

4 | A SAFE, SECURE, AND CREDIBLE NATION

Singapore continues to maintain our relevance in the changing global environment. We are strengthening relationships with our strategic partners via bilateral cooperations and multilateral platforms. Our nation's security remains a top priority as we continue investing in key areas like National Service, counter-terrorism, and cybersecurity. We remain vigilant against crime and are tackling areas like online scams and drug abuse.

Maintaining Our Relevance and Sovereignty



Vision as ASEAN Chairman in 2018 is to forge a Resilient and Innovative ASEAN



Strengthening relationships with our strategic partners



Ratified the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership

Defending Our Homeland and Enhancing National Service



Reaffirmed our commitment to National Service through NS50



Strengthening our defence capabilities while stretching every dollar



Enhancing the NS experience through digital initiatives and recognition of vocational skills

Ensuring a Safe and Secure Home



Adopting a multi-pronged approach for counter-terrorism



Leveraging technology for homeland security operations



Introduced the Cybersecurity Act to better regulate cybersecurity matters

A RELEVANT AND SOVEREIGN SINGAPORE

For Singapore to be successful, we must be nimble and actively shape our external environment, defend our vital interests, and work with strategic partners such as Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states and others in win-win partnerships.

During our ASEAN Chairmanship, we promoted “Resilience and Innovation” by facilitating further integration of the region’s economies, upholding a multilateral rules-based order and creating the ASEAN Smart Cities Network. We also actively promoted confidence-building measures to mitigate the risk of conflict. These included the ASEAN-China Maritime Exercise, the Guidelines for Air Military Encounters – the first multilateral confidence-building measure of its kind in the world – and the planned ASEAN-US Maritime Exercise in 2019.

As ASEAN-China coordinator, we made good progress in promoting regional cooperation and stability, including adopting the ASEAN-China Strategic Partnership Vision 2030, which will chart the future direction of ASEAN-China cooperation efforts. We also arrived at a Single Draft Negotiating Text of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea.

We also provided humanitarian assistance and contributed to disaster relief efforts. For instance, Singapore contributed to those affected by the disasters in Lombok and Central Sulawesi, Indonesia; the humanitarian crisis in Rakhine State, Myanmar; as well as the hydropower dam collapse in Laos.

Singapore will continue to strengthen ties with our immediate neighbours and other strategic partners. For example:

- Deepening our cooperation with Malaysia through existing institutionalised bilateral platforms and new connectivity projects such as the Kuala Lumpur-Singapore High Speed Rail and the Johor Bahru-Singapore RTS Link;
- Promoting closer economic links with Indonesia through the Kendal Industrial Park and Nongsa Digital Park, and across various sectors, including skills training, tourism, and the digital economy;
- Upgrading of the China-Singapore Free Trade Agreement and working together on the China-Singapore (Chongqing) Connectivity Initiative, which aims to enhance regional connectivity;
- Collaborating with India on projects such as the Andhra Pradesh Capital City Project; and
- Deepening and broadening our cooperation with the United States in the defence, economic, and security spheres, including through the ASEAN Smart Cities Network and cybersecurity cooperation.

We continue to exercise Singapore’s sovereignty over Pedra Branca (PB) and its surrounding waters and airspace while maintaining a calm situation on the ground. Malaysia discontinued its applications to revise and to interpret the International Court of Justice’s Judgment of 23 May 2008 in the case concerning sovereignty over PB, Middle Rocks, and South Ledge, which had been submitted on 2 February 2017 and 30 June 2017 respectively. On 25 October 2018, Malaysia issued a federal government gazette purporting to extend the port limits for Johor Bahru Port in a manner that encroaches into Singapore territorial waters off Tuas. In response, Singapore has lodged strong protests with the Malaysian Government and indicated that we will not hesitate to take firm action to protect our territory and sovereignty. On 6 December 2018, Singapore also issued a gazette notification extending the Singapore Port Limits off Tuas.

