

Hot topics in the House



SAF to improve safety systems after NSF deaths

The Singapore Armed Forces' (SAF) safety management system will be further scrutinised by a member of the External Review Panel on SAF Safety, who will sit on independent Committees of Inquiry (COI) that investigate training deaths, said Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen.

This comes after two tragic incidents in the past year involving SAF full-time national servicemen.

A COI did not find any negligence, foul play or misconduct in the first death that occurred last September. Investigations into the second death are ongoing.



Criminal charges likely in fatal SCDF case

There will almost certainly be criminal charges against those found responsible for the recent death of Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) full-time national serviceman Kok Yuen Chin, said Home Affairs Minister K. Shanmugam.

The SCDF and Home Team agencies are reviewing the rules, he said, and coming up with new measures against ragging or unauthorised conduct.

Cpl Kok had died after going through ragging activities that involved him getting into a fire station pump well earlier this month.



Consequences of extending HDB flat leases

National Development Minister Lawrence Wong has warned that the issue of lease extensions for public flats involves serious trade-offs and ramifications to consider.

It is complicated by considerations such as limited land and the cost of maintenance, he said.

Mr Wong added that the question of lease expiry is not an "immediate issue" as the vast majority of HDB flats have more than 60 years of their lease left.