

Home Team Connects

Connecting You with the Home Team

An initiative by the Home Team Volunteer Network



EDITOR'S PICK

55 YEARS AS A HOME TEAM VOLUNTEER

Mr Lim Soo Peng, BBM (L), BBM, PBM, JP, shares with us his journey as a volunteer member of one of the Home Team Boards, Councils and Committees, and why he's focused on enhancing the welfare of inmates.

[Justices of the Peace](#) are distinguished individuals who are appointed by the Singapore President for their outstanding contributions to their profession, the Public Service, social services and the community at large. Appointed in 1966 as a Justice of the Peace, Mr Lim Soo Peng, BBM (L), BBM, PBM, JP, has served as a Home Team volunteer on the Board of Visiting Justices and Board of Inspection for 55 years. This is in addition to his long and eminent career as the Founder, Chairman and Managing Director of Chemical Industries (Far East) Ltd.



"It has been a great honour. I have to thank both MHA and my longevity genes! Personally, perseverance and commitment to the ideals of public service are what have kept me here for the long haul. There's no reason to stop doing what's beneficial to society. It's in my nature to keep working and volunteering, regardless of my age, as I believe in lifelong work."

– Mr Lim Soo Peng, recipient of the Long Service Award (55 Years)

>> [Check out MHA's post to read more](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

ANTI-SCAM COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARDS



"Community partnership is key in the fight against scams... to effectively deal with scams, collective efforts by public agencies and private sector stakeholders are critical, besides individual vigilance."

– MOS Desmond Tan

SPF presented the Community Partnership Awards to 75 individuals and 45 organisations (including banks, remittance agencies and commercial and non-commercial enterprises), for their commitment and contribution towards detecting and preventing scams.

During the award ceremony, MOS Desmond Tan introduced new guidelines on online safety that were co-developed by SPF and the Asia Internet Coalition (AIC). The Guide provides a broad overview of crimes and online harms lurking on the Internet, and is available for download on the SPF and AIC websites.

>> [Download the Guide](#)

MIN'S SPEECH ON SINGAPORE WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT

During the debate on the Motion on Singapore Women's Development, MIN K Shanmugam addressed two points –the White Paper's impact on norms, values and the internalisation of the idea of equality, and our approach towards family violence against women. Here are **three** things to note on protecting women from violence:



#1. Legislative Changes Have Been Done | In the last three years, the Penal Code has been amended to deal with sexual crimes that use technology; penalties for offenders have been enhanced and the Protection from Harassment Act (POHA) has been amended to enhance protection for victims of harassment.

#2. Family Violence Taskforce | MHA and MSF jointly set up the Taskforce in February 2020 to look at how to deal with family violence effectively. A total of 16 recommendations were proposed and the Government has accepted all of them.

#3. Striking a Balance | Not all family violence cases will be criminalised in order to provide opportunities for reconciliation and achieve family harmony.

>> [Read MIN's Speech](#)

ORAL REPLY

Protection from Recalcitrant Sex Offenders | MP Ms Joan Pereira asked about the safeguards in place to protect members of the public, in particular children and women, from recalcitrant sex offenders, and whether MHA would consider lifelong counselling and monitoring of these offences. Here's an excerpt from the Oral Reply by MIN K Shanmugam:

I had asked the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Law to study a new sentencing option – quite a novel approach to give more protection to the public from dangerous first-time offenders as well repeat offenders, who commit very serious hurt, and sexual offenders. The proposal is not quite fleshed out yet, but the framework or the outline is that offenders will have to serve the minimum jail sentence which could be anywhere between 5 to 20 years. But when the jail sentences end, when they have completed it, there will be no automatic release. At the point of release, they have to be assessed as to whether they pose a threat to the public. If they are assessed to continue to pose a threat, they will continue to be detained.

>> [Read the Complete Oral Reply](#)

HOME TEAM GROUND VISITS

RAMADAN VISITS

Our Political Office Holders visited frontline officers to thank them for their hard work during the month of Ramadan!

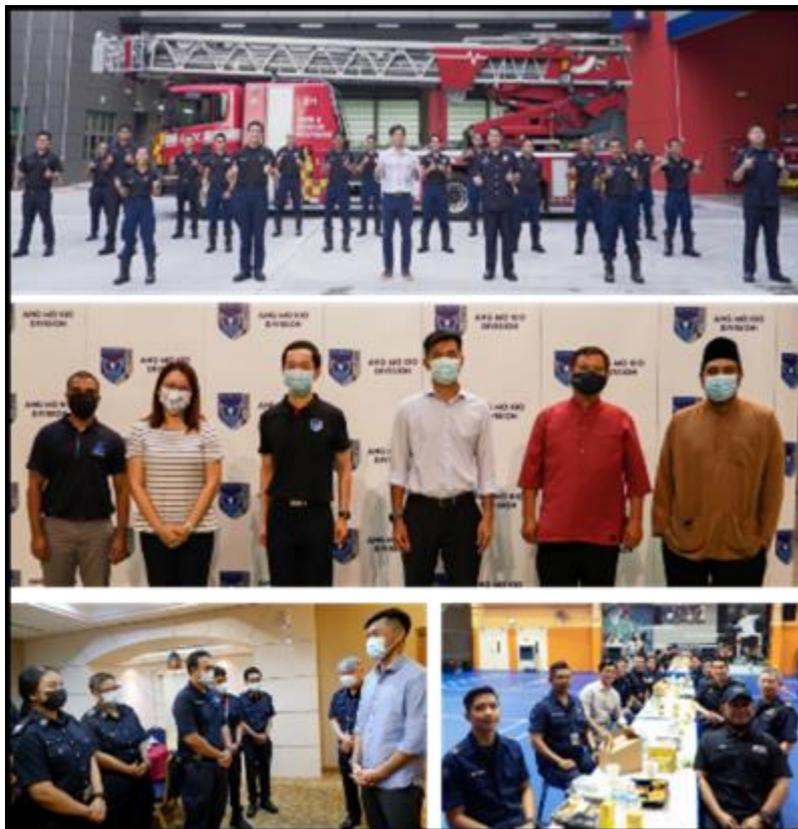
2Min Josephine Teo with SPF officers



MOS Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim with
SPF, SCDF, SPS and CNB officers



