservations about Mr Singh's being appointed and that there was an "ideological" disagreement.

Mr Ackermann: "You did not want him because he is not a yes-man"

Mr Rajbansi: "Nonsense"

Mr Ackermann: "Is he a yes-man?"

Mr Rajbansi: "I do regard him to be a yes-man to his Minister (Mr Kessie Ramduth)"

"Not a yes-man"

Mr Ackermann: "Is he your yes-man, too?"

Mr Rajbansi: "In the sense that he has never disobeyed me"

Mr Ackermann then cross-examined Mr Rajbansi, asking him whether certain booksellers were not given orders because they were United Democratic Front supporters.

"No," said Mr Rajbansi.

Earlier, Mr Ackermann questioned Mr Rajbansi about documents which, it is alleged, he "ripped out of a file"

Mr Rajbansi said he removed the documents because they were wrongly filed.

The hearing continues today.

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6/10/11/12/88

Pillay to be recalled for Rajbansi cross-examination

DURBAN. — Controversial witness Dave Pillay is to be recalled to give evidence to the James Commission now investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates.

House Ministers' Council chairman Amchand Rajbansi told commission chairman Mr Justice James he wanted to cross-examine Pillay on the authenticity of tape recordings he made of their alleged telephone conversations and meetings.

Rajbansi said he had not yet secured the services of an expert to check whether the tapes were genu-

ine, but that he would report on his progress today.

He said he wanted Pillay to give evidence and be cross-examined by him because he (Rajbansi) was of the opinion the tapes were faked.

Special prosecutor Anton Ackermann acceded to the request and said Pillay would be recalled.

Pillay was the first witness to give evidence to the commission and in an affidavit to the advocate-general made serious allegations of corruption, maladministration and irregu-

larities against Rajbansi.

However, before his statement was read during the first morning of the proceedings, he denied them and said most of his allegations were lies.

Rajbansi also applied for the original micro tapes which Pillay made of their conversations and meetings to be made available to him.

He said "In all fairness to me, the original micro tapes should be made available to me."

Mr Justice James and Ackermann agreed.

Rajbansi. "At my convenience."

Ackermann "No."

Mr Justice James. "We cannot afford these tapes to vanish."

Ackermann then resumed his cross-examination and asked Rajbansi whether it was not true that he was the owner of Montford Butchery.

Rajbansi said "I deny that."

Ackermann "And then you sold it to Dave Pillay."

Rajbansi "I deny that."

He said his sister-in-law and I See-braun owned the butchery. — Sapa.

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the party's provincial congress

He told supporters that the ballot box, "not the witness box," would decide their future, adding "no manipulation is going to destroy (me) or the party"

But his references to the James Commission were mild — the bombshell came from



Rajbansi

his HoD colleague, MP Mohammed Shah, who in a vitriolic attack on the commission claimed it was not performing its function of investigating alleged irregularities but had become a "political conspiracy"

Shah also claimed — and said he could verify — that "forces"

had bankrolled the commission to the tune of R2,8m Harsh, indeed amazing, criticism — and it seems set to have a sequel As the hearing resumed this week, commission chairman Mr Justice Neville James, waved a newspaper reporting on the congress in the air and said he was referring Shah's allegations to the police

The claims made at the rousing, foot-stomping NPP congress also set the tone for this week's hearing Relations between Rajbansi and special prosecutor Anton Ackermann have never been good — now a final, bitter showdown seems inevitable

This week's proceedings also promise more tape recordings of conversations between Rajbansi and businessman Dave Pillay The tapes are allegedly of Rajbansi discussing evidence before the commission with Pillay, and "coaching" him on what to say under cross-examination Rajbansi has denied this, saying the recordings had been tampered with and were "not all" his voice

Although the ousted politician claims support for his party is not only as strong as ever, but has increased since the start of the commission, he does seem to be losing friends

fast His former business colleague Pillay, who has twice changed statements about the NPP leader, was branded a liar and a cheat by Rajbansi last week And two of the guest speakers due to address his party congress on Sunday — Independent Party leader Denis Worrall and East Rand mayor Tom Boya — withdrew at the last minute

Meanwhile, Judge James remains as cool as ever, occasionally exhibiting his dry wit when things get out of hand When Rajbansi was asked to expand on his claim last week that police had "raided" his offices, and replied they "came in a rush" and moved around in an undignified manner, Justice James asked "You mean they didn't wipe their feet before they went in?"

Whatever the outcome, lots more mud is sure to be slung about before the commission finally comes to an end. ■

HoD INQUIRY

258 Fm/ML 2/12/88

Side-swiping James

Amichand Rajbansi, whose appearance in the witness box at the James Commission a week ago has raised the inquiry into alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates (HoD) to new heights of intrigue, swapped his carnation for a National People's Party rosette at the weekend when he addressed

His four-month allowance of R53 018

(158) 6/22/88

Tapes played on telephone — Rajbansi

DURBAN — Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates Amichand Rajbansi yesterday told the James Commission that copies of tapes, which were a vital part of evidence, were being circulated in the Indian community.

He told chairman of the commission and retired judge Mr Justice Neville James he had been receiving anonymous telephone calls, and when he answered, the tapes were played over the telephone

Special prosecutor Anton Ackermann asked Rajbansi whether he reported the matter to the police. Rajbansi said he had not.

Rajbansi said he had not pursued police action against Dave Pillay, a Chatsworth businessman, whom it was alleged had made the tapes and had tried to blackmail him.

Ackermann put it to Rajbansi that he wanted Pillay's house to be raided and that he had telephoned a leading police officer, Col Ray Manlali, and suggested that a raid be carried out.

Rajbansi denied he had told Manlali to raid Pillay's home and said he asked the police officer for advice on how to lay a complaint.

Ackermann said Manlali's statement was not at all consistent with that of Rajbansi's.

Ackermann then dealt with the evidence of N Maistry, who told the commission he voted in the Tongaat by-election, even though he was not a registered voter.

Ackermann told Rajbansi it was he (Rajbansi) who brought Maistry to the commission's attention.

Ackermann also said Rajbansi wanted senior assistant director S E Naidoo removed from his job because he was a troublemaker.

Rajbansi denied he had put pressure on Marras and said he asked for Naidoo to be removed after consensus was reached with three other Ministers — Sapa.

Rajbansi in new flare-up in probe on petrol stations

DURBAN — Yesterday's proceedings of the James Commission in Durban were studded by some of the most heated exchanges so far

The commission is investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates

Without explanation, an electronic screening device has been erected in the middle of the corridor leading to the courtroom and everyone entering or leaving is checked

The commission chairman, Mr Neville James, intervened a number of times yesterday

On one occasion he told Mr Amichand Rajbansi, chairman of the Ministers' Council, to remain quiet until he (Mr James) had finished talking.

Tempers flew again when special prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann questioned Mr Rajbansi about a special commit-

Own Correspondent

tee formed to deal with the allocation of petrol service station sites

Evidence led at the commission was that the committee was formed through Mr Rajbansi and had been kept secret from the former Housing Minister, Mr Baldeo Dookie.

Mr Rajbansi denied that he appointed the committee.

Mr Ackermann read from the commission records where civil servants said that the committee was formed with Mr Rajbansi's knowledge

Subsequently the committee was scrapped, according to evidence, and another formed.

Mr Rajbansi said that in order to "de-politicise" the issue, he felt that all politicians should keep away from the committee's workings

The Allocations Committee was formed consisting only of civil servants with the then director general, Dr James Gilliland, as chairman.

