Hot topics in the House



Training regulations breached

The platoon of a full-time national serviceman who died of heat injury during training had been given unauthorised physical punishment the night before he collapsed.

Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen, disclosing preliminary findings into the death of Corporal First Class Dave Lee Han Xuan, said it was a breach of training regulations.

Those involved have been removed from command and could face criminal charges or military prosecution.



Careful planning in SingHealth attack

An "advanced persistent threat" group, typically linked to foreign governments, was responsible for the cyber attack that led to the leak of 1.5 million SingHealth patients' personal data.

But for national security reasons, the attacker cannot be identified, said Minister for Communications and Information S. Iswaran.

Studies are under way to keep Internet surfing separation a permanent measure in some parts of public healthcare organisations.



Ben Davis playing as English national

Young footballer Ben Davis, who asked to defer his enlistment in national service to play for Fulham, is playing there as an English national and not a Singapore citizen.

Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen pointed this out as he explained why allowing Ben to defer was in his own, and not Singapore's, interest.

Since every male Singaporean must serve NS at the time he is required to, without regard for his convenience, exceptions should be made only when it is first and foremost in Singapore's interest, to preserve equity for all national servicemen, added Dr Ng.