

In this issue of News in Focus, we take a look at the key highlights from the National Day Rally (NDR) 2023:

“The Singapore story has been an unlikely one from the start. Our nation is still young, and will always be tiny. We will forever be an unlikely nation, created out of the sheer collective will of our people. Nobody expected us to survive, much less to flourish. But each time, we beat the odds; each time, we showed the world what Singapore can be.”

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at NDR 2023



Read more about the NDR 2023 speech here.
<https://go.gov.sg/nationaldayrally2023>

1. Strengthening Retirement Adequacy

- “Young Seniors”, Singaporeans in their 50s and early 60s, will retire soon or have recently retired.
- This group generally earned and saved less over their lifetimes, and shoulder the responsibility of caring for both the young and old in their families.
- The \$7 billion Majulah Package is a new retirement support package to help “Young Seniors” meet retirement needs through Central Provident Fund and MediSave bonuses.



Source: PMO



Read more about the Majulah Package here.
<https://go.gov.sg/majulahpackagefaq>

2. Preparing for a Super-Aged Society

- Singapore is one of the fastest-ageing nations in the world. Today, one in five Singaporeans is a senior, aged 65 and above. By 2030, nearly one in four Singaporeans will be a senior. We are an aged society; soon, we will be a ‘super-aged’ society. This will have massive social and economic implications for Singapore.
- The government is taking major steps as part of the new national programme called “Age Well SG”, which will complement Healthier SG in improving the health of our seniors.



Source: Age Well SG



Learn more about Age Well SG here.
<https://go.gov.sg/agewellsg>

3. Keeping Housing Affordable and Accessible



Learn more about HDB's new Plus housing model.
<https://go.gov.sg/hdbnewplushousingmodel>

“ (Housing) gives more than a sensation of permanence; it is permanent... then we dig our toes in and we fight! ”

PM's recount of Mr Lee Kuan Yew's speech at the Opening Ceremony of Everton Park Housing Estate on 8 Nov 1965.

- Singapore’s housing programme is a vital part of the Singapore story. Housing gives Singaporeans a stake in our nation’s future – it provides a valuable asset and a powerful reason to fight for our own country and future.
- The Singaporean identity is deeply intertwined with our Housing Development Board (HDB) flats and towns. These are homes we are proud to own, neighbourhoods we raise our families in, and communities we build together.
- The government has introduced a new classification for HDB flats so that high-quality housing can be kept accessible and affordable for Singaporeans for a very long time to come.

Check out
 #OurNeighbourhood
 series on our
 ConnexionSG Facebook
 page to learn more about
 our neighbourhoods!



Classification	Location	Subsidies	Conditions
Standard	Islandwide	Standard	Standard
[New] Plus	Choicer (Region)	More	Tighter
Prime	Choicest (Singapore)	Most	Tightest

Source: HDB

4. Remembering Our Founding Values

- Several controversial issues have drawn Singaporeans' attention recently. PM Lee reiterated the same takeaways that he mentioned at the press conference on 17 July and in Parliament on 2 Aug: that integrity and incorruptibility are fundamental to Singapore.

“

Our forefathers built more than a nation of bricks and mortar, skyscrapers and a thriving economy. They created a nation founded on ideals: justice and equality; religious freedom and racial harmony; a commitment to excellence; a fair system of meritocracy; and an uncompromising insistence on honest, clean government.”

PM Lee at NDR 2023



FORWARD

- Launched in June 2022, Forward Singapore is a platform where our social compact is refreshed and Singaporeans share their ideas to tackle issues such as skills upgrading, improving care for the vulnerable and strengthening our solidarity as one people.
- The report will be published later this year, which will help Singapore navigate through the increasingly troubled landscape.



Learn more about Forward Singapore here.
<https://go.gov.sg/forward--singapore>



Questions for Conversations:

What do you think about the focus areas and initiatives raised by PM Lee at the NDR 2023?

What can we as individuals do to help fellow Singaporeans be more resilient and ready to face the challenges of the future?



Any feedback on this issue?
Let us know through
<https://go.gov.sg/feedbacknif>
or email us at nexus@defence.gov.sg

