

Home Team Connects

Connecting You with the Home Team

An initiative by the Home Team Volunteer Network



EDITOR'S PICK

2022 HTVN HIGHLIGHTS

Goodbye 2022, Welcome 2023!

As the year comes to an end, we look back on all the fond memories we had. Let's take a look at HTVN's #2022wrapped!

We would like to thank everyone for your strong support in making in 2022 a great one, and for helping us grow the HTVN community!

Let us continue to keep Singapore safe and secure for the year ahead.

>> [Check out HTVN's FB Post](#)

#OrdinaryPeopleExtraordinaryMission
#OneHomeTeam



HIGHLIGHTS

A LOOK BACK AT 2022

This year marked several key milestones for the Home Team. From rolling out new technologies that facilitate cross-border travel and trade to rallying global efforts to fight drugs, here are some of the Home Team's key moments in 2022.



>> [Read here for Part 1](#)

>> [Read here for Part 2](#)



Investigations into SCDF's Firefighting Ops Fatality

On 9 January, MOS Faishal addressed questions from two MPs on the 8 December 2022 firefighting operation at 91 Henderson Road. Here's an extract of MOS' oral reply:

"While responding to the incident, the SCDF officers found the fire engine accessway leading to Block 91 Henderson Road obstructed by a tent where a funeral wake was being held. The officers removed the bollards that were padlocked to the ground near the tentage to create an access path. This delayed their arrival by 18 minutes. Based on the ground commander's assessment of the resources needed for the operation, 22 emergency vehicles and 61 responders from 6 fire stations were deployed to the incident. About 40 percent of the responders were National Servicemen – meaning the majority, 60% of the responders were Regular Officers.

The passing of SGT1 Edward Go is the first SCDF fatality in a firefighting operation. The Police are currently conducting an independent, thorough investigation into the circumstances of SGT1 Edward's demise, and will apprise the Coroner of its findings. At this stage, it is premature to determine the factors which contributed to SGT1 Edward's death. The Coroner will consider the Police's investigation findings, in determining the cause of death. Due to the ongoing investigations, we are unable to share further details at this stage."

>> [Read MOS Faishal's full oral reply](#)

Judicial Caning for Serious Offences

Over two days in Parliament, four MPs asked six questions on judicial caning for serious crime offenders and whether any review or removal of the age limit would be done.

MIN K Shanmugam said that there **seemed to be no increasing trend of individuals in their late 40s and above the age of 50 committing serious sexual offences against young persons.**

As to the effectiveness of caning, MIN cited how the number of overstayers fell by 44% after the Immigration Act was amended to introduce mandatory caning for illegal immigrants in 1990. However, for serious crimes like sexual offences against children, these have been punishable by caning since the beginning.

On reviewing the sentencing framework for those aged 50 and above convicted of sexual or violent offences involving young children, MIN said the **recently established Sentencing Advisory Panel that the panel makes its own decisions on the areas to study and issues guidelines, taking into account feedback from its members, stakeholder agencies, and the public.**

>> [Read: Why the statutory age limit will not change](#)

>> [Read: Sentencing options for offenders above age limit](#)

FESTIVE GROUND VISITS

On New Year’s Day, MIN K Shanmugam visited SPF’s Protective Security Command while MOS Faishal Ibrahim visited Paya Lebar Fire Station and Clementi Police Division on New Year and Christmas respectively to thank officers on duty for their dedication to keep Singapore safe and secure 24/7.



Min K Shanmugam at Protective Security Command



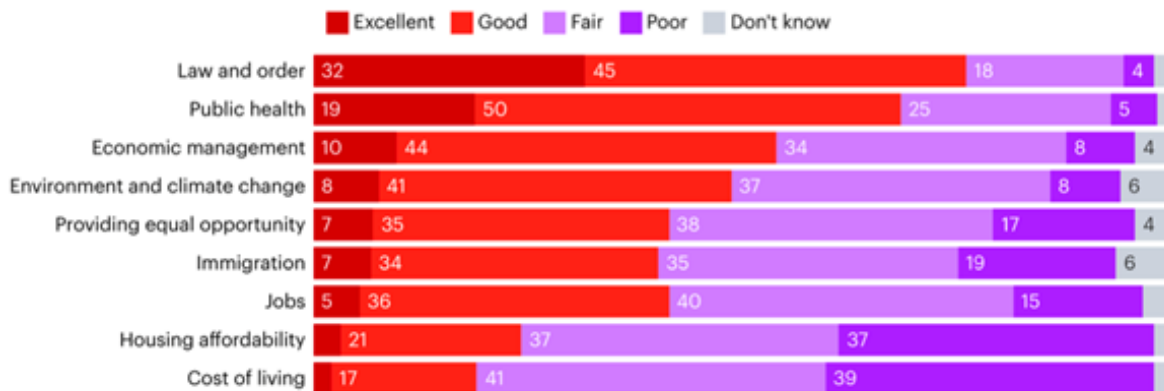
MOS Faishal Ibrahim at Clementi Police Division



MOS Faishal Ibrahim at Paya Lebar Fire Station

S’POREANS MOST SATISFIED WITH LAW AND ORDER: SURVEY

A poll last month by YouGov on the government’s performance in various areas showed that 77% of Singaporeans surveyed were most pleased with law and order, with 32% who voted “excellent” and another 45% who said “good”.



