

# Home Team Connects

Connecting You with the Home Team

An initiative by the Home Team Volunteer Network



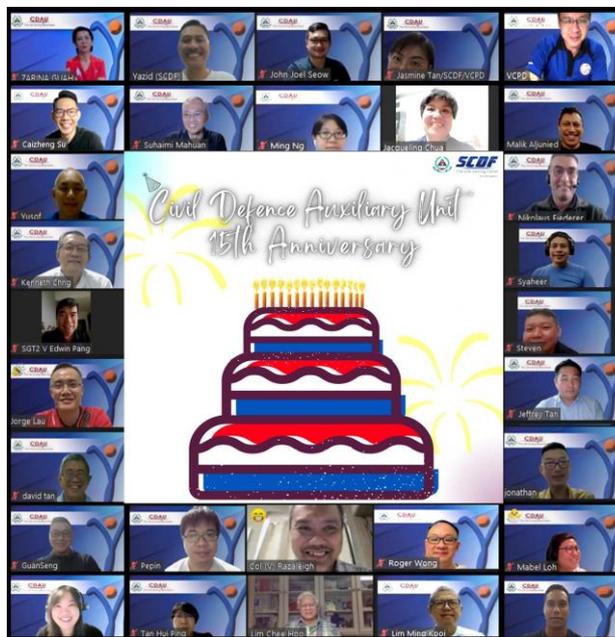
## EDITOR'S PICK

### CIVIL DEFENCE AUXILIARY UNIT (CDAU) TURNS 15!

To commemorate this significant milestone, a simple yet meaningful virtual celebration with the CDAU Executive Committee was organized over Zoom on 15 February 2022. A virtual birthday cake was also shared online during the meeting to enable everyone to soak into the atmosphere of being part of the celebration! 🎂

During the virtual celebration, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Yazid Abdullah, Commander CDAU, thanked the volunteers for their years of contributions, strong commitment and enthusiasm in serving the CDAU.

We look forward to the continuing support of our CDAU volunteers as they work hand in glove with SCDF's career officers and National Servicemen to protect and save lives and properties.



**#ANationOfLifesavers**  
**#OrdinaryPeopleExtraordinaryMission**

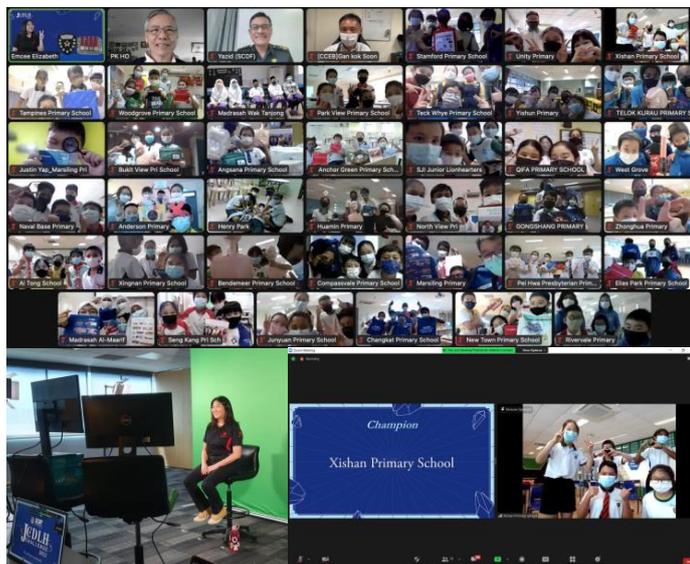
>> [Check out SCDF's post on the anniversary](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS

### JUNIOR CIVIL DEFENCE LIONHEARTER (JCDLH) CHALLENGE

On 18 February 2022, the long-awaited finale of the Junior Civil Defence Lionhearter (JCDLH) Challenge 2022 was held virtually over Zoom.