In 2018, we demonstrated our contributions at the global level in various ways such as hosting the eighth World Bank-Singapore Infrastructure Finance Summit and being invited to participate in the G20 meetings and summit under Argentina’s Presidency. We also hosted the historic United States-Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (US-DPRK) Summit in Singapore on 12 June 2018.

We are expanding our regional and international engagements to open doors for Singaporeans and Singaporean businesses through various agreements such as the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, the European Union (EU)-Singapore Free Trade Agreement, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, the Eurasian Economic Union-Singapore Free Trade Agreement, and the ASEAN-EU Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement.

ASEAN 2018

Singapore took on the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2018 with the tagline “Resilient and Innovative”. The tagline encapsulates our vision for ASEAN to be united in the face of growing uncertainties in the global strategic landscape.



We hosted key events such as the 32nd and 33rd ASEAN Summit, the 51st ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Meeting and related meetings, the 50th ASEAN

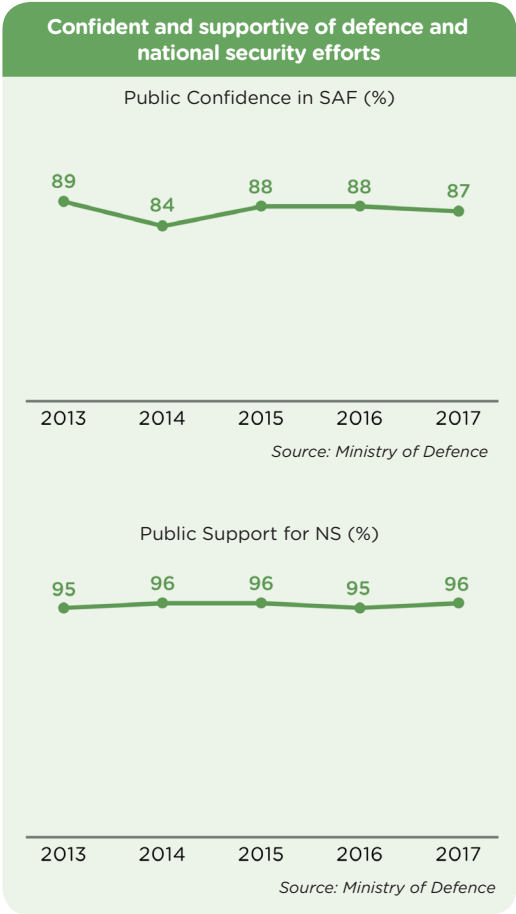
Economic Ministers’ Meeting, the 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM), and the fifth 18-nation ADMM-Plus.

Several initiatives adopted during the year include:

- The ASEAN Smart Cities Network initiative named 26 cities in the 10 ASEAN member states as pilot cities. The initiative will provide a platform for cities across ASEAN to tackle urban challenges together, finding innovative digital and technological solutions to improve our peoples’ lives.
- The Model ASEAN Extradition Treaty was finalised and endorsed by the ASEAN Law Ministers. Work will commence on the ASEAN Extradition Treaty as a next step. It aims to strengthen ASEAN’s resilience and capacity to combat transnational crime, as well as enhance cooperation within ASEAN to ensure respect for the rule of law.
- The ASEAN Agreement on e-Commerce was concluded. It aims to facilitate cross-border e-commerce transactions and deepen cooperation to further develop and intensify the use of e-commerce in the region.

PROTECTING OUR HOMELAND AND STRENGTHENING NATIONAL SERVICE

Safeguarding our country's security, independence, and sovereignty remains a top priority for the Government. A strong Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) is vital in the face of an increasingly complex security landscape and evolving security challenges. Singaporeans remain confident in the SAF and are supportive of National Service (NS).