MOS Desmond Tan with SPF, SCDF, ICA officers



HOME TEAM UPDATES

SEXUAL ASSULT AWARENESS SEMINAR

SPF organised a seminar this week to raise awareness on the dynamics and impact of sexual assault on victims, and enhance partnerships and collaborations amongst stakeholders to better protect and support victims. Taking part in the seminar were key partners such as AGC and KK Women's and Children's Hospital. Among those who spoke at the seminar were SPF psychologists who shared their experiences on the management of cases and caring for victims.

In his keynote address, MIN K Shanmugam announced **new initiatives** by SPF to strengthen response against sexual crimes. These include the formation of a new Sexual Crime and Family Violence Command; enhanced training for Police officers; a revamped one-stop webpage on SPF's website to increase public awareness; and forging community partnerships.



MIN Shanmugam also announced the setting up of a new NGO, SG Her Empowerment (SHE), that will work with online platforms to simplify the reporting of harmful online content for removal; the set-up of a victim support centre for online, sexual harms; and an initiative with the Law Society to provide free legal advice to victims.

>> [Read the keynote address by MIN K Shanmugam](#)

>> [Click here to know more about the initiatives](#)

JOINING HANDS TO EMPOWER INMATES



“Education is an important driver for successful rehabilitation. With education, inmates and ex-offenders have a better chance of securing employment and better economic and social opportunities for themselves and their families. This will help them desist from crime.”

– MOS Faishal Ibrahim

>> [Read MOS Faishal's Speech](#)

On 1 April, the Yellow Ribbon Fund (YRF) and the Singapore Teochew Foundation inked an MOU that will see the Foundation pledging \$2 million over the next 10 years to fund inmates pursuing tertiary education. The Singapore Teochew Foundation-YRF Skills Training Assistance to Restart (STAR) Bursary will also help inmates with their subsequent post-release living allowances. Some 100 inmates are expected to benefit from the Bursary.

CONNECTING FOR SECOND CHANCES



“We will continue to build partnerships... so that we can give our inmates and ex-offenders beyond the second chances... to help them rebuild their lives, and to enjoy their lives with their families and the bigger community.”

– MOS Faishal Ibrahim

>> [Read MOS Faishal's Speech](#)

On 1 April, YRSG held its inaugural networking session “YR Connects – An Inclusive Society, A Nation Beyond Second Chances”. Over 30 industry players and employers attended a dialogue with MOS Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim on bridging different perspectives and building consensus on supporting ex-offenders. The event also featured a sharing session by logistics company Infinite Transports Pte Ltd on how it has supported its employees' reintegration journeys.

VIRTUAL REALITY TECH AT HTA



“HTA’s VR Proof-of-Concept for inculcating soft skills is a first for the Home Team’s Training and Learning community and is just one of the many ways we are exploring innovative ways of driving Trainer development.”

- Mr Anwar Abdullah, CE HTA

HTA is spearheading the use of Virtual Reality (VR) technology to help Home Team Trainers sharpen their soft skills. The system allows Trainers to make different choices in various virtual classroom-based scenarios, allowing for a more immersive learning experience for Trainers.



The VR system was developed by a team led by Mr Brian Lin (above, second from right), Director of HTA’s Centre for Learning Systems. The team is now exploring how VR technology can be further incorporated into HTA’s Trainer development programmes, as well as partnering Home Team Departments to create a larger variety of cross-cutting VR scenarios.

FUTURE GUARDIANS



MOS Desmond Tan presented this year’s Home Team Sponsorship Awards to a total of 18 students from various polytechnics and ITE colleges. Upon graduation, the awardees will embark on a career with one of the Home Team Departments – SPF, SCDF, ICA, SPS or CNB.

In his speech, MOS Tan emphasised the importance of a skilled and highly dedicated committed workforce to the Home Team’s mission success. He also highlighted the need for continued engagement with various community partners. Congratulations to all recipients!

[>> Read MOS Faishal’s Speech](#)



“It is important that we continue to recruit individuals who possess the right values on integrity and courage, and who are committed to and passionate about safeguarding Singapore.”

[>> Read the speech by MOS Desmond Tan](#)

HOME TEAM INSIGHTS

SECURING OUR BORDERS



Cutting-edge technology, fast thinking and adaptability – how ICA officers protect and secure our borders:

>> go.gov.sg/ica-250322

PAW PATROL



The Police K-9 dogs work hard to tackle crime alongside their human officers. Catch this video to find out more!

>> go.gov.sg/spf-k9-270322

ACTIVE RESPONDERS



Six Singaporeans, six stories of vigilance, resilience and cohesion. Learn what drives them to help make SG secure:

>> go.gov.sg/asiaone-2

Have a story to share? Connect with Us



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

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