This year's challenge saw close to 200 Junior Civil Defence Lionhearters (JCDLHs) from 36 primary schools participating in a series of exciting activities. Associate Professor Ho Peng Kee, Co-Chairman of the Home Team Volunteer Network, graced the event. The virtual event was hosted by our very own CD Lionhearter from Nanyang Polytechnic, Elizabeth Lee.



**Congratulations to Xishan Primary School who emerged as the Overall JCDLH Challenge Champion!**

>> [Check out SCDF's post on the JCDLH Challenge](#)

In Parliament, MHA introduced two Bills for First Reading. The Gambling Regulatory Authority Bill will see the Casino Regulatory Authority reorganised into the GRA, while the Gambling Control Bill will give our laws more teeth against illegal gambling.

>> [Read the MHA Press Release](#)

## Gambling Regulatory Authority of Singapore Bill and the Gambling Control Bill

### Gambling Regulatory Authority of Singapore (GRA) Bill

The Bill reconstitutes the Casino Regulatory Authority as the GRA, which will be the single regulator for all forms of gambling.

### Gambling Control (GC) Bill

Key amendments will:

#### Address New Trends in Gambling

- Ensure that our laws can address the following trends:
  - Technological advancements have made gambling products more accessible; and
  - Boundaries between gaming and gambling are blurring.
- Amend the definition of gambling to make it technology-neutral to cover existing and emerging gambling products.
- Clarify that social gambling among family and friends conducted in homes is allowed, as per current status quo. Online social gambling will remain prohibited.
- Introduce new licensing regimes:
  - Gambling operator licences issued by GRA for key products (e.g. Singapore Pool's products, fruit machine rooms and gambling in private establishments).
  - Class licences for lower-risk products (e.g. mystery boxes and business promotion lotteries).

#### Update and Harmonise Gambling Offences

- Apply a three-tier penalty structure consistently across online and physical gambling offences. The highest penalties will be imposed on operators, followed by agents, and then punters.
- Enhance penalties including mandatory imprisonment for agents and operators. Repeat offenders who facilitate or operate unlawful gambling services will face higher penalties.
- Criminalise proxy gambling i.e. gambling on the instruction of someone outside of the gambling area.

#### Enhance Social Safeguards

- Retain the minimum age for gambling at 21 years old, except for gambling at Singapore Pool's physical outlets, which will remain at 18 years old.
- Criminalise under-aged gambling, be it with legal or unlawful operators.



## Scams: Ministerial Statement on Strengthening Enforcement and Public Education



MOF, MCI and MHA delivered Ministerial Statements on scams. MOS Desmond Tan spoke on strengthening enforcement and educating the public to guard against scams. Here are **three things** you should know from the Statement:

- 1. The majority of scams are perpetrated by overseas syndicates and scammers who are part of organised crime syndicates. The recovery of monies is also difficult once transferred overseas.**
- 2. The SPF will form an Anti-Scam Command this year, with Scam Strike Teams in the seven Land Divisions to take swifter action against scams.**
- 3. The Inter-Ministry Committee on Scams will step up public education efforts by scaling up targeted outreach to different segments of the community e.g. students, seniors, migrant workers and professionals.**

>> [Read the Ministerial Statement in full](#)



Combatting scams needs a whole of society effort. Even as the Police steps up enforcement, members of the community still play a vital role.

We urge the public to be individually alert, and raise collective awareness by sharing scam prevention tips with your friends and family. Together, we can build a safer Singapore."



## MHA ON THE GROUND

### FESTIVE VISITS TO FRONTLINE UNITS

On the first day of Chinese New Year, MIN K Shanmugam, 2MIN Josephine Teo, MOS Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim and MOS Desmond Tan visited our frontline units to offer their festive greetings and thank officers for their hard work and dedication. Thank you, Guardians! [#OneHomeTeam](#)



MIN K Shanmugam at SPF Central Division



2MIN Josephine Teo at ICA Woodlands Command >> [MORE PHOTOS](#)



MOS Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim at SPF Special Operations Command >> [MORE PHOTOS](#)



MOS Desmond Tan at Tuas Fire Station >> [MORE PHOTOS](#)

## HOME TEAM UPDATES

### MHA NATIONAL DAY AWARDS 2021



924 Home Team officers received the National Day Award for their contributions and commitment to keeping Singapore safe and secure.