Enhancing Our Defence Capabilities

Singapore maintains a steady, long-term, and prudent approach to defence spending. We have been finding ways to strengthen our defence capabilities while stretching every dollar. For example, we are:

- Investing in more capable, multi-role platforms. These include the A330 Multi-Role Tanker Transport, which will extend the endurance of our fighter aircraft to safeguard our skies and enhance our airlift capabilities.
- Using technology to raise effectiveness. For instance, we developed Unmanned Watch Towers (UWTs), which have been deployed on Jurong Island to boost the protection of key installations. Beyond operational improvements, the UWTs generate manpower savings of up to 30%.
- Investing in digitalisation, data analytics, and machine learning to maximise operational availability. One example is the Fleet Management System for military platforms such as the F-16 fighter aircraft and the Frigate vessel.
- Protecting our defence capabilities against cybersecurity threats. We have set up dedicated units to develop cyber defence capabilities, lead cyber defence operations, provide cyber defence for SAF's warfighting networks, conduct 24/7 security monitoring, respond to cyber defence incidents, and audit the security of military networks and systems. The Cyber Full-time National Servicemen Scheme was launched in 2018 to tap on the national pool of cyber talent.



Strengthening National Service

Our National Servicemen form the backbone of the SAF. In 2017, we commemorated 50 years of NS. We continue to strengthen our NS system and enhance the NS experience for our National Servicemen by:

- Providing digital services such as the Smart In-Camp Training application and piloting the use of wearable technology for National Servicemen to clock their fitness progress at SAFRA gyms and SAF Fitness Conditioning Centres.
- Updating our training regime, with a larger number of combat-fit NS enlistees undergoing the new One-Basic Military Training (BMT) programme. Besides providing a common “Pulau Tekong” experience to more enlistees, trainees will also benefit from the Basic Military Training Centre’s dedicated training pedagogy, infrastructure, and resources.
- Maximising the potential of our full-time National Servicemen by allowing them to indicate their vocations of interest. 32,000 have done so since the initiative’s launch in November 2016.
- Recognising the Workforce Skills Qualification-accredited competencies and skills gained by National Servicemen during their NS through the Certificate of Service.

Safety is of the utmost importance, and the SAF and Home Team will continue to place emphasis on training safety:

- The External Review Panel on SAF Safety set up in 2013 made recommendations to enhance safety management systems. For instance, measures were implemented to reduce the risk of heat injuries such as alternative cooling methods, the Body Cooling Units currently deployed in SAF medical centres, and investment in portable cooling equipment.
- The Home Team has put in place more measures to reduce the risk of heat injury during training such as locating showers near training areas and using alternative cooling methods.



NS50

More than one million National Servicemen have experienced NS and contributed to the defence and security of Singapore over the past 50 years. This has underpinned our growth as a nation. In 2017, we recognised the contributions of all National Servicemen past and present, and also the strong support provided by their families

and the community. More than one million NS50 Recognition Packages were distributed. There was strong support from the public to recognise the contributions of our National Servicemen, and over 50 private and public entities came forward to organise events and activities.

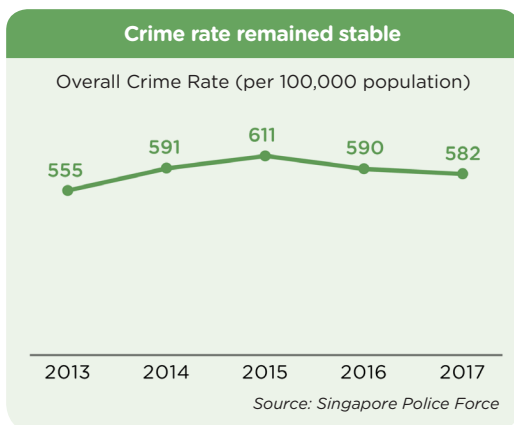
A SAFE AND SECURE HOME

Keeping Our City Safe and Secure

Singaporeans continue to live in a safe and secure city. Singapore was ranked 1st in the Gallup Global Law and Order Index 2018, while the Economist Intelligence Unit's Safe Cities Index 2017 ranked Singapore as the 2nd safest city in the world.