The results reflect the high trust and confidence Singaporeans have in the HT. This is a testament to the tireless effort of our dedicated Home Team Guardians in keeping Singapore safe and secure. **#ThankYouGuardians**

>> [Read the full survey results](#)

ENHANCED GROUP INSURANCE

Full-time National Servicemen (NSFs), Operationally Ready National Servicemen (NSmen), volunteers and regulars will have their **coverage under the Group Insurance Scheme for Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) enhanced from 1 January 2023.**



The Group Term Life (GTL) and Group Personal Accident (GPA) insurance have been provided since 2016, and the coverage for all service personnel and eligible volunteers previously was up to \$150,000 under each policy.

Changes from this year are:

- **doubling of the sum assured to \$300,000** for each policy;
- enhancing of **GPA to include long term noise-induced hearing damage, decompression sickness and heat-related injuries;**
- renaming of GPA policy to Group Personal Injury (GPI).

Insured individuals who wish to increase their coverage or insure their dependants can opt to buy additional coverage with Singlife, the appointed insurance company.

MINISTER'S AWARDS 2023

A total of 202 awards were presented to HT officers for their efforts towards operational efficiency, innovations and service excellence at this year's Minister's Awards Presentation Ceremony on 17 January.

In his speech, MIN K Shanmugam outlined the challenges impacting the work of the HT – new technology enabling the quicker spread of scams and misinformation, erosion of social cohesion, and threat of terrorism and self-radicalisation.

MIN cited some winning projects that portrayed the HT favourably and expressed confidence in officers to maintain operational excellence. Congratulations to all award recipients!

"In this environment, it is important for us as the Home Team to be nimble, savvy, and bold in engaging Singaporeans, and in how we work."



- MIN K Shanmugam

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

HEEDING THE CALL TO SAVE LIVES



MHA and the Singapore Red Cross Society (SRCS) have concluded a project that uses behavioural insights in SRCS' training materials to encourage participants to register as SGSecure Responders and help others in need when alerted. Following a pilot from April to June 2022 by SRCS and MHA's Behavioural Insights Unit which had encouraging results, insights from this project will be used to design the briefing materials for engaging the community to join our SGSecure Responders' Network and SCDF's Community First Responder scheme.



On 12 January, MOS Sun Xueling attended an appreciation dinner for the SRCS trainers. At the same event, MOS officiated the opening ceremony of SRCS' new training site at Woods Square.

>> [Watch MOS' chat with a SRCS trainer who trained more than 5,000 people in first aid](#)



Following its inaugural run in 2021, the second edition of Scaminar returned on 18 January. Jointly organised by MHA, SPF, and the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), in partnership with The Straits Times, this year's event was titled "**SCAMINAR! ACT Against Scams**".

The seminar brought together various Government agencies and community partners to call on everyone to "**Add, Check, Tell**" (ACT) Against Scams.



At the opening ceremony, **MOS Sun Xueling emphasised that everyone can do their part to ACT against scams.** "*The best defence against scams is becoming an aware, watchful and discerning public...if it's too good to be true, it's probably untrue,*" she said.

During the two panel discussions, panellists shared about the adverse impact of scams and the actions one can take to protect themselves and others against scams.

Ms Loretta Yuen from OCBC and the Association of Banks Singapore explained that **no one group is immune to scams. She said new controls will be introduced by banks for some higher risk transactions in time to come.**

DAC Aileen Yap from the Anti-Scam Command shared common reasons people fall prey to scams. Citing the recent LTA fines scam, she said factors like pressure from family members or pressure from the repeated reminders scammers sent, could cause victims to panic and assume that the "fine" is legitimate.

Panellists also shared about their near-misses and actual encounters with scams, emphasising that **anyone is susceptible to be a victim.**

While scammers will continue to find new ways to stay ahead of law enforcement, the **most important thing is to be alert, look out for one another, and avoid victim blaming** as no one planned to be scammed.



If in doubt, follow **ACT**:

- **Add** security features such as ScamShield and Two-Factor Authentication for personal accounts.
- **Check** for potential scam signs by asking questions, fact checking requests for personal information and money transfers, and verifying the legitimacy of online listings and reviews. Take time to pause and check.
- **Tell** the authorities and others about your scam encounters by reporting to the bank, ScamShield, or file a Police report as soon as possible. Tell others about ongoing scams and preventive steps they can take.

[>> Read MOS' Speech](#)

[>> Read Let's ACT Against Scams E-book](#)

[>> Watch the Seminar Here!](#)

SCRAM, SCAMS!

SCRAM, SCAMS!

Read how police psychologists tackle scams by understanding the psyche of scammers and victims, and learn how to ACT against scams at SCAMINAR 2023.

BY ELAINE LEE

[>> Read the article here](#)

HTVN CALENDAR

As we usher in the new year, HTVN will be starting an e-calendar series featuring our various volunteer schemes for each month! 🥳

>> [Download the HTVN e-Calendar here](#)



HOME TEAM INSIGHTS

NEW HOMETEAMNS WATERFRONT HAVEN

Scan to **activate your membership for FREE** and unlock all your exclusive perks!

- Members' discounts at our new tenants outlet
- Membership rates for new facilities

Discover Haven, Discover HOMETEAMNS BEDOK RESERVOIR

Chope ManCaves or our Thinking Spaces to host your parties, team bonding activities, family gatherings, and more.

Soak in the picturesque view at our 6-lane 50-meter infinity pool overlooking Bedok Reservoir.

Kickstart your fitness goals at Fitness Workz Garage, a CrossFit haven featuring a one-of-a-kind functional rig for multiple high intensity workouts.

Snatch tickets to unlock a new level of fun as you tap into Singapore's first-ever score-tabulation gamified experience at Action Motion.

FITNESS WORKZ®

we are ready

for bookings!

Have a story to share? Connect with Us



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



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HOME TEAM
TRANSFORMATION 2025
One Home, One Team
Building Our Future Together