STAYING TOGETHER BERSATU PADU BERGERAK MAJU

PAP MANIFESTO 2006



Printed by Times Printers Pte Ltd Published by the People's Action Party



Dear Fellow Singaporcan,

When I became Prime Minister in August 2004, I promised to make Singapore a land of opportunity where everyone belongs. Thanks to your support for me and my team, our efforts are succeeding.

In 40 years, we have gone from Third World to First. We have built good homes for our people, excellent schools for our children, and a safe and secure environment for Singaporeans and visitors alike. Singapore is an oasis of harmony and prosperity in a turbulent world. These are unique and precious achievements.

The PAP will continue this progress through orderly leadership succession. First-generation leaders like Lee Kuan Yew, S. Rajaratnam, Goh Keng Swee and Othman Wok groomed a second generation of leaders led by Goh Chok Tong. This second generation then phased in a third generation of leaders to look after Singapore and your interests.

We must build on the achievements of the previous generations and forge ahead. Our future is bright. Asia is on the move. China and India are growing fast, and new opportunities are opening up everywhere. The competition is fierce, but we are strong and well prepared. If we continue to make the right moves, we will rise with this great Asian tide.

But there are major challenges. I am concerned about less-skilled Singaporeans, whose jobs and wages are under pressure. I worry for older Singaporeans too, living by themselves and having to provide for their medical and daily expenses. I am troubled that a terrorist attack will sow suspicion and discord among Singaporeans.

We must respond boldly and creatively to these opportunities and challenges, expand our horizons and aim high. We will continue to restructure our economy to make it more productive and resilient. We should make our society more vibrant and cohesive. And our young must be imbued with the same can-do, never-say-die Singapore spirit that has brought us here.

We will move ahead, but we must also stay together - rich or poor, young or old, and regardless of race, language or religion. Each person has to strive for himself, but all citizens must care for one another. We must be One People, One Nation, One Singapore.

As Prime Minister, I will devote all my energy to this effort. But I cannot succeed alone. I need your full support, and a strong team of Ministers and MPs to help me.

In this election, the PAP is fielding many new candidates, both men and women. Our team represents older Singaporeans, as well as the generation born after independence in 1965.

I ask you to give me and my team a strong mandate to serve you. I ask you to vote for the Party that delivers, the team that you can trust.

Vote PAP.

Yours sincerely,

Lettion Loong





Our Vision A Better Life for All

In this election, the PAP offers a vision for every citizen. We will:

- Create a future full of opportunities for Singaporeans, with a dynamic economy generating good jobs for all. and a vibrant city which we will all enjoy living in.
- Strive to keep Singapore a safe, stable and harmonious multi-racial society, united by shared values and purpose, and confident of its place in the world.
- Foster an open and inclusive society which welcomes diversity, values each individual, and involves all of us in shaping our future.
- Build a fair and just society which invests in its people, supports the pursuit of excellence by all, and helps its weaker members to succeed.

To make this happen, the PAP seeks your mandate to:

- Create opportunities for Singaporeans
- Give our young the best start
- Encourage every citizen to play a role
- Do more for lower-income Singaporeans
- Help older Singaporeans to lead full and active lives
- Provide affordable healthcare for all







Create opportunities for Singaporeans

We will upgrade and grow our economy, and remake our city, so that all Singaporeans will have jobs and opportunities, and live in a place that is throbbing with energy and excitement. To do this, we will:

- Pursue policies which strengthen confidence, attract investments, and make Singapore a dynamic and competitive economy
- Create jobs by growing new industries and upgrading existing ones
- Foster entrepreneurship and encourage individuals to pursue their dreams
- Build up excellence in R&D as a driver of long-term prosperity
- Promote sports, arts and culture by building a national sports complex and an arts school, and supporting cultural groups and activities
- Upgrade our HDB housing estates, rejuvenate the city, including the Central Business District and Orchard Road, and create a new Garden City by the Bay

Give our young the best start

We will prepare our children for the future, by giving them a top-guality education. Every Singaporean can and should develop his talents and abilities, pursue excellence and be the best that he can be. To do this, we will:

- Offer Singaporeans more educational choices in academic and technical fields, and in the arts and sports
- Help every school to develop its own special area of excellence
- Enhance the Normal course in secondary schools
- Do more for students with special needs
- Set up three ITE colleges to impart top-notch technical skills to students
- Link up our polytechnics with specialized foreign universities
- Provide Singaporeans with a top-quality and affordable university education





Encourage every citizen to play a role

We will provide opportunities for citizens to get involved in community and national affairs, so as to strengthen our sense of community and social responsibility. To do this, we will:

- Involve the public more in developing policies
- Empower community bodies and broaden their roles, for example, to oversee social assistance schemes
- Engage grassroots, unions, employers and other groups to strengthen inter-racial ties
- Support youth and civic groups to tap into their idealism and develop their leadership and life skills
- Link up with Singaporeans overseas

Do more for lower-income Singaporeans

We will do more to help lower-income and less-skilled Singaporeans to improve their lives and not be left behind. To do this, we will:

- Redesign old jobs to pay more, and upgrade workers' skills so that they can earn more
- Enhance social support for families so that workers, particularly women, can go out to work
- Ensure that their children receive a good education
- Give them more help to buy their homes and build up their assets for their retirement, through the Additional **CPF** Housing Grant Scheme
- Distribute Workfare Bonus to encourage and reward work
- Build up the ComCare Fund to \$1 billion to help those in greatest need





Helping older Singaporeans to lead full and active lives

We will help older Singaporeans cope with change so that they can continue to live active and meaningful lives. To do this, we will:

- Encourage companies to employ and retrain older workers
- Enable workers to retire later
- Create more housing options for senior citizens such as HDB studio apartments, private retirement homes and rental housing
- Make public places and public transportation more accessible to senior citizens
- Implement the Lift Upgrading Programme in all HDB estates by 2015
- Top up the CPF retirement and Medisave accounts of older citizens
- Set up a "Golden Opportunities" Fund for innovative projects by senior citizens that will keep them active socially and promote intergenerational bonding

Provide affordable healthcare for all

We will ensure that Singaporeans can afford quality healthcare services. To do this, we will:

- Make hospitals more efficient so that they can keep charges affordable
- Improve MediShield, Medisave and Eldershield to help Singaporeans afford medical care
- Continue to subsidise lower-income Singaporeans who fall sick
- Double Medifund to \$2 billion to provide additional help for the needy
- Build a new general hospital in Yishun
- Help Singaporeans lead active lifestyles and stay healthy





Staying Together, Moving Ahead

We want to build a country which is full of exciting opportunities. We will invest in your children and support senior citizens. We will help you to help yourselves. No Singaporean should be left behind, and everyone should have full opportunities to realise his or her dreams.









Let us stay together, and move ahead.