

Hot topics in the House



Special powers for police in terror attack

Put your phones away: To prevent a compromise of police tactical operations during a terror attack, it may become an offence to take photos and videos of an incident area for a certain period of time. The new Public Order and Safety (Special Powers) Bill steps up the police's ability to deal with serious public order and safety incidents.

Concerns over GST hike

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) hike from 7 per cent to 9 per cent will not take place until some time from 2021 to 2025 – and some MPs have already asked if this can be postponed further if the economy does better than expected.

About 10 MPs spoke on the GST on the first day of the Budget debate, calling for more support for retirees and low-income groups, as well as safeguards against profiteering.



Should Singapore draw more from its reserves?

Over the past week, some Singaporeans queried if more than half the projected long-term earnings from the national reserves can be used, so as to stave off a tax increase.

This became a topic of discussion yesterday, with most MPs saying it is prudent to retain the current framework.