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PUBLIC
HEARING

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INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION

THE HONOURABLE REGINALD BLANCH AM QC

PUBLIC HEARING

OPERATION TARLO

Reference: Operation E15/1982

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

AT SYDNEY

ON MONDAY 15 MAY, 2017

AT 2.15PM

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MR CHHABRA: Commissioner, if I may.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr Chhabra.

MR CHHABRA: I remain on my feet as I have an application.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.

10 MR CHHABRA: I appreciate the Commission's due to conclude at 5.00pm today, however at this juncture I bring an application to adjourn to the next sitting on June 13. I do so based on the health and condition of Ms Sharobeem. I've made certain observations over the short luncheon adjournment and in my opinion she's not in a position to continue giving evidence this afternoon.

THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Yes, we had hoped at one stage that her cross-examination and evidence would be, would all be completed today, but that's not going to happen. Well, of course I accept your assessment of the situation.

20

MR CHHABRA: I'm indebted.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Rajalingam?

MR RAJALINGAM: I too accept everything that Mr Chhabra has said to the Commission and also to me prior to commencing after lunch. I don't wish to be heard. It's a matter for the Commission.

30 THE COMMISSIONER: All right. Then I'll adjourn the further hearing of the matter to what day?

MR RAJALINGAM: 13 - - -

THE COMMISSIONER: 13 June?

MR RAJALINGAM: 13 June, Tuesday, at 10 o'clock.

THE COMMISSIONER: 10 o'clock on 13 June. Mr Rajalingam - - -

40 MR RAJALINGAM: Yes.

THE COMMISSIONER: - - - have you got any idea as to how much longer - - -

MR RAJALINGAM: I was hoping on finishing the first and second and the renovation allegation today and there's only about two or three hours left in all of that. Thereafter I need about I think safely two days with Ms Sharobeem in addition, but that's to be sure. It is possible it could take less

than that but I'm not in a position to accurately estimate that amount of time, given the way in which the proceedings unfold, but at least another day to get through statistics, NESH and the final allegation about the CRC and the Anti-Discrimination Board. And they're much less tedious than what we've been doing so far, so I was hoping to get all the mundane things out of the way today to leave a day in June to cover the remainder, but now that we're – I think a day and a half, but that's about two days.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. All right. Okay. And you're available, Mr Chhabra, for - - -

MR CHHABRA: I am for the balance of the week commencing 13 June. It's my understanding based on discussions I had previously and indeed what just fell from Counsel Assisting that four days is unlikely to cover the balance of the inquiry. Perhaps all parties can discuss future dates and availabilities.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. We need to bear in mind that my appointment runs out on 30 June.

MR CHHABRA: Understood.

THE COMMISSIONER: No doubt something can be done about that if there's a need to, but still.

MR CHHABRA: We'll remain cognisant of that.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, thank you. And we'll adjourn.

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THE WITNESS STOOD DOWN [2.16pm]

AT 2.16PM THE MATTER WAS ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY [2.16pm]