They considered 36 applications for petrol service station sites and eventually chose six people.

According to Mr Rajbansi, Mr Dookie did not abide by an agreement for politicians to keep away and exerted pressure on certain of the officials, on the committee.

The hearing continues.

5/12/88 (258)

You've no right to relocate us, say Indians

Legality of forced removals faces test

The Save Pageview Association (SPA) lodged a replying affidavit in the Rand Supreme Court last week in what legal experts believe could be a test case on the legality of forced removals

About 67 Indian families have formed a pocket of resistance in the area of Pageview, Johannesburg — previously a mixed community known as Vrededorp — and the affidavit outlines exactly why they believe the State has no right to relocate them to the Indian area of Lenasia

Lack of amenities

At a press conference at the weekend, SPA secretary and the first applicant in the affidavit, Mr Ebrahim Kharsany, said that for the first time in the "history of the forced removals of the Indian community in Johannesburg, a test case will be made whether the relocation of the Indian people from the area to distant Lenasia 35 km from the CBD was justified"

He submitted in the replying affidavit that Lenasia was not "acceptable as a suitable alternative"

The SPA was formed in 1981 with the specific aim of preventing the eviction of families residing in Pageview. In March 1982 they were granted an interdict preventing the Department of Community Development from evicting Pageview residents

According to Mr Kharsany, their stand is that "the authorities have no right to resettle the Pageview residents 35 km from their home"

Reasons advanced in the affidavit include Lenasia's distance from the city, the conditions of roads, streets and houses in the area, and the lack of ameni-

By Paula Fray

ties such as schools, hospitals and clinic

"The principal reason for not wanting to move is that the residents feel they should not be evicted because they happen to be of a colour that disqualifies them from living in their homes in Pageview," Mr Kharsany said

He also claimed that most of the stands in Pageview had not been gazetted, which meant most of the residents and businesses had been moved without proper proclamation

"The SPA is investigating the legal implications of suing the State for damages for wrongful eviction"

● Actstop has pledged full support for the residents of Pageview. Publicity secretary Mr Cas Coovadia said Actstop would "actively support the legitimate struggle of the people of Pageview to continue living where they have been for many generations"

'We'll camp in the streets'

The organisation would mobilise its entire support base and would "camp on the streets of Pageview with the residents, if they are forcibly removed"

Mr Coovadia said the residents were able to take their case to court because the Group Areas Amendment Bill had not yet become law

Some of the effects of the Bill would be that the State would not be obliged to provide suitable accommodation when evicting people and that the onus of proof would be on the affected people to show that they were "legal". The State would not have to prove their "illegality", he said

Rajbansi defamed me, MP claims

Own Correspondent
DURBAN — House of Delegates MP Mr Pat Poovalingam has started a R60 000 defamation claim against Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amichand Rajbansi

Summons was served on Mr Rajbansi on Friday, according to Mr Ash Singh, an attorney representing Mr Poovalingam

The action arises out of two sets of letters Mr Rajbansi sent earlier this year. The first — in which certain remarks were made against Mr Poovalingam — was sent in February to all House of Delegates MPs

The second — which also contained remarks about Mr Poovalingam — was sent in August to Mr Mamoo Rajab, MP for Springfield

In his summons Mr Poovalingam contends that both sets of remarks were defamatory. He is claiming R50 000 for remarks made in letters to the MPs and R10 000 for remarks made in the letter to Mr Rajab

Mr Rajbansi could not be reached for comment

ANNOUNCEMENTS | Upset Pretoria | New book on Buthelezi

They can... anything In captivity they devour...

Dispute over education meeting

(258) below 6/12/88

LR 620

Rajbansi accuses director-general of manipulation

DURBAN — Ministers' Council chairman Amichand Rajbansi yesterday accused House of Delegates director-general Peter Wronsley of manipulating Education Minister Kessie Ramduth.

Rajbansi was giving evidence to the James Commission, which is investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates. He was being cross-examined by advocate Colin Mann, representing four departments in the House of Delegates administration.

Mann drew Rajbansi's attention to two letters

to discuss policy matters relating to book orders.

Mann wanted to know why Rajbansi went ahead and invited Nair. Rajbansi said he had come to an arrangement with Ramduth and this meeting should be held, as Nair, with his past experience, could make a contribution.

But Mann produced a letter from Ramduth to Wronsley telling him Nair should not be allowed to attend. It was then that Rajbansi accused Wronsley of manipulating Ramduth.

Rajbansi said Ramduth's letter, in which he barred Nair, was not of Ramduth's doing.

"This is Mr Wronsley's work. He is behind this letter," said Rajbansi.

Mann questioned Rajbansi about the promotion of A K Singh to Indian Education chief executive director and pointed out the Ministers' Council unanimously agreed on December 3, 1987, to give him the job.

He said Rajbansi changed his mind four months later, in April, 1988, and wanted to know why.

Rajbansi said it involved the appointment of a very senior official and he wanted to have no doubts at all about Singh. — Sapa.

School books

One was from Wronsley to a G K Nair telling him not to participate in the efficiency rating of schools.

The other was from chief executive director A K Singh, dated October 6 1988, also telling Nair to refrain from involvement in all functions of school building projects and the ordering of school books.

However, Rajbansi invited Nair to a meeting, which is to be held with Ministers' Council members and top officials,

Official manipulated Minister ²⁵⁸ Rajbansi

DURBAN ^{Star 2/17/88} The Director-General of the House of Delegates, Mr Peter Wronsley, was accused yesterday by the chairman of the Minister's Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, of manipulating the Minister of Education, Mr Kessie Ramduth

Mr Rajbansi was giving evidence at the James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates

He was being cross-examined by Mr Colin Mann, who is representing four departments in the Administration of the House of Delegates

TWO LETTERS

Mr Mann drew Mr Rajbansi's attention to two letters, one which was from Mr Wronsley to Dr G K Nair, telling him not to participate in the efficiency rating of schools

Another was from the Chief Executive Director, Mr A K Singh, dated October 6 1988, also telling Dr Nair to refrain from involvement in all functions of school building projects and the ordering of schoolbooks

Mr Rajbansi invited Dr Nair to a meeting which was to be held with Ministers' Council members and top officials to discuss policy matters relating to book orders Mr Mann wanted to know why

Mr Rajbansi said that he had arranged the meeting with Mr Ramduth and Dr Nair's experience could have made a contribution

Own Correspondent

But Mr Mann produced a letter from Mr Ramduth to Mr Wronsley telling him that Dr Nair should not be allowed to attend the meeting

It was then that Mr Rajbansi accused Mr Wronsley of manipulating Mr Ramduth

He said that Mr Ramduth's letter in which he barred Dr Nair from attending was not of Mr Ramduth's doing

"This is Mr Wronsley's work. He is behind this letter," said Mr Rajbansi

He also said that while Mr Wronsley was not a real racist as such, he (Mr Rajbansi) had the impression that Mr Wronsley did not like to work under Indians and that he wanted to take over

CHANGE OF MIND

Mr Mann said the Ministers' Council unanimously agreed on December 3 1987 to promote Mr A K Singh to chief executive director of Indian Education. He asked why Mr Rajbansi changed his mind four months later about Mr Singh getting the job

Mr Rajbansi said that it involved the appointment of a very senior official and that he wanted to have no doubts at all about Mr Singh

He said that certain information was made available to him and he felt that he had to act very carefully

