

Home Team Connects

Connecting You with the Home Team

An initiative by the Home Team Volunteer Network



EDITOR'S PICK

HOME TEAM NATIONAL DAY OBSERVANCE CEREMONY 2020

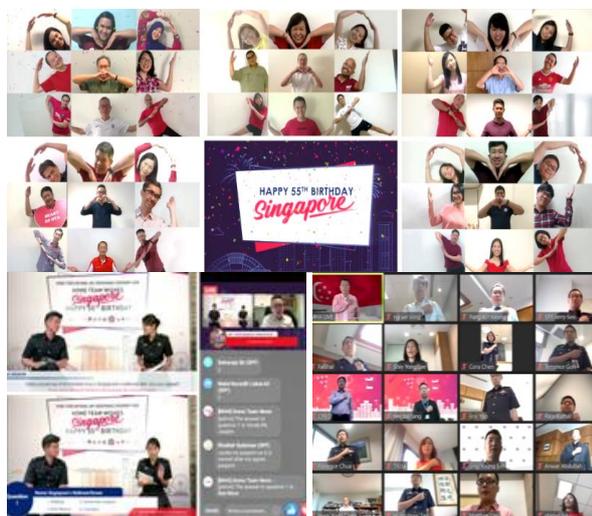
Held virtually for the first time, this year's National Day Observance Ceremony took place on 29 July with Minister K Shanmugam, Second Minister Josephine Teo and Minister of State Faishal Ibrahim joining more than 700 Home Team officers to celebrate Singapore's 55th birthday.

The Minister for Home Affairs National Day Awards (Home Team Volunteers) were given to individuals who have made significant contributions to the Home Team. Congratulations to all 15 award recipients and Thank You to all HT Volunteers for your commitment to keep Singapore safe and secure!

Highlights of this year's Ceremony included a segment on Singapore trivia and a fantastic singalong session with the talented officers of SCDF's Music and Performing Arts Club. In keeping with tradition, the Ceremony concluded with the singing of the National Anthem and recitation of the National Pledge.

Addressing the Home Team community on Workplace, Minister Shanmugam lauded the commitment and efforts of officers in supporting the national COVID-19 effort, and highlighted lessons we can learn from events happening around the world. Thanking officers for their hard work, he encouraged all to remain steadfast in our duties.

Read [Minister's National Day Observance Ceremony speech](#)



Video:

>> [On HTVN FB](#)



"All our recipients – whether regular, NS officers, volunteers or members of the public – have stepped forward when we needed them, in times of need, in their own ways. And they are role models, heroes for all of us. In these challenging times, together, let us hold steadfast to our shared commitment to keep Singapore safe, secure and peaceful."

– Minister K Shanmugam

SERVICE BEFORE SELF



SCDF NSF of the Year Award 2020



It's about camaraderie, pride and dedication – two SCDF NSFs explain why they're committed to giving their best on the frontline. BY RACHEL SIN



4-MIN READ

go.gov.sg/scdf-nsf-awards-2020

DEDICATION AND RESILIENCE

LEARNING TO LEAD



LEARNING TO LEAD.

A seven-month journey of dedication and resilience, the **Rota Commander Course** serves as a training ground for SCDF's frontline officers. BY SOO JUN XIANG



4-MIN READ | go.gov.sg/scdf-rcc-taran

REHABILITATION

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



“This is a tough time for everyone in Singapore, and we’re all facing the same COVID-19 challenges. As a long-time partner of Yellow Ribbon Singapore, we’re very happy to be given the opportunity to participate in sponsoring the care packs for the beneficiaries.”

- Ms Celeste Ang, Principal at Baker McKenzie Wong & Leow

To show support and care for the families and children of offenders during this period, 110 care packs – comprising necessities, vouchers and a set of storybooks donated by Girl Guides Singapore – were packed by residents of Selarang Halfway House. The care packs will be delivered to beneficiaries of the Yellow Ribbon Fund by Bravehearts SRM Services Pte Ltd, a delivery company founded by an ex-offender. The care packs were made possible by generous individuals and corporates such as Baker McKenzie Wong & Leow.

RALLY TOGETHER IN CHALLENGING TIMES

“COVID-19 is this generation’s challenge. The virus is a tough enemy-invisible, but formidable. It is now our turn to prove that we are worth of our forebears, and up to the challenge before us. I have every confidence that we will prove more than equal to the task.”

PM Lee Hsien Loong in his May Day message on 30 Apr 2020

RESPONDING AS ONE HOME TEAM

The HT plays a critical role in tackling COVID-19 and ensuring that Singapore emerges stronger from this crisis. Coordinating our Whole-of-Government response, supporting contact tracing efforts, developing COVID-19 test kits and providing security at designated dormitory facilities are some examples of how HT officers have been at the forefront of fighting COVID-19.