During the virtual ceremony, MIN K Shanmugam thanked the officers for their outstanding service and dedication as they continue supporting the fight against COVID-19 while fulfilling their core duties.

**“In our latest [public perception] survey, over 9 in 10 said that we are fulfilling our mission of keeping Singapore safe and secure... They said they trust Home Team officers to do their duties fairly, professionally, and with integrity. Singaporeans hold the Home Team in high regard. The Home Team has worked hard to earn this trust.”**

– MIN K Shanmugam

This year’s ceremony was conducted in a novel interview format and featured awardees sharing about their work and encouraging fellow officers to give their best.

**Congratulations to all the award recipients!**



## LOGISTICAL TRANSPORT ISSWG



**“Community and industry partnership has always been at the core of our crimefighting efforts. We value the importance of working closely with our community and business partners, to innovate and build new capabilities to deal with evolving challenges.”**

– MOS Desmond Tan, at the Logistical Transport iSSWG launch

[>> Read MOS' speech in full](#)

To guard against criminals and terrorists from exploiting the transport and logistics industry to perpetuate their misdeeds, SPF and the Singapore Transport Association (STA) launched the Logistical Transport Industry Safety and Security Watch Group (iSSWG) on 24 February. STA is the latest industry organisation (among seven other sectors like the retail, chemical and hotel industries), to partner SPF since the iSSWG started in 2008.

## SINGAPORE'S FIRST SMART FIRE STATION



25 February 2022 marks the official opening of Punggol Fire Station, which is co-located with Punggol Neighbourhood Police Centre. Singapore's 23<sup>rd</sup> fire station has been in operation since 30 December 2021 and is SCDF's first Smart Fire Station.

Here are **three** of the Station's unique features!

### 1. Automated Fire Station Access Control (AFSAC)

The AFSAC enables self-registration of visitors using their NRIC or Digital NRIC on the Singpass app. This deters unauthorised persons and means that fewer officers are needed to perform sentry duty, allowing them to be deployed for operations.



### 2. Smart Classrooms with VR/XR Training Systems

These are equipped with interactive digital screens with live-streaming capabilities. Station personnel can attend training simulations without having to travel to the Civil Defence Academy, furthering SCDF's efforts to decentralise training while maintaining excellent standards.



### 3. Automated Medical Store (AMS)

Jointly conceptualised by SCDF and HTX, AMS eases the management of SCDF's medical store, which has approximately 10,000 dispensable items when fully stocked! AMS features an automated self-checkout system that employs sensor and tracking devices.



## SUPPORTING THE DADAH ITU HARAM CAMPAIGN



At a PERSES (Singapore Sepaktakraw Federation) event, jerseys with the "Sepaktakraw Bebas Dadah" patch were handed over to team managers in a demonstration of PERSES' commitment to the anti-drug cause. The occasion also marked the start of PERSES' Sportcares programme, which encourages youths to lead a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

**"Sports is a healthy and positive part of our lives, teaching us important lessons about self-discipline and physical wellness. I'm grateful to PERSES for supporting the Dadah Itu Haram campaign and for showing that the sepaktakraw fraternity stands united against drugs."**

– MOS Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim

## INSIDE MAXIMUM SECURITY



Curious to know what our Captains of Lives do in the course of their work? CNA's four-part docuseries "Inside Maximum Security" ended its run on 6 February. Watch it to learn how our Prison officers and psychologists help inmates rehabilitate and prepare them for reintegration into society.

>> [go.gov.sg/sps-cna-docu](https://go.gov.sg/sps-cna-docu)

## ENFORCEMENT OPERATION