The inquiry continues

258 b/aw 7/12/88

DURBAN — The James Commission, investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, is due to end its hearings this week

Rajbansi told to produce tapes expert

Mr Justice Neville James will then study the record before making a report to President P W Botha in about a month

A surprise announcement came from special prosecutor Anton Ackermann when he began his re-cross-examination of Ministers' Council chairman Amichand Rajbansi

Ackermann told Rajbansi he must get an independent expert to testify on the authenticity of tape recordings of alleged telephone conversations and meetings between himself and Chatsworth businessman Dave Pillay

The tapes were presented as evidence and Rajbansi refused to answer questions on them until an expert had declared their authenticity

"The hearing is due to come to an end this week and we would like to have your expert soon," Ackermann said

The commission adjourned until this morning when Pillay — the first witness to give evidence, and who made and withdrew allegations against Rajbansi — will return to the stand. Ackermann declined to say exactly when the commission's

hearings would end. He said he had three or four more witnesses to call

Pillay is one of them and his evidence is expected to be about the tape recordings

Today will be the 63rd day of the proceedings. About 70 witnesses have given evidence

The record is expected to reach 6 500 pages — Sapa

MEC hits out at Press

and the... to change the face of... posed on... the... press has... to...

THE

James Commission of Inquiry has taken on the flavour of a battleground in which National People's Party leader Amichand Rajbansi is fighting for his political life

The commission, which has now sat for over 60 days, follows two parliamentary inquiries, both of which issued reports critical of Rajbansi, and both of which he rejected on the grounds of bias.

When a third inquiry was announced — this time headed by a retired judge appointed by the state president and mandated to investigate allegations of corruption and maladministration in the House of Delegates — Rajbansi described it as "a God-send" and said he would abide by its decisions

However, he has become increasingly critical of the commission and tried unsuccessfully to have the chairman, former Natal Judge President Neville James, recuse himself. This prompted claims by the prosecutor appointed to lead evidence, Anton Ackermann, that Rajbansi was attempting to discredit the James Commission as he had done the previous two inquiries

Rajbansi is the last major witness scheduled to appear, and from the time he took the witness box a fortnight ago, the drama of the commission has heightened.

THE hearings often appear like a duel between Rajbansi and Ackermann, but when the two protagonists bring out their heavy weapons, jousting might be a better metaphor.

The first serious skirmish occurred the day Rajbansi appeared in the witness box when he launched a surprise attack on James, asking for his recusal on the grounds of bias

When this was refused, Rajbansi brought an urgent application against James in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court, but this was settled out of court and no word of the terms of settlement has leaked out

RAJBANSI VS THE WORLD

An inquiry into corruption turns into an angry jousting tournament

2-3 Dec 88

CARMEL RICKARD reports from Durban

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whom he perceived, as hostile to himself. On one tape a voice, apparently that of Rajbansi, speaks of reporting Ackermann to National Intelligence. At another point he says he

has complained about Ackermann to "the old man" and that he will speak to "the old man in Pretoria" the following Wednesday. Asked about the reference, Rajbansi at first said he could not recall

saying this. Asked whether he had seen the state president in Pretoria that Wednesday, he said he objected to the state president being brought in and refused to answer. Later he was told the state president had in-

formed the commission that Rajbansi had been to see him that Wednesday. Rajbansi then said when he referred to an old man he meant an 84-year-old man called Padayachee at a temple in Pretoria. He denied making any remark about Ackermann and said Pillay (who made the tapes) could have found an actor able to impersonate his voice. He has also given some rare insights into the background against which he makes ministerial decisions. He acknowledged he was hesitant about confirming the appointment of the executive director of education, AK Singh. Under pressure to give reasons, he said he felt Singh was under the influence of the United Democratic Front and the Natal Indian Congress and that it was not suitable in such a senior official

A few days later, almost as though in response to this onslaught, Ackermann produced some heavy ammunition of his own in the form of tapes recorded by Durban businessman Dave Pillay. Ackermann said the tapes recorded incriminating conversations between Pillay and Rajbansi and would show that he tried to coerce a witness to commit perjury and that he tried to discredit the commission

Last weekend Rajbansi came back fighting. At a congress of his National People's Party in Durban he claimed it was the "ballot box not the witness box" that counted and that he was unconcerned by the tapes

A colleague in the NPP, Moshammed Shah, allegedly said the commission was being "bankrolled" to the tune of R2.8 million and that the funds were put up by forces hostile to the NPP.

ON Monday Rajbansi followed up with another volley, announcing he would not answer any further questions on the tapes, disputing their validity and threatening court action "forthwith" if he was not granted "natural justice".

Among the issues dealt with so far are allegations that lucrative orders for school text books were allocated to booksellers who made donations to the NPP, that Rajbansi was involved in the improper allocation of shops and business rights in Chatsworth; that he was improperly involved in the allocation of liquor licences and that he interfered improperly in civil service appointments, promotions and transfers

The commission has also dealt with allegations against Rajbansi since the start of the hearings, including improper interference with witnesses.

Another issue dealt with in the tapes is Rajbansi's apparent belief that he could use his position to remove from the commission officials

Star 8/12/88

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Key witness tells of memory lapses

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — A key witness before the James Commission investigating alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, Chatsworth businessman Mr David Pillay, said that he was receiving psychiatric treatment and had suffered memory lapses.

Replying to cross-examination by suspended chairman of the Ministers Council Mr Amichand Rajbansi, he said that he first noticed that he was suffering memory lapses during January this year and he had seen a doctor who told him to stay away from all politicians.

He said that it was a trying time for him because he had made an affidavit making allegations against Mr Rajbansi and that he would be giving evidence to the James Commission.

He said that his problems only began when he got involved with Mr Rajbansi.

He said that when it was learnt that he was going to be recalled to give evidence, he received calls from an anonymous person who told him that Mr Rajbansi wanted to meet him. He said that he

received calls day and night and in one instance received a call at 2am.

"I was under tremendous pressure and suffered from depression and had to undergo psychiatric treatment which I am still receiving," said Mr Pillay.

Mr Rajbansi put it to Mr Pillay that a conversation which he, Mr Pillay, said took place on July 31 did not happen.

Mr Justice James, Chairman of the Commission told Mr Pillay that Mr Rajbansi was saying that he (Mr Pillay) was lying.

Mr Pillay angrily retorted "He is a liar."

Mr Rajbansi then questioned Mr Pillay very closely about tape recordings which he (Mr Pillay) made of their conversations.

Mr Pillay said that he had 13 micro-cassettes and that he had taped their conversations because he feared Mr Rajbansi would let him down in a business deal involving Checkers supermarket.

Witness 'asked to lie'

Stew
9/12/88
DURBAN — A Kharwastan businessman, Mr Choonlall Boodoo Ramlall, yesterday told the James Commission, which is investigating allegations of irregularities in the House of Delegates, that he was "moulded to lie" to a Parliamentary select committee which was investigating malpractices within the administration

He said that the chairman of the select committee, Mr George Thaver, told him what to say in his evidence when he appeared before them earlier this year

Mr Ramlall said that "they throttled me down to lie"

He was asked about his evidence to the select committee while being cross-examined by special prosecutor Mr Anton Ackermann Mr Ramlall said that when the chairman of the committee "moulded" him to lie, he made an admission.

Mr Ackermann "Are you easily moulded?"

Mr Ramlall "Only by Mr

Own Correspondent

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Thaver"

Mr Neville James, chairman of the commission, asked "Are you unmoulded here?"

