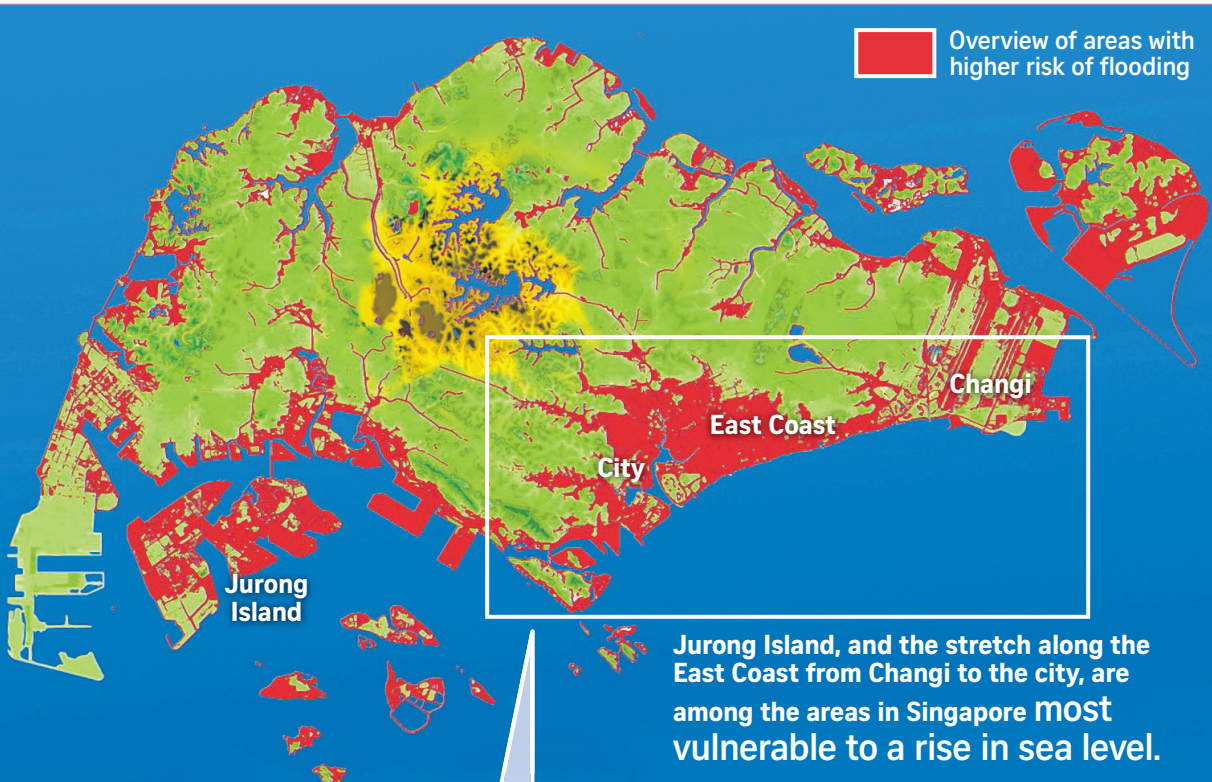


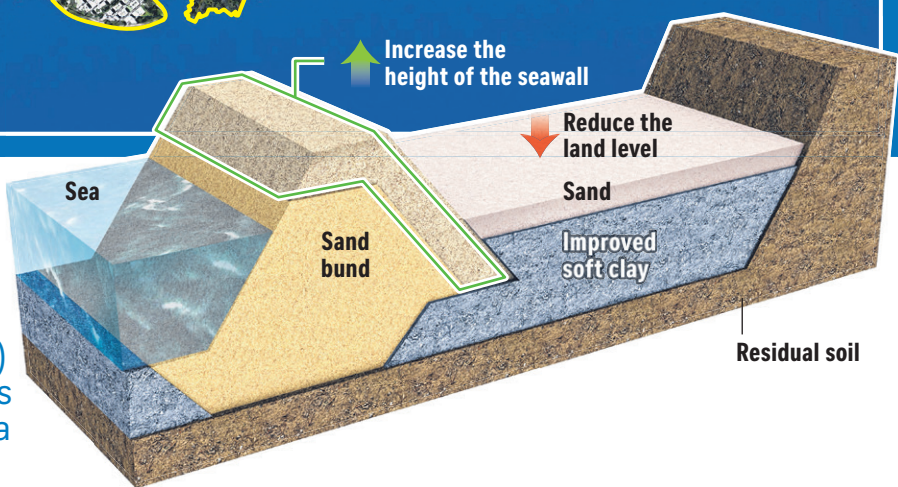
# Getting ready for rise in sea level

As the world warms, rising sea levels will pose a grave threat to small island states like Singapore. But the Republic is well aware of this vulnerability, and is taking early measures.

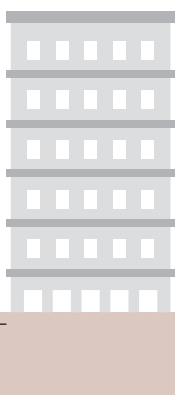


Series of islands to be reclaimed

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said yesterday that strategies to defend the Republic's eastern coast from a rise in sea level could include **building polders (right) and reclaiming a series of islands from Marina East to Changi.**



There are buildings on platforms that are at least 3m above the mean sea level.



At high tide, water levels can go **up to 2m above mean sea level.** This would usually leave a 1m buffer. But with global warming causing sea levels to rise 1m, this buffer could disappear.



**With global warming, if sea levels rise by 1m, then... if heavy rain coincides with a high tide, the water will have nowhere to go.**



PRIME MINISTER LEE HSIEN LOONG