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26 September 2014

103 OPERATIONS AWARDED THE MINISTER'S AWARDS 2014

A total of 103 Minister's Awards will be presented on Friday, 26th September 2014, to outstanding officers from the Singapore Police Force (SPF), Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF), Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) and Singapore Prison Service (SPS) who have contributed to successful Home Team operations from August 2013 to July 2014.

2 Mr Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs is the Guest-of-Honour for the event, which would be held at the Home Team Academy. He will present 2 Home Team Achievement Awards (HTAA) and 101 Minister for Home Affairs Operational Excellence (OE) Awards to Home Team officers, teams and agencies who had achieved exceptional operational outcomes in collaborative projects or had demonstrated outstanding efficiency and competency in major operations, cases and projects. Refer to Annex A for the full list of organisations who are recognised for the awards.

3 The case details of six operations that are recognised for the HTAA and OE Awards are appended at Annex B. These operations include the arrest of two persons for cheating elderly persons, and two Sri Lankans who had overstayed in Singapore.

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Central Narcotics Bureau

for Ministry of Home Affairs

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Annex A

HOME TEAM ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (HTAA) 2014

S/N	Name of Project	MHA/External Agencies	Number of Officers Nominated
1	Project FORWARD	SPF	SPF = 7 SCDF = 3 CNB = 2
2	Mall Watch Project	SPF	SPF = 8 SCDF = 2 CNB = 3

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Minister for Home Affairs Operational Excellence (OE) Awards

No. of operations commended	101	<u>Departments</u> SPF SCDF ICA CNB SPS MHA Total	<u>Projects Awarded</u> 36 40 13 8 2 2 101
No. of agencies recognised	21	<u>Home Team agencies</u> 1. Singapore Police Force (SPF) 2. Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) 3. Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) 4. Singapore Prison Service (SPS) 5. Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) 6. Ministry of Home Affairs HQ <u>External agencies</u> 1. Ministry of Communications & Information 2. Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore 3. Attorney General's Chambers 4. Singapore Airport Terminal Service Ltd 5. Royal Malaysian Police 6. Narcotics Crime Investigation Department, Malaysia 7. Registry of Marriages 8. The Association of Banks in Singapore 9. Monetary Authority of Singapore 10. Citibank Singapore Limited 11. DBS Bank Limited 12. Malayan Banking Berhad 13. Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited 14. Standard Chartered Bank 15. United Overseas Bank Limited	

Home Team Achievement Award (HTAA)

The Mall Watch Project is an initiative by the Police and SCDF that seeks to generate greater awareness and knowledge on crime prevention and fire safety measures.

Several key activities have been conducted under the Mall Watch project, which include networking sessions with the mall management and retailers to share good practices to prevent crime from occurring within the mall and in the outlets; display of crime prevention standees and information in the malls and in the outlets; joint patrols between the Police and mall security to enhance security presence and prevent, deter and detect crime; and fire drills to hone the response of the retailers in the event of fire outbreak.

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Minister for Home Affairs Operational Excellence (OE) Awards

SPF

Two female victims, 66 & 72, were cheated by the suspects on 17/11/2013 and 20/11/2013 respectively. Cash and jewellery amounting to S\$457,550 were cheated from the female victims.

In these cases, the suspect would approach the victim, on the pretext of asking if the victim knew of any recommended doctor as someone in the suspect's family was critically ill. Another suspect would appear out of nowhere, claiming to have overheard the conversation and would recommend a doctor. The victim would be persuaded to visit the doctor together. Prayers would then be performed, and the victim would be convinced to take part and pray for her benefits. In return, the victim would need to place all her valuables and money inside a bag. They would subsequently conduct prayers over the bag with their eyes closed while one of the suspects held the bag. At the end of the prayers, the bag would be returned to the victim. The victim was then told to meet them again on another date and was not allowed to share the incident with others or open the bag. When the suspects failed to turn up, the victim would realise that she had been cheated.

Commercial Crime Squad (CCS) officers from Jurong Police Division interviewed the victims at length and performed scene visits with the victims. Through multiple scene visits and interviews with victims, we secured CCTV footage which captured the movements of the suspects within Chinatown vicinity. With the aid of CCTV footage, Police established the identities of the suspects and arrested them. The female suspect was sentenced to 4 years 10 months of imprisonment while the male suspect was sentenced to 3 years 5 months of imprisonment.

ICA

ICA officers investigated into a case of two Sri Lankans who had overstayed in Singapore for a period of 5 months. During investigation, the two Sri Lankans informed the investigators that one female Sri Lankan gave them a "blue coloured work permit" and arranged lodging and work for them. ICA officers probed further and managed to identify the female Sri Lankan as well as the harbourers and employers. An operation was launched and ICA successfully apprehended these suspects.

SPS

Singapore Prison Service (SPS) led a buildings and facilities working group and have achieved significant results with savings of \$1.23 million annually since 2012. The working group's success could be attributed to the implementation of several GO GREEN initiatives such as:

- reviewing the contestability of the contracted capacity of electricity which involves the close monitoring of energy consumption to allow for enhanced effectiveness and accuracy in future planning;

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- implementing the use of NeWater whenever possible;
- using of more energy efficient light tubes;
- installing of motion senses;
- conducting of energy audits; and
- deploying of energy efficient air-conditioning systems for new installations and during the usual life cycle replacements.

CNB

At about 8.10pm on 25 January 2014, two female CNB officers conducted a search on a female Malaysian passenger and found two bundles of heroin hidden in the 22-year-old's underwear. In total, about 937 grams of heroin were recovered. CNB officers swiftly conducted follow-up operations and three male Singaporeans were arrested. The three men were suspected to be involved in coordinating and bringing drugs into Singapore before re-distributing them onto the streets.

SCDF

On 10 October 2013, SCDF was alerted to a rescue incident where a man's hand was stuck in a meat grinder at 15 Woodlands Loop.

Upon arrival, the SCDF Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team (DART) rescuers separated the grinder housing where the man's hand was trapped from the whole meat grinder machine by sawing the axle and cutting the tray which was connected to the grinder. It was a race against time to release the trapped casualty however at the same time the rescue operation had to be carefully conducted so as to prevent any further injury to the casualty's hand. The DART rescuers used a reciprocating saw on the axle, and a hydraulic cutter to cut away the machine tray. All these were completed while SCDF paramedic tended to the casualty and stabilised his hand to stop further bleeding. The paramedic also swiftly administered oxygen, painkillers and intravenous therapy for the casualty to keep him conscious and to alleviate his pain and loss of blood. The casualty was conveyed to the Tan Tock Seng Hospital where DART rescuers continued to render assistance to the doctors in the hospital operating room and successfully removed the grinder housing from the casualty's hand.

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