ONE HOME TEAM

4-MIN READ
go.gov.sg/home-team-c19-7

RESPONDING TO COVID-19 (PART 7)

FEATURING OFFICERS FROM SCDF // CNB // MHA

BY FAZLEE ROSLI, SOO JUN XIANG AND DESMOND ANG

“The strength of the people is seldom tested during good times, but will be severely challenged when we face a crisis. How well we stand together, support each other and react to a situation define us as a people.”

President Halimah Yacob, 12 Feb 2020

THANKING OUR FRONTLINERS



In May, more than 20,000 “Everyday Guardians” care packs were prepared for distribution to frontline officers involved in managing the COVID-19 situation from the Home Team, MSF, MOM, SAF, NParks and Migrant Workers’ Centre.

An initiative of the Home Team Volunteer Network (HTVN), this project saw over 200 Home Team volunteers collecting the items for packing at home, so as to observe safe distancing measures.



“Each generation’s crisis, and response is different. The one constant is how we have persevered with fortitude and emerged stronger.”

DPM Heng Swee Keat, 5 June 2020

UNITY IN ADVERSITY

Beyond the Home Team, individuals and organisations have come together to help too!

#1 In early February, tech entrepreneur Nigel Teo started a website (heroes.goodhood.sg/heroes)



where people could **submit positive stories and messages of gratitude** for unsung heroes. On 22 Mar, he and three others also launched a mobile application [GoodHood.SG](https://goodhood.sg) in hopes of building “kampung spirit” and neighbourliness. The application connects people, enabling registered and verified neighbours to share items and services, either by selling or donating them.

[Sources: TODAY, 11 Mar; ST, 5 Apr]



#2 Non-profit organisation *Engineering Good* is **refurbishing laptops donated from Singaporeans and delivering them to students from low-income families.**

By 10 Apr, it has had more than 190 laptops donated, and over 100 requests from individuals and families wishing to receive them.

[Sources: TODAY, 10 Apr]



Images: Facebook/Tan Min-Liang and Bizlink Centre

#3 Gaming company *Razer* has **donated masks** to the National Council of Social Service (NCSS) and *Bizlink*, a non-profit organisation that provides employment services for people with disabilities.

Razer had also announced on 1 Apr plans to set up an **automated face mask manufacturing line in Singapore** within 30 days. It had initially converted existing product manufacturing lines in China to supply masks.

[Source: FB/Bizlink Centre, 30 Mar; CNA, 1 Apr; FB/Desmond Lee, 2 Apr]



Image: Punggol West Community Centre

#4 Local bespoke tailor *Meiko Tailor* has switched to **making masks from fabric**. Volunteers under People's Association new movement, *The Masks Sewn With Love Project*, are also targeting to make 50,000 reusable masks. The masks will be given to people who need them.

[Sources: ST, 5 Apr; TNP, 6 Apr; CNA & ST, 8 Apr]

There have been many instances of Singaporeans stepping forward to help and support one another during the crisis. **Moving forward, let us continue to band together and overcome every challenge that comes our way!**

STAY CONNECTED AND ENGAGED:

SGUnited – Stay Engaged

Includes resources on how to thrive, stay connected with loved ones, help others and get help: www.SGUnited.gov.sg

National CARE Hotline

24-hr hotline with psychologists, counsellors, social workers, psychiatrists and public officers manning lines: **6202-6868**

RESOURCES:

>> **TraceTogether app:** www.tracetgether.gov.sg

>> **COVID-19 online symptom checker:** www.sgcovidcheck.gov.sg

>> **MOH COVID-19 hotline:** 1-800-333-9999

FACING THE CRISIS OF A GENERATION TOGETHER

RACIAL HARMONY DAY

Every year on 21st July, we commemorate Racial Harmony Day, remembering the 1964 Racial Riots and reaffirming our commitment to never let them happen again.

Racial Harmony Day (RHD) this year takes place amidst the global COVID-19 pandemic and the accompanying economic recession. In this RHD 2020 NE Package prepared by Nexus, we look at why racial harmony is crucial in these uncertain times, how we can promote and protect our racial harmony, and examples of Singaporeans who have gone beyond the call of duty to support one another.

Let us all do our part in overcoming this crisis together, regardless of race, as one united Singapore!



Watch this video to understand why Racial Harmony is important to us!



COOL CONTENTS

Seen
Cool content from the Home Team and beyond – watch, like and share!



All inmate students and teachers have to be at least one metre apart throughout the lessons

COVID-19 Prison School Measures SPS FB

Find out how inmate students, teachers and Prison officers at Tanah Merah Prison School have adopted health measures to ensure that lessons can safely resume.
go.gov.sg/sps-c19-prisonschool

LIFESAVERS' EDITION



Yishun Fire Station Virtual Tour

In this instalment of **Bringing the Station to You**, take a virtual tour of Yishun Fire Station and be blown away (not literally!) by one of SCDP's Unmanned Firefighting Machines.
go.gov.sg/scdf-yishun

Have a story to share? Connect with Us



One Home, One Team – Together We Keep Our Home Safe and Secure

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