There was laughter from the public gallery

Mr Ackermann then read extracts of the Thaver Committee report concerning evidence Mr Amichand Rajbansi, suspended chairman of the Ministers' Council, gave about Mr Ramlall

WEATHERCOCK

According to Mr Ackermann, Mr Rajbansi is reported to have told the committee he regarded Mr Ramlall as a weathercock

Asked by Mr Ackermann to comment, Mr Ramlall said that Mr Rajbansi could have made that comment

"I was moulded to lie I was asked to lie," said Mr Ramlall

Mr James asked him whether he would lie as a favour to someone and Mr Ramlall replied "Yes"

Mr Ackermann put it to Mr Ramlall that the picture he painted in his evidence to the James Commission was that Mr Rajbansi was "Mr Good" and that Dr J N Reddy (Solidarity leader) was "Mr Bad"

Mr Ramlall said that he went to Mr Reddy, begging on his knees for help, while Mr Rajbansi had accommodated him

Mr Ramlall then denied that he was not the author of his affidavit which he presented to the James Commission making various allegations against members of the Ministers' Council and certain MPs

Earlier on in cross-examination, Mr Ramlall said that a civil servant, Mr Victor George Hunt, who also featured as a witness in the James Commission, had treated him shabbily and Mr Ramlall said he got the impression that Mr Hunt regarded all Indians as "damn coolies"

The inquiry continues

Raj's uncertain future

DURBAN — The James Commission of Inquiry into alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates ends on Friday and all indications are that House leader Amichand Rajbansi faces an uncertain political future.

Rajbansi was in the witness stand for 15 of the 66-day inquiry.

More than 70 witnesses have given evidence which runs into more than 5 330 pages.

The commission heard allegations that Rajbansi used his position to promote political friends in the education department, relatives and friends were given trading sites and that he manipulated administration officials to consolidate his own position.

The impression was created that like the different ethnic bantustans he was also creating and consolidating a "Hindistan" in the House of Delegates by promoting the "Maharajs", "Singhs", and other Hindi-

speaking officials and teachers.

Rajbansi is Hindi-speaking and on many occasions the word "chor" was heard during the hearing. "Chor" is a rogue in Hindi.

During the course of the hearing he was regularly at loggerheads with the chief prosecutor, Mr Anton Ackerman, officials of the House of Delegates, his counsel who withdrew in the last week of November; and even with the chairman of the commission, Mr Justice Neville James.

Rajbansi even tried to get the chairman replaced because he claimed that Justice James was "biased" against him. The matter was later mutually resolved.

Rajbansi tried to paint a picture of himself as a "sant" who tried his best to promote the interests of the Indian community and that only a "small clique" in the House of Delegates was making accusations against him.

He claimed people were envious of his position and his "dynamism" as a political leader.

He also tried to paint himself as a faithful servant of President PW Botha and his government when he repeatedly disclosed that he had adopted his "robust" attitude only to weed out the "left-wing radicals and the UDF" from gaining a foothold in the House.

At one stage Rajbansi told the commission that despite the inquiry he was working without any problems with other members of the House of Delegates' "cabinet". Justice James retorted "If that is true then you are a more remarkable person than I thought."

Justice James will present his findings and recommendations to the State President who instituted the commission after regular allegations of bribery, corruption and maladministration in the House. — PTSA

(258) Smith 8-14/12/88

Eurotrust was placed under provisional sequestration by the Bisho Supreme Court. However the court this week dismissed an application to have Eurobank wound up on the grounds that it had not been proved that its liabilities were greater than its assets. The court also found that Eurobank may not have been aware of its chairman, Eugene Berg's, activities in South Africa.

The Harms Commission was also expected to touch on the case of East London City MP Peet de Pontes, formerly of the National Party, who is said to have been involved in dealings with Vito Palazollo. The latter is now in a Swiss jail after being convicted of drug dealing.

De Pontes was not the only controversial NP MP this year — former NP member for Hillbrow Leon de Beer was found guilty on 70 counts of fraud under the Electoral Act.

The names of several cabinet ministers or high-ranking officials have been drawn into commission investigations into corruption.

Pik Botha was a friend of Jalc Holdings' Chris van Rensburg and of Vermaas, whom he introduced to Finance Minister Barend du Plessis. Vermaas is also a friend of Defence Minister Magnus Malan. And Reserve Bank governor Gerhard de Kock opened a game auction at Vermaas' farm earlier this year.

It has been strongly denied that these connections were any more than social — and it is true that Vermaas worked hard at social climbing in powerful circles. But the taint remains.

Some of this year's corruption scandals have implicated high-ranking officials more directly. One example of this was the commission of inquiry set up to investigate transactions in the Department of Education and Training after its director-general, Jaap Fourie, was accused of purchasing a computer system from a company in which his son was involved.

He's dull, rich and conservative. He's the new Mr Right

THE government may now get the man they always wanted to be the Indian "prime minister" in the tricameral system — Dr JN Reddy, the leader of Solidarity

Reddy, a conservative and somewhat dour businessman-turned-politician, is the frontrunner to take over the leadership of a likely merger between Solidarity and the People's Progressive Party of South Africa

Neither the merger nor the leadership has yet been agreed upon, but it seems likely that the merger will take place

The two parties have already met to discuss merger details, and they are due to meet again on January 12 for further negotiations

With 11 MPs each, the merged party will only have 22 of the 45 members of the House of Delegates, but it is likely that some of the independents will support or even join it to ensure that it has an absolute majority

There are other pretenders for the House of Delegates throne, notably Achmat Lambath, the PPP leader, Kassi Ramduth, the new acting chairman of the Minister's Council, and Raman Bhana and Ismail Kathadra, who are both sitting ministers in the House of Delegates.

But Reddy, who was executive committee chairman of the now-defunct South African Indian Council before he was ousted by Rajbansi, appears to be the most likely to succeed if the leadership race does not sink the merger proposals

Reddy, whose financial acumen is widely respected in parliament, particularly in standing committees, would be welcomed within government circles

Not only is he ideologically conservative, as reflected in his speeches on foreign affairs and defence, but he has also been untainted by the alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates and has considerable experience in government affairs

Moreover, he is very unlikely to rock the boat, either as the Labour Party or Rajbansi has done.

For these reasons, President PW Botha is likely to appoint him to the cabinet if he becomes the leader of the majority party in the House of Delegates. He could even give him an additional portfolio, possibly in finance or economic affairs

In many respects, Reddy is the sort of person the government would like to see in control of the House of Delegates

But it could be a very short-lived respite, particularly if an election is held next year

So far, Solidarity has not fared well in by-elections and it seems doubtful that it will be able to mount a national election campaign, even among the small minority prepared to vote within the framework of the tricameral system

By and large, Rajbansi's National People's Party has been far more effective in by-elections and in developing a measure of grassroots support

Now that the government has rid itself of its liability, Amichand Rajbansi, the new House of Delegates leader could be the very respectable Dr JN Reddy

come its campaigning weaknesses. It is also possible that the NPP will have difficulty mounting a national campaign without the benefits and resources of office

But if its past record is anything to go by, the NPP is clearly in a stronger position and is most likely to benefit from an election

Moreover, Rajbansi is openly calling for an election, in the knowledge that he and his party are better prepared than the other groupings

"I am a fighter," Rajbansi said after he was fired by President Botha. "I will be going back to the electorate at the first opportunity and I'll come back to the House of Delegates as leader of the majority party"

Rajbansi's statements can often be taken with a pinch of salt, but his confidence about winning an election does have some foundation. It is possible, and indeed probable, that he would come back as the majority leader

The MPs in both the House of Delegates and the House of Representatives who would prefer not to have an election now are those most likely to lose seats

They comprise, on the one hand, those who are negotiating for a merger to take control of the House of Delegates, and on the other those who have broken with the ruling Labour Party — the United Democratic Party and the newly formed Democratic Reform Party.

