

PRESS STATEMENT

DECLARATION OF NON-CONSTITUENCY MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

The Parliamentary Elections Act ("Act") states that, at any General Election, the number of Non-Constituency Members of Parliament (NCMPs) to be declared elected shall be nine less the number of Opposition MPs elected. The NCMPs to be declared elected shall be determined from amongst the candidates of the Opposition parties contesting the General Election on the basis of the percentage of votes polled by such candidates. (Details are spelt out in section 52 of the Act.)

2 As six Opposition MPs were elected to Parliament in the General Election 2015, three candidates who received the highest percentage of votes amongst the unelected candidates from the Opposition parties were declared elected as NCMPs, viz. Ms Lee Li Lian (The Workers' Party candidate for Punggol East Constituency), Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong (The Workers' Party candidate for Fengshan Constituency) and Mr Leon Perera (one of the candidates from The Workers' Party group of candidates who contested in the East Coast Group Representation Constituency (GRC)).

3 On 29 Jan 2016, Parliament by resolution declared Ms Lee Li Lian's NCMP seat vacant and resolved that the seat be filled in accordance with sections 52(2) and 52(3B)(a) of the Act.

4 Following the order of priority set out in section 52(2) of the Act, the vacated NCMP seat is to be filled by one other candidate of The Workers' Party group of candidates who contested in the East Coast GRC. The Returning Officer wrote to the group on 2 Feb 2016 and asked the group to determine amongst themselves, by 9 Feb 2016, the one to assume the vacated NCMP seat. On 4 Feb 2016, the Returning Officer received the reply from the group on their decision to nominate Dr Daniel Goh Pei Siong as the one to be declared elected as NCMP.

5 Based on the above, in accordance with section 52 of the Act, the Returning Officer has declared Dr Daniel Goh Pei Siong of The Workers' Party as the candidate elected as an NCMP.

**ISSUED BY
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT
4 FEBRUARY 2016**