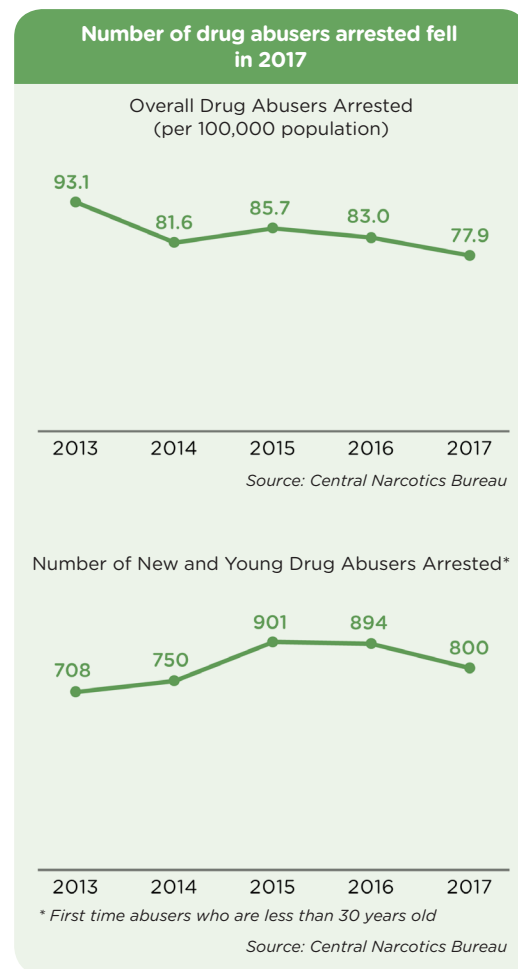
The overall crime rate fell by 1% in 2017, largely due to fewer violent and serious property crimes, as well as fewer theft and related crimes. More efforts are being made to address certain crimes with trends that give cause for concern:

- There were 1,823 e-commerce scams, loan scams, and impersonation scams in the first half of 2018 – a 72% increase from the previous year. We have increased efforts to raise public awareness, including leveraging social media platforms to widen our reach and partnering e-commerce platforms to enhance the detection and prevention of such scams.
- Outrage of modesty cases increased 21% to 832 cases in the first half of 2018, compared to the previous year. The Singapore Police Force (SPF) has been emphasising the need for Singaporeans to stay vigilant in its public education efforts and has stepped up patrols at public transport nodes. Public entertainment outlets were encouraged to install surveillance cameras on their premises.



Maintaining a Drug-free Singapore

The local drug situation remains stable and Singapore has stayed relatively drug-free. The number of drug abusers arrested fell to 77.9 per 100,000 population in 2017, compared to 83.0 in 2016. The number of new and young drug abusers arrested also fell from 894 in 2016 to 800 in 2017.

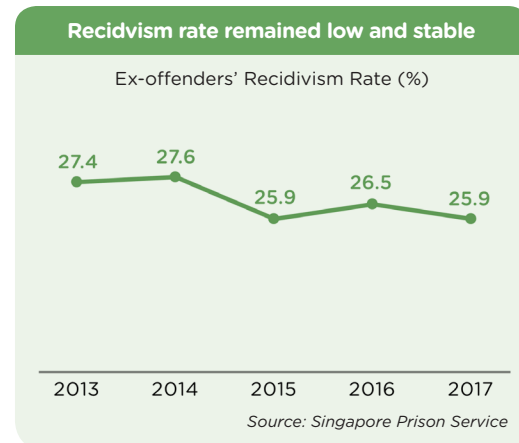


The Government has maintained an intense level of enforcement. In 2017, the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) dismantled 23 drug syndicates, conducted 19 island-wide operations targeting drug traffickers and abusers, and participated in 12 joint operations with foreign counterparts.

Preventive drug education remains a key strategy. We continue to use different channels to reach out to the public. Examples of these include school programmes, collaborations with young filmmakers, roadshows, and bite-sized posts on CNB Drug Free SG social media platforms.

Supporting Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Offenders

The overall recidivism rate¹³ for 2017 remained low. The Singapore Prison Service (SPS) works closely with its community partners, and takes a through-care approach to rehabilitate offenders and reintegrate them into society.