For different reasons, Hendrickse and Rajbansi, the first-ever black members of the South African cabinet, want an election because they are both confident they will emerge very much stronger.

And Rajbansi will have good reason to thank his former cabinet colleague for refusing to agree to an amendment of the constitution until the Group Areas Act is scrapped — even though the Indian politician was never particularly supportive of that strategy

So, the debacle in the House of Delegates may only give the government and Reddy a brief respite

Rajbansi, a political tightrope-walker *par excellence*, is down but certainly not out — and a Rajbansi fightback could create more problems for the government and its constitution

It is possible that the electorally untested PPP may help Solidarity over-

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House of Delegates' probe bill heads for R1m

DURBAN — The James Commission, which has just ended a six-month probe into alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates, has cost more than R500 000

Own Affairs Budget Minister Ismail Kathrada added yesterday total expenditure could reach almost R1m. This would have to come out of the House of Delegates' budget

"I am satisfied the commission's final report will vindicate the expenditure and deter members and ministers from actions which would bring government into disrepute."

Isipingo MP Nizam Khan said it was a pity such a substantial sum should be spent on a

Own Correspondent

commission of inquiry when it could have been diverted to housing for poor people

He added "Since President P W Botha instituted the inquiry rather than acting on recommendations made by the some MPs in the House of Delegates, part of the expenditure should come out of the State President's Disaster Relief Fund"

Suspended Ministers' Council chairman Amichand Rajbhansl, focus of attention in the probe, last night challenged House of Delegates director-general Peter Wronsley's de-

cision to engage counsel.

"Is this not a waste of taxpayers' money?" Wronsley took the decision upon himself to engage counsel. I am taking this matter up with the Auditor-General," he said.

Rajbhansl added "There was no need for a legal team to represent the administration of the House of Delegates as the administration was not under investigation.

"Wronsley must pay for the counsel he engaged and the money should not come from the taxpayer"

Mr Justice James is expected to hand his report to Botha next month

Star 21/12/88

'Fighter' Rajbansi refuses to resign

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A defiant Mr Amichand Rajbansi today said he was "a stayer and a fighter" and he would not be resigning from Parliament nor would he be stepping down as leader of the National People's Party or as an MP.

He made his stand following the announcement yesterday by the State President, Mr P W Botha, that he had relieved Mr Rajbansi of his two ministerial portfolios from January 1 on the strength of a preliminary report of the James Commission of inquiry into alleged malpractices in the Administration of the House of Delegates

The report has not been released to the public, and it may not be available until early next year. Not even Mr Rajbansi has seen it. There has been no immediate indication of any criminal charges against anyone mentioned in the report.

Mr Botha said "I have decided to terminate your services as a member of the Cabinet, chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing from January 1"

He asked Mr Rajbansi to "accept my appreciation for the services that you rendered as a member of the Cabinet and the Ministers' Council"

Mr Botha has appointed Mr K Ramduth, Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Delegates, as acting chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing, and asked that he retain his present portfolio

Salary cut

Mr Rajbansi has been chairman of the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates since the position was created in September 1984

He has also been Minister of Housing in the Administration of the House of Delegates and he has, until the appointment of the James Commission when he was suspended, been a member of Mr Botha's Cabinet

Mr Rajbansi's removal from his job means a major salary cut from R117 000 a year to R70 000. He loses his two ministerial homes in Cape Town and Pretoria and a chauffeur-driven Mercedes Benz

He also forfeits unrestricted travel facilities with South Afri-

Staff Reporters

can Airways, and rental for his Durban home, but is likely to get a "golden handshake" for his service as a Cabinet Minister

The NPP leader said in an interview today he was not bitter with the State President personally, although he was bitter at the fact that he had not been shown the James report and so he did not know why he had been dismissed

He said President Botha had acted too hastily and that he should have listened to his side of the story

He had done nothing criminally wrong. He had not enriched himself, nor had he done anything dishonest

"I do not deserve this treatment. I am requesting the President to consider my party's complaints about the James Commission," he said

He said the NPP still stood solidly behind him and there was no question of his staying on as leader and as an MP

He would be moving out of his ministerial residence in Cape Town from the end of the year, but his reduced status would not affect his lifestyle in Durban because he had all along lived in his own home

Solidarity and governing coalition leader Dr J N Reddy said he hoped Mr Rajbansi's departure would put an end to the petty bickering in the House of Delegates

Solidarity and the Peoples' Party, which earlier this year broke away from the NPP to form a new working majority in the House of Delegates, were negotiating a formal merger of the two groups

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Decision follows judge's report

PW sacks

Rajbanshi

as Minister

2/12/88

DURBAN — President P W Botha has sacked Amichand Rajbanshi, chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates.

In a statement last night, Botha's office said the President had informed Rajbanshi he had taken the decision to fire him in view of the findings of the James commission of inquiry into irregularities in the House.

Rajbanshi said last night he was stunned that Botha had acted against him only on the basis of a preliminary report of the commission.

Blaming his dismissal on "right- and left-wingers ganging up against me", Rajbanshi said "I am not bitter with the State President, but I am bitter at the manner in which the James commission of inquiry performed its task."

Botha said "I have decided to terminate your services as member of the Cabinet, chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing with effect from January 1, 1989". Rajbanshi stays on as an MP, however.

Own Correspondent

Ramduth, Education and Culture Minister in the HoD, as acting chairman of the Ministers' Council and Minister of Housing, and requested that Ramduth retain his present portfolio.

Botha asked Rajbanshi to "please accept my appreciation for the services that you rendered as member of both the Cabinet and the Ministers' Council during your term of office".

Commission chairman Mr Justice Neville James said "I have been in communication with the State President but that is entirely confidential."

"I have still to write a full report, which I expect to complete by January 20." He declined to comment further.

Rajbanshi said "The report was not even debated in Parliament," adding he had been smiling throughout the sitting of the commission because he had nothing to hide.

"I have not done anything criminally wrong and nor have I enriched myself. If the government wants to believe the right- and left-wingers who have ganged up against me, that is their dilemma. I am a fighter, a survivor and a stayer."

"There are many people who used the witness stand to lie through their teeth," he said.

Rajbanshi added "We are not going to rest. The James commission is not going to be over until such time as we

To Page 2

PW sacks Rajbanshi from his Cabinet

From Page 1

get an independent investigation into how the commission conducted itself, especially the role of the 'special prosecutor', Mr Anton Ackermann.

"I would like to have a finding tested in the Supreme Court as far as Mr Dave Pillay's tapes are concerned."

"I attach no value to them because Judge James himself once said he couldn't believe in anything that Dave Pillay had said."

Reacting to the announcement last night, the PFP's Springfield MP Marmoo Rajab said "For once the State President must be complimented on the action he has taken against his close political ally, Mr Amichand Rajbanshi."

"The decision will be welcomed in the Indian community, particularly after the evidence that was led at the James commission. It vindicates the stand taken by myself and others."

"It now remains for responsible people in the House to submerge their egos and put aside petty self interest and ensure that this forum is used positively for the upliftment of the SA community."

in general, and the Indian community in particular."

