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Hon. Mookhesswur Choonee

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Hon. Yatindra Nath Varma

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Hon. John Michaël Tzoun Sao Yeung Sik Yuen

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Hon. Lormus Bundhoo

Minister of Health and Quality of Life

Hon. Sayyad Abd-Al-Cader Sayed-Hossen

Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection

Hon. Surendra Dayal

Minister of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment

Hon. Jangbahadoorsing Iswurdeo Mola

Minister of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives

Roopchand Seetaram

Hon. Mrs Maria Francesca Mireille Martin

Minister of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare

Hon. Sutyadeo Moutia

Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms
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MAURITIUS

Fifth National Assembly

SECOND SESSION

Debate No. 15 of 2012

Sitting of Friday 20 July 2012

The Assembly met in the Assembly House, Port Louis,

At 3.30 p.m

The National Anthem was played

(The Deputy Speaker in the Chair)
MOTION
MR RAJKESWUR PURRYAG - ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

The Prime Minister: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that pursuant to section 28 of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius, hon. Rajkeswur Purryag G.C.S.K., G.O.S.K. be elected President of the Republic.

The Deputy Prime Minister rose and seconded.

Question put and agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, in the light of provision of section 28 (2) (a) of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius, it stipulates that the President shall be elected by the Assembly on a motion made by the hon. Prime Minister and supported by the votes of a majority of all the Members of the Assembly. We shall, for record purposes, proceed with the recording of the votes of hon. Members.

Thank you.

1. Hon E. J. R. Guimbeau
2. Hon J. F. François
3. Hon. C. M. Fakeemeeah
4. Hon. J. C. Leopold
5. Hon Ms M. J. Perraud
6. Hon D. S. Khamajeet
7. Hon A. R. G. M. Issack
8. Hon A. H. Hossen
9. Hon J. H. T. Henry
11. Hon Mrs K. B. Juggoo
12. Dr. the Hon B. Hookoom
13. Hon Ms M. G. S. Anquetil
14. Hon Ms K. R. Deerpalsing
15. Dr the Hon R. R. Hawoldar
16. Hon. M. Peetumber
17. Hon S. Moutia
18. Hon Mrs M. F. Martin
19. Hon J. Seetaram
20. Hon S. Dayal
21. Hon S. C. Sayed Hossen
22. Hon L. Bundhoo
23. Hon J. Yeung Sik Yuen
24. Hon S. Mohamed
25. Hon M. Choonee
26. Hon L. H. Aimée
27. Hon S. Ritoo
28. Hon L. J. Von-Mally
29. Hon T. Pillay Chedumbrum
30. Dr the Hon R. Jeetah
31. Hon D. Virahsawmy
32. Hon S. V. Faugoo
33. Dr the Hon V. Bunwaree
34. Hon Mrs S. Bappoo
35. Dr the Hon A. T. Kasenally
36. Dr the Hon A. K. Boolell
37. Hon A. Bachoo
38. Hon X. L. Duval
39. Dr the Hon A. R. Beebeejaun
40. Dr the Hon Prime Minister

**AYES: 40**

1. Hon M. R. C. Uteem
2. Dr. the Hon M. R. Sorefan
3. Hon S. Soodhun
4. Hon M. K. Seeruttun
5. Hon P. Roopun
6. Hon Ms L. N. Ribot
7. Hon K. Ramano
8. Hon Mrs M. J. Radegonde
9. Hon J. P. F. Quirin
10. Hon L. S. Obeegadoo
11. Hon Mrs A. Navarre-Marie
12. Hon D. Nagalingum
13. Hon K. C. Li Kwong Wing
14. Hon G. P. Lesjongard
15. Hon Mrs M. N. F. Labelle
16. Hon P. K. Jugnauth
17. Hon P. Jhugroo
18. Hon Mrs S. B. Hanoomanjee
19. Hon. A.K. Gungah
20. Hon A. Ganoo
21. Hon Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun
22. Dr. the Hon. S. Boolell
23. Hon N. Bodha
24. Hon Mrs P. K. Bholah
25. Hon. J. C. Barbier
26. Hon. V. Baloomoody
27. Hon S. M. Ameer Meea
28. Hon. R. A. Bhagwan
29. Hon P. R. Bérenger

**ABSENT: 29**

The Ayes have it.

*Motion agreed to.*

**The Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, I declare Mr Rajkeswur Purryag, G.C.S.K., G.O.S.K. elected President of the Republic of Mauritius. On behalf of the House and in my own personal name, I offer him my sincere congratulations.

*(Applause)*
The Prime Minister: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, if I may be allowed, I would like to say a few words about the newly elected fifth President of the Republic of Mauritius, hon. Rajkeswur Purryag.

Hon. Rajkeswur Purryag, who is more familiarly known as Kailash Purryag, is a person who embodies all the qualities and competence befitting the highest office of the land.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Rajkeswur Purryag was born on 12 December 1947 in a poor family. His was an uphill struggle. From very humble beginnings, he is today called upon to become the Head of State of the Republic of Mauritius.

It is a reminder, Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, no matter where you start in life, if you possess character and endowed with discipline and an unyielding belief in your convictions and persevere against all the odds, then you will always climb over adversity.

It is, therefore, fitting that we should be honouring someone who has spent his whole life devoted to the selfless service of our people.

Hon. Rajkeswur Purryag has an impressive profession and political track record. His career is also indicative of his belief in self-development and the human spirit’s capacity to overcome all obstacles. He became an Attorney at Law in 1973 and was elected to the Legislative Assembly for the first time in 1976. He has occupied the following Ministerial responsibilities with zeal, distinction and dedication -

- Minister of Social Security from January 1980 to June 1982.
- Minister of Health from January 1984 to January 1988.
- Minister of Economic Planning and Information and Telecommunications from December 1995 to July 1997.
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade from July 1997 to September 2000.
- He has made an invaluable contribution in all fields of national endeavour in a spirit of service for higher causes.
- He has been Speaker of the National Assembly since July 2005, and has presided over the deliberations of the House in the greatest tradition of fairness and objectivity.

Hon. Rajkeswur Purryag has always discharged his duties of his various functions with an acute sense of responsibility and competence of the highest order. It is my living sentiment
that hon. Rajkeswur Purryag will uphold the standard of the presidency with a decorum that his Office demands. With his courage and foresight and the experience of a rich and illustrious career, he is destined to play a significant role in the shaping of the future of Mauritius and the broader goals of peace and welfare.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of all the Members of the National Assembly and in my own name, I wish to convey to hon. Rajkeswur Purryag, Mrs Anita Purryag, their daughter and all the members of his family our most sincere congratulations.

(Applause)

ADJOURNMENT

The Prime Minister: Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do now adjourn to Tuesday 24 July 2012, at 11.30 a.m.

The Deputy Prime Minister rose and seconded.

The Deputy Speaker: The House stands adjourned.

At 3.41 p.m., the Assembly was, on its rising, adjourned to Tuesday 24 July 2012, at 11.30 a.m.