To minimise re-offending, SPS has reviewed its operating model to better address inmates' risks and needs at the onset of their incarceration. SPS staff will be able to spend more time on rehabilitation efforts in the future, as routine operational work becomes automated under the "Prison Without Guards" concept. The National Committee on Prevention, Rehabilitation and Recidivism was also set up in April 2018 with the aim of adopting a more focused, coordinated, and evidence-based approach to help at-risk youth offenders and give them the best shot in life.

Employment is another key factor in breaking the offending cycle. The Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE) provides work programmes, skills training, job coaching, placement services, and aftercare support to enhance the employability of ex-offenders and help reintegrate them into society. In 2017, there were over 5,500 employers registered with SCORE and 97% of the inmates referred to SCORE secured a job before their release.

¹³ Refers to the percentage of local inmates, released during a specific time period, who are imprisoned again for a new offence following their release. The recidivism rate for 2017 refers to the release cohort for 2015 as SPS uses a standard follow-up period of two years from release.

Leveraging Technology for Homeland Security

The Home Team is making significant investments in technology for its operations. Some examples include:

- Unmanned aerial vehicles provided SPF with greater situational awareness and presence during the Marina Bay Singapore Countdown 2017. SPF also piloted the use of an autonomous patrol robot at Chingay 2018 and the ASEAN Summit 2018.
- Radiographic imaging scanners deployed in July 2018 have helped to enhance the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA)'s security clearance for buses. By highlighting anomalies through the imaging, the scanners help to focus ICA officers' checks on specific parts of a bus.
- ICA's BioScreen-Multi Modal Biometric Screening System (MMBS) enhances the immigration clearance process through the use of three biometric identifiers: face, fingerprints, and iris. BioScreen-MMBS has been piloted at Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal since August 2018.
- CNB piloted the Next-Generation Reporting Centre to automate the collection and handling of urine specimens for drug supervision.

Counter-terrorism Remains a High Priority

The terrorism threat to Singapore remains high. The Home Team continues to take pre-emptive security action against individuals found to be engaged in terrorism-related conduct. Between 2017 and August 2018, 10 such Singaporeans were dealt with under the Internal Security Act. A number of radicalised foreign workers were also detected and dealt with.

Singapore is also committed to the global fight against terrorism. SAF participated in the US-led Defeat ISIS coalition when it was formed in 2014. Since then, our units have been deployed to support global efforts, including:

- Imagery analysis teams to the Combined Joint Task Force Headquarters in Kuwait from September 2015 to May 2018. This provided the coalition with its first imagery analysis capability.
- Four detachments of a KC-135R tanker aircraft to Qatar to support the air-to-air refuelling operations from 2015 to 2018.
- Medical teams to Iraq to support operations and training from June 2017 onwards.
- A counter-terrorism training unit to Iraq since September 2018 to support stabilising efforts and help build up the capacity of the Iraqi Security Forces.

COUNTER-TERRORISM

We remain highly vigilant against terrorism and its precursors on the domestic front. We have adopted three strategies to help keep Singaporeans safe and secure:

1. Guard against social fault lines and segregationist tendencies

Singaporeans of various races and religions have come together as one united people to contribute to the racial and religious harmony we have enjoyed for many decades. We continue to enlarge our common spaces for Singaporeans of all faiths and races to interact and live together such as through the Ethnic Integration Policy in our public housing, our national schools, and NS.

We will not tolerate divisive religious teachings that might affect societal harmony. In 2017, three foreign Muslim preachers were not allowed to enter Singapore. We also rejected the Miscellaneous Work Pass applications of two foreign Christian preachers. The Christian preachers were found to have made denigrating and inflammatory comments on other religions, while the Muslim preachers were known to have preached segregationist and divisive teachings overseas.

2. Make it harder for terrorists to carry out attacks

The SAF and Home Team continue to work closely to protect Singapore and Singaporeans 24/7. This strong collaboration was demonstrated during the US-DPRK Singapore Summit where National Servicemen and a wide-array of assets were deployed. We are also strengthening our counter-terrorism capabilities with measures such as SPF's In-situ Reaction Teams. In addition, 18,000 National Servicemen were trained in homeland security operations at SAF's Island Defence Training Institute.