Former Housing Minister in the HoD Baldeo Dookie said "I believe the State President took a wise decision in view of what was already said at the James commission."

"As for me, I am very much relieved because at some time fingers were pointed at me when the housing portfolio was taken away from me."

"I had asked for a commission of inquiry in the House of Delegates, which was not approved and my only alternative then was to submit all my complaints to the Advocate-General."

"From the Advocate-General it went to the commission and I am relieved that it has cleared me."

The director-general Administration, House of Delegates, Peter Wronsley declined to comment other than to say he was relieved a decision had been taken.

"But the matter has still to be finalized," he said.

2/12/88

MPs planning to oust

Rajbansi 'for good'

Star 22/1/88 Own Correspondent

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DURBAN — A move to bar former Ministers' Council chairman Mr Amichand Rajbansi from Parliament "for good" was launched hours after the State President, Mr P W Botha, fired him on Tuesday

Mr Rajbansi is currently barred from entering Parliament until February 20 following his suspension as a result of an interim report on alleged maladministration in the House of Delegates

Parliament resumes on February 3 and, according to Progressive Federal Party MP Mr Mamoo Rajab, his group will spearhead the move to keep Mr Rajbansi out of Parliament "for good"

"We will make the move within the first few days Parliament resumes and by that time we will have the findings of the James Commission which investigated alleged irregularities in the House of Delegates," he said

Parliamentary rules allowed MPs to take action against one of their number. This was done when Mr Rajbansi was barred until February, Mr Rajab said

'I'm staying on until the end of the month'

Rajbansi back in his oak-panelled office

12/12/88
Blaney 158

DURBAN — Deposed Cabinet Minister Amichand Rajbansi was back in his oak-panelled suite in Malgate Building yesterday attending to "official duties" in spite of his sacking by President Botha.

Still determined to cling to power, he vowed: "I'll never give up. I'm staying until the end of the month."

He said he had "certain unfinished business" to complete before he hands over the reins to Education and Culture Minister, Kassie Ramduth, who has been appointed acting Chairman of the Ministers' Council.

Mercedes Benz

His dismissal becomes effective from January 1, when he has to vacate his plush Malgate offices, the Durban headquarters of the House of Delegates

On that day he also loses his chauffeur-driven Mercedes Benz, his palatial home in Pelikan Park in Cape Town and his ministerial home in Pretoria, in addition to a massive slash in his monthly take-home pay.

He will also lose a monthly allowance of about R1 000 for using his Arena Park home in Chatsworth as a ministerial home

It is expected that his yearly sala-

Own Correspondent

ry of R117 000 will be slashed by almost half to R70 000 from January 1 when he reverts to the status of an ordinary MP — for the first time since he assumed power four years ago

Asked how he was going to cope with a big pay cut, Rajbansi said:

"The pay was something which I had not relied upon

"I will immediately qualify for a minister's pension and a minister's gratuity which should fairly compensate for the loss.

"I've never lived beyond my means"

He said although he would "financially stronger" if he retired, "I am going to carry on in politics", he vowed

Asked how he felt about his axing, he said

"I feel more relaxed now that a burden is off my shoulders, but I hope that they (his successors) can have the courage to take bold decisions and deal with the left wing

"My trump card is the election I



● RAJBANSI

am looking forward to the next general election for the House of Delegates which I think will take place sometime next year," he said

Looking back over his stormy Parliamentary career of the past four years when he was Chief Minister and Housing Minister, Rajbansi said he believed some of his main achievements were the creation of a Dental School at the University of Durban Westville and the provision of housing for low income groups.

"Look at the amount of money we allocated for Indian housing. For the first time, R400m was allocated for housing."

More important

The large police presence outside his Arena Park home in Chatsworth will also soon disappear

J N Reddy, who is expected to take over as Chairman of the Ministers' Council, said yesterday he hoped the House of Delegates would move away from the "old order"

"There are far more important issues such as political and economic reforms facing the the country and we must address ourselves to finding answers to these problems," he added

on radicals

Reward for Sente

Envoy recalled after

Star 2/11/88 (208)
Fired, but still fighting

I'll return — defiant Rajbansi

**SATURDAY STAR
CORRESPONDENT**

DURBAN — Former boss of the House of Delegates Mr Amichand Rajbansi is making a political comeback just two days after being fired by the State President, Mr P W Botha, as chairman of the Ministers' Council, as Minister of Housing and as a member of the Cabinet.

He spoke to all 16 MPs of his National People's Party individually and secured their support and on Thursday night, Mr Rajbansi said that three independent members had aligned themselves with his group.

"This means that I have 19 seats in the House of Delegates, just four short of a majority. Next week, the NPP will be meeting and we will then work out our plans."

He said that he was aware that the "dog-fight" for his job had begun and that candidates were lobbying desperately.

"The fight is on for the job of the chairman of the Ministers' Council and right now, I am sitting on the sidelines and watching the fun," said Mr Rajbansi.

Asked if he was going to try to woo over members from Solidarity or the People's Party, Mr Rajbansi said that he had been contacted by some members of those parties and they had responded positively towards him.

"I have been surprised by the support I have received from Members of Parliament as well as from people from various walks of life," he said.

Mr Rajbansi said that his political career was far from over and he was determined to make a comeback, especially now that he knew he still had support.

He said that the James Commission findings would be debated in the House of Delegates and that his suspension

would have to be lifted for him to take part in it.

"If they don't allow me in, the Speaker of the House will not allow the debate. This is part of the standing rules," Mr Rajbansi said.

Solidarity and the People's Party have 22 MPs and need at least one more seat to have a majority in the House.

The two groups meet on January 12 to merge into one party, most probably with Dr J N Reddy as leader.

There are five independents in the House, three have already sided with Mr Rajbansi, according to his claim last night.

This leaves just two independents and the new party would need at least one of them.

The remaining two MPs, Mr Mamoo Rajab and Mr Pat Poovalingam belong to the Progressive Federal Party and have no intention, or desire, to join the new grouping.

The five independents in the House are Dr Paddy Padaychee, the Reverend E Manicom, Mr Faiz Khan, Dr A Cader and Mr George Iyman.

Mr Rajbansi said last night that the House of Delegates was in disarray and to keep it together was no easy task.

He said that since he had kept it together, he was working towards getting back his old job.

Mr Rajbansi said that nobody else had the experience to keep the

House functioning, except himself. Asked to comment, Dr Reddy said that he was not anxious about any position for himself, but was keen that MPs should now get together and put the interest of the community above all differences.

"I believe that we have had enough unrest in the House and it's about time responsible people got together and began serving the community. That should be our main task," he said.

He confirmed that his Solidarity Party and the People's Party were due to meet on January 12 to discuss a merger and he was in favour of unity, especially if it would bring stability to



**AMICHAND RAJBANSI:
All fired up.**

the House of Delegates

Dr Reddy said that he would be willing to serve in whatever capacity, if it was the desire of the majority of the MPs in the party.

● In February this year, **Bruce Cameron**, in an article for Saturday Star, said this of Mr Rajbansi:

"The master of the politics of patronage — a supreme wheeler dealer." That's what some critics in the Natal Indian Congress say about Mr Rajbansi. You would think that knowing this his opponents would by now have got his measure. Not so, it seems.

"There has been a concerted campaign by his rivals in Parliament to 'nail him' but Mr Rajbansi has proved that he is a master of political cunning.

