

Embargoed till 3 September 2016

**DRAFT SPEECH FOR MAYOR TEO SER LUCK
FOR LAUNCH OF LAW AWARENESS WEEK @CDC 2016
ON SATURDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 10AM
AT WATERWAY POINT**

Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean

Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District

Dr Mohamad Maliki, Mayor of South East District

Mr Darryl David, Vice-Chairman of Central Singapore CDC, Grassroots
Adviser of Ang Mo Kio GRC

Mr Zaqy Mohamad, Vice- Chairman of South West CDC, Grassroots
Adviser of Chua Chu Kang GRC

Mr Victor Lye, BBM and Mr Chua Eng Leong, Advisers to Aljunied GRC
Grassroots Organisations

Mr Lee Hong Chuang, BBM Adviser to Hougang Grassroots
Organisations

Mr Thio Shen Yi, Senior Counsel, President of the Law Society of
Singapore

Lawyers, Students and Residents

On behalf of the Mayors, I welcome all of you to the Launch of
Law Awareness Week @CDC 2016 and a very good morning.

CDCs' "A" Mission

2 As many of you are aware, one of the CDCs' mission is to
assist the needy, and to encourage community self-help. This

collaboration is a very good example of the *kampong spirit* to help each other and how the CDCs function as a conduit, aggregating the right resources and networks to bring services closer to the ground.

3Ps Partnership

3 We cannot do this alone. It is only through collaboration with valuable partners, such as the Law Society and the help of the many volunteer lawyers and law students from NUS and SMU that we can do this.

4 For this year, over 250 Law Students from NUS and SMU, as compared to 150 for last year, were involved in helping in the Law Talks and the Community Legal Clinics. They even helped to organise today's events. **It is not only beneficial to the community but also exposes students to real-world experiences of law** beyond textbooks and classrooms, which will certainly help to nurture a more caring and cohesive society. It is a win-win for all.

Law Awareness Week @CDC 2016 Logo

5 This critical 3Ps collaboration is clearly symbolised in the Law Awareness Week @ CDC logo, as shown in the backdrop. The **"Balance of the Justice Scales"** reflects that "everyone should be equally empowered with legal knowledge", the **"Three Light Rays**

above the Light Bulb” reflects our 3Ps coloration - CDCs, Law Society and NUS and SMU”, the **“Illuminated Light Bulb”** reflects better understanding, knowledge and insight about the law, and the **“Four Loops in the Light Bulb”** signifies our Singaporeans as one. This logo was actually designed by our talented law students. Give them a round of applause.

More Talks For Different Age Groups

6 Last year, in line with the theme of SG50, Law Awareness Week directed its efforts towards helping the pioneer generation in their golden years. This year, as we look forward, the focus of Law Awareness Week 2016 will also be geared towards younger adults. One of the key issues for this year is the responsible use of social media, especially with regard to cyber wellness. Another would be one dealing with errant contractors which are often faced by newlyweds such as topic on Consumer Protection Law and buying/selling residential property. Other topics such as Advance Planning, Community Dispute Resolution Act and Family Law remains important and we will continue to do it to meet residents’ needs. For these talks, we will be engaging experience lawyers in the relevant field. At the same time, our student lawyers will also be there to assist in whatever ways they can, be it, doing simple translations to referring the residents to the relevant authorities if needed. At the same time, very often, a person in need of

legal help, could also have other issues, such as financial, family, health which the CDCs can help to assist or refer to the right agencies. Together, we hope to bring a more holistic approach to our residents.

Moving Forward

7 For our legal talks this year, we have more talks and topics to reach out to more residents which is good. This year, we have about 70 talks island wide. For next year, we will **target 100 talks with smaller customised sessions**. Such small sessions will facilitate residents to bring up questions and issues and have in-depth discussions with the pro bono lawyers.

8 For our Community Legal Clinics, we are targeting to expand the pro bono network by 30% to 24 Clinics - spreading island wide so more residents can benefit and to increase the number of lawyers involved to **over 2000, about 20% increase**.

Conclusion

9 On behalf of my fellow Mayors, CDCs and every member of the community who will benefit from this initiative, I wish to thank the Law Society of Singapore, our students from NUS and SMU, Grassroots Organisations. People's Association, and all our partners for your support in making Law accessible to our residents. Together we can do

more for our residents, building a more compassionate and caring community.

Thank you