We have conducted several major counter-terrorism exercises, including Exercise Northstar X in October 2017, which tested Singapore's multi-agency response towards terror attacks.

We have also introduced or amended various legislation such as:

- Infrastructure Protection Act 2017 – strengthens levers to protect iconic buildings and critical infrastructure which provide essential services;
- Terrorism (Suppression of Financing) Act – criminalises the financing of the overseas travel of individuals to engage in terrorist training, and enhances penalties for terrorist financing and its ancillary offences; and
- Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act – enhances penalties for money laundering offences, which include those linked to terrorist financing, and enhances the exchange of financial intelligence with overseas jurisdictions.

3. Be well-prepared to respond

Every Singaporean has a role to play in the fight against terrorism. We are equipping residents with the relevant knowledge and life-saving skills through Emergency Preparedness Days and house-to-house visits. We are also strengthening our partnerships with religious and community organisations to be crisis-ready through the SGSecure Community Network. In 2017, we launched the SGSecure Guide for Workplaces to help companies prepare their workplaces for a terror attack, and this has been sent to over 150,000 companies. Drills and exercises have been conducted in schools and workplaces to prepare students and employees for terror attacks. All schools completed lockdown drills in 2018.



Cyber Threats on the Rise

As a highly connected country, developments in Singapore's cyber landscape have mirrored global trends. Common cyber threats such as phishing, website defacements, and malware infections are growing in frequency and impact. For example, in

July 2018, attackers infiltrated SingHealth's patient database and illegally accessed and copied the personal particulars of 1.5 million patients, the most serious breach of personal data to date. In the face of increasingly sophisticated cyber threats, it is crucial that we strengthen our cybersecurity capabilities.

STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY CAPABILITIES

Singapore's Cybersecurity Strategy was launched in October 2016, outlining four pillars for the creation of a resilient and trusted cyber environment.

- **Pillar #1 - Build a resilient infrastructure:** The Cybersecurity Act enacted in August 2018 provides for the protection of Critical Information Infrastructure (CII) and authorises the investigation of cybersecurity incidents.

The Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA) held an exercise in 2017 to put Singapore's cyber incident management and emergency response plans to the test. More than 200 private and public sector participants, comprising sector leads and CII owners from all 11 CII sectors, participated in the exercise.

- **Pillar #2 - Create a safer cyberspace:** CSA ran regular cybersecurity awareness campaigns to encourage individuals and businesses to adopt better cyber hygiene. One example was the "Cyber Tips 4 You" campaign in 2018, which provided tips on incorporating good cybersecurity practices into our daily lives.
- **Pillar #3 - Develop a vibrant cybersecurity ecosystem:** In our efforts to develop the cybersecurity industry, Singapore has brought

in more than half of the top 100 cyber firms in the world, and launched a funding scheme and start-up hub in 2018. The CSA Academy was set up to provide intermediate- to advanced-level training for cybersecurity professionals working in the government and CII sectors. To build R&D capabilities, the National Cybersecurity R&D Programme has also funded 15 projects with researchers from local universities and A*STAR.

- **Pillar #4 - Strengthen international partnerships:** Singapore champions ASEAN cooperative capacity-building initiatives such as the ASEAN Computer Emergency Response Team Incident Drill and the ASEAN Cyber Capacity Programme (ACCP). As an extension to ACCP, Singapore will be setting up the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence to build regional capacity in areas such as cybersecurity strategy.

At the third ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Cybersecurity, the 10 ASEAN member states agreed to subscribe in-principle to 11 voluntary, non-binding norms (as set out in the 2015 UN Group of Governmental Experts Report) for the responsible behaviour of states in cyberspace. Singapore has also partnered the UN to launch an online training course and a joint UN-Singapore Cyber Programme.

List of Abbreviations

APIs	Application Programming Interfaces
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BTO	Build-To-Order
CPF	Central Provident Fund
FY	Financial Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IMH	Institute of Mental Health
IoT	Internet of Things
MRT	Mass Rapid Transit
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PR	Permanent Resident
RTS Link	Rapid Transit System Link
R&D	Research & Development
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
UN	United Nations