"He is a multifaceted character, certainly vain, with a generous dollop of charisma and some unexpected talents. However, his style of politics has made him a growing list of enemies and his skill in survival is going to be tested to the limit."



"I'LL BE BACK" ... Defiant Amichand Rajbansi and his wife Ashadevi.

S/ Times 25/10/88
**Rajbansi
down but
not out**

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

THE DEFIANT sacked leader of the National People's Party, Mr Amichand Rajbansi has sworn to return to Parliament next year to "deal with" those he claims "plotted" to dethrone him.

His threat follows his sacking by State President P W Botha from the Cabinet and from the post of Chairman of the Ministers' Council this week.

Mr Rajbansi said yesterday that he was looking forward to the next elections, but should he win the majority of seats as he anticipated, he would "not be interested in the chairmanship again".

But he confirmed he intended entering Parliament next year as an ordinary MP.

"And I am going to deal with the James Commission and right-wingers in the Administration of the House of Delegates who have helped to plot my demotion in Parliament.

"And I would like to become leader of the official Opposition to deal with those who are now laughing behind my back.

Coming back

"I am coming back fighting," he said.

Mr Botha fired Mr Rajbansi after being handed the preliminary findings of the James Commission which investigated alleged irregularities in the Administration of the House of Delegates.

He appointed, as acting Chairman of the Minister's Council, the present Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Kassi Ramduth.

Mr Rajbansi reverted to MP for Arena Park.

Mr Rajbansi also remains leader of the majority 16-member National People's Party.

● Mr Rajbansi first came into the public eye when he refereed soccer matches and according to soccer pundits, was good at his job.

But it was not long before he abandoned his shorts, socks and whistle.

He joined the Durban Milk Publicity Association as a public relations officer and was elected to the Southern Durban Local Affairs Committee.

He constantly clashed with members of the Natal Indian Congress, but firmly maintained that he served on the LAC only because it provided him with a platform from which to voice Indian grievances.

Even in those days Mr Rajbansi made some outrageous statements. They either shocked, angered, amused or convinced people. Their reaction depended on which side of the political fence they stood.

In the 1970s, Mr Rajbansi joined the South African Indian Council and went on to become the chairman of the SAIC's executive committee, a position he held until the formation of the House of Delegates in 1984.

As leader of the National People's Party Mr Rajbansi was elected MP for Arena Park in Chatsworth.

From the time he was sworn in as an MP in the House of Delegates in September 1984 Mr Rajbansi became embroiled in controversy.

His clashes in debates with the MP for Reservoir Hills, Mr Pat Poovalingam, were perhaps the sharpest in parliamentary history.

It was Mr Poovalingam who constantly called in the Indian House for the appointment of a commission to probe alleged irregularities in the Indian house.

Mr Poovalingam finally had his way when State President Mr P W Botha appointed the James Commission.

Even in this chapter of his life, Mr Rajbansi played a star role. His constant clashes with Acting Justice Neville James and special prosecutor Anton Ackermann sometimes left witnesses gasping.

Until Tuesday when the State President axed him as Cabinet Minister and chairman of the House of Delegates, Mr Rajbansi had survived a number of bids to unseat him as leader of the Indian house.

"The rough stuff of politics does not worry me. As a former administrator and referee of professional football, one learns to cope with these things," Mr Rajbansi was once quoted as saying.

Mr Rajbansi also has a few firsts to his credit. In April 1986 he became the first man of colour to address the white House of Assembly.

His sacking by Mr Botha this week appears to herald the end of his political career.

But this week, he said he would never give up — no matter what the odds.

"I will be back," he vowed.

Reddy, Ramduth ready to replace the Raj

Star 25/12/88
By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

TWO House of Delegates MPs have declared themselves available to step into Mr Amichand Rajbansi's shoes. They are Solidarity Party leader Dr J N Reddy and the acting chairman of Ministers' Council, Mr Kasse Ramduth. Earlier this week Mr Rajbansi was sacked as chairman of the Ministers' Council of the Indian house and as Cabinet Minister by State President Mr P W Botha.

Mr Botha acted after receiving an interim report on the James Commission inquiry into alleged irregularities in

the House of Delegates. Dr Reddy and Ramduth also confirmed this week that Solidarity and the People's Party of South Africa would merge in early January to become the new ruling party. Yesterday, Mr Rajbansi said he was looking forward to the next elections, but should he win the majority of seats as he anticipated, he would "not be interested in the chairmanship again".

When Mr Botha fired Mr Rajbansi, he appointed Mr Ramduth, the Minister of Education and Culture, as acting Chairman of the Ministers' Council.

Mr Rajbansi will now be only an ordinary MP for Ardena

Park. When the People's Party of South Africa and Solidarity merge early in January, they will have at least 22 members and have the right to nominate a new chairman for the Ministers' Council and elect or re-elect a new Ministers' Council.

Mr Rajbansi will most probably end up as leader of the official Opposition — if he is not ejected from the NPP, as has been suggested by party functionaries who claimed he was "too much of an embarrassment".

Mr Ramduth said he was "probably chosen by Mr Botha among other things, because I am the most senior Minis-

ter and the only one who has held his portfolio since the inception of the tricameral Parliament in September 1984." Describing himself as "a people's man", Mr Ramduth said "if the people want me, I am ready to make myself available as Chairman of the Ministers' Council".

But it is more likely that Dr Reddy will be nominated as chairman when the the PRSA and the SP merge on January 12.

Dr Reddy said he was also available. He described Mr Rajbansi's sacking as "inevitable".

Raj man, poor man

S/Times 25/12/88

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25/12/88

By GEORGE MAHABER and NORMAN WEST
SACKED Cabinet Minister Mr. Amichand Rajbansi may be down but not out — out of pocket, that is.

The colourful and controversial politician was summarily fired this week by President Botha after receiving a preliminary report of a judicial inquiry into allegations of irregularities during Mr Rajbansi's term of office. Ebulent Mr Rajbansi will have his salary cut from R137 000 a year as a Minister to R65 000 as ordinary MP

Happy

He will have to give up his house at Pelican Park in Cape Town, lose his subsidy on his private home in Durban, say goodbye to his chauffeur and official Mercedes and bid farewell to his bodyguards

But he will not be coming out on the short end

● He receives a golden handshake of R70 000 when he vacates his oak-pannelled

But the good life goes ahead for 'win some, lose some' Minister

ministerial suite in Durban on December 31.

● He gets a tax-free pension of R2 000 a month.

● He retains his SAA "Golden Pass" which entitles him to free flights for the rest of his life.

