

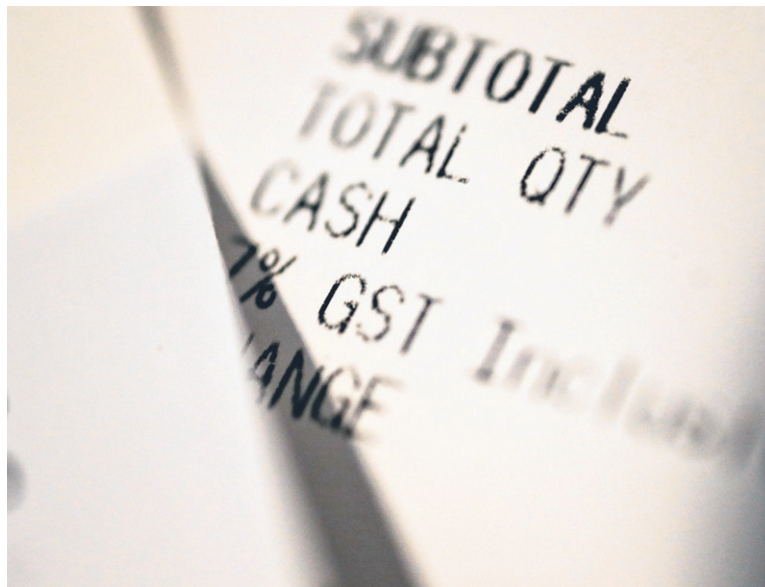
# Hot topics in the House



## Concerns over class divide

Fresh after a recent survey on a widening divide between the rich and poor, social inequality was the most popular topic of the Budget debate with around 10 MPs raising the issue.

Some called for more studies to be done, while others felt the Budget could have taxed the wealthy more. One, Nominated MP Ganesh Rajaram, bared all, sharing his personal experience with class divide in his schooling days.



## Is GST hike an unnecessary distraction?

Yes, said Workers' Party chief Low Thia Kiang, saying that it is causing the Government to lose focus from getting support from Singaporeans for its long-term vision. Education Minister Ng Chee Meng rose to challenge this, saying that he is "baffled" that the WP supports the Budget measures but not the GST hike meant to fund them.



## Criminal justice process to be modernised

Offenders who have previously served sentences of three months or less, or have undergone a reformative training stint, should be eligible for rehabilitative community sentences.

This was among the changes in a wide-ranging criminal justice reform with two Bills tabled yesterday.