● Should he retire immediately he will receive a lump sum pay-out of about R230 000 and his pension will increase to more than R10 000 a month

"My family will continue to live in the lifestyle to which they have become accustomed," he said this week

Mr Rajbansi said that as a Minister it had cost him a great deal of money to keep

his children at a private school

"The cost was so high that I found myself worse off than an ordinary MP. I am also going to be happy as my children will again be living with me and not at boarding school"

"I will have more time to spend with my wife and five children and will also be able to concentrate on my work within the community"

"I am still an ordinary man. I have not enriched myself by becoming a Minister. I have held the position of chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates with uncertainty because I was never sure when

I would be toppled," Mr Rajbansi said

Meanwhile, the departure of Mr Rajbansi from his post as chairman of the Ministers' Council (he was suspended from the central cabinet when the James Commission began) has encouraged moves in the fractious House of Delegates towards unity

It has also sparked a scramble for the vacant post. Both the leader of the Solidarity Party, Dr J N Reddy, and the acting chairman of the Ministers' Council and member of the People's Party, Mr Kassi Ramduth, yesterday declared themselves available to lead the Indian Ministers' Council

They have also confirmed their parties would merge in early January to become the new ruling party. The party would then elect a chairman of the council

Mr Rajbansi said yesterday that he was looking forward to the next elections, but should he win the majority of seats, as he expected, he would "not be interested in the chairmanship again"

Alliance

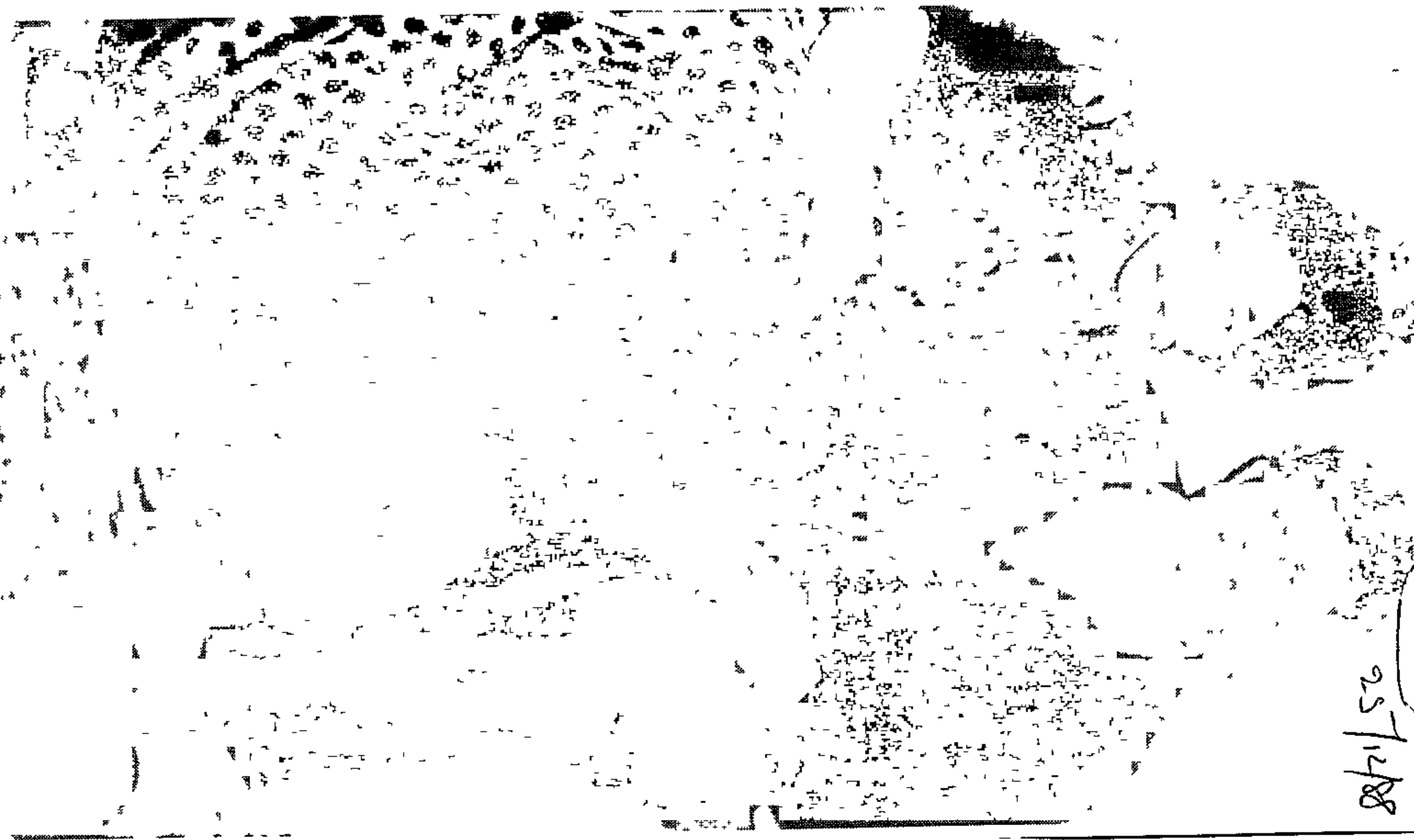
In May, Mr Ramduth and all other Indian Ministers, except for Deputy Minister S V Nankar, defected from Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party (NPP) and formed the People's Party of South Africa (PPSA), led by a Benoni attorney, Mr A El Lambert

The PPSA has 11 members, equal to the 11 MPs of the official Opposition Solidarity Party, led by Durban banker Mr Reddy. Mr Rajbansi remains leader of the majority 16-member National People's Party

The PPSA and Solidarity have formed an alliance, of which Mr Reddy is chairman

If the PPSA and Solidarity merge early in January they will have at least 22 members and the right to nominate a new chairman of the Ministers' Council and elect or re-elect a new Ministers' Council

Mr Rajbansi will then most probably end up as leader of the official Opposition — if he is not ejected from the NPP, as has been suggested by party functionaries who claimed he was "too much of an embarrassment"



TOGETHERNESS Amichand Rajbansi and his wife Ashadevi "We'll now have more time to spend with our five children" Picture. RANJIT KALLY

Rajbansi plans legal action

28/12/88 Own Correspondent (258)

The former chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, is planning legal action against every person who made allegations against him to the James Commission

He said this was the 'only' way to have the evidence of every person who made allegations against him tested

Mr Rajbansi was fired by the State President last week following an inter-

im report from commission chairman Mr Neville James

It has been reported that Mr Rajbansi will be given a R75 000 "golden handshake" when he quits his office at the end of this year. He will also collect a monthly pension, plus his MP's monthly salary of about R6 000

Sapa reports that Mr Rajbansi's National People's Party is to hold a series of emergency meetings to decide its future in the Indian chamber

95,12 pc of Indian matric pupils pass

Own Correspondent

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DURBAN — A record 13 221 Indian pupils wrote their matriculation examinations under the auspices of the Department of Education and Culture of the House of Delegates this year.

Of these, 12 577 passed and 5 397 gained matriculation exemption. This means that 95,12 per cent passed and 72,39 percent who wrote the exemption course were successful.

This year 243 pupils achieved A aggregates compared with only 155 last year.

Chief executive director of the department Mr A K Singh paid special tribute to the pupils, their teachers and parents, ascribing candidates' success to their "improved quality".

There was an increase in the number of subject distinctions, which rose from 1 763 to 2 288.

Teachers' Association of South Africa president Mr Pat Samuels congratulated the pupils and their teachers, but said Mr Singh should expand the curriculum to gear pupils towards the needs of a technological society and "make them aware of their position in the South African community".

"The improved results are the direct result of a growing sophistication in the Indian community and it augurs well for the future because it will mean that we will get a better quality of leadership," Mr Samuels said.

● Transvaal results: Pages 8 and 25



Top of the class . . . Mishani Naidoo (right) was first with six distinctions and Rehana Sankar second with seven A's. Both are from Durban.



PACKING UP: The former Ministers' Council chairman, Amichand Rajbansi.

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Mar 31/12/88

Rajbansi going to court to test allegations

DURBAN — Mr Amichand Rajbansi, former chairman of the House of Delegates Ministers' Council, is planning legal action against everyone who made allegations against him to the James Commission. He said this was the only way to have the evidence of every person who made allegations against him tested.

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commission chairman Mr Neville James

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