

**EMBARGO TILL AFTER DELIVERY ON 5 MAY 2011  
PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**RALLY SPEECH BY MR WONG KAN SENG, PAP CANDIDATE  
FOR BISHAN-TOA PAYOH GRC ON 5 MAY 2011 AT TOA  
PAYOH STADIUM**

- Good evening Singaporeans! Thank you for joining us.
- I will talk about three topics – some National issues, PAP’s plans for the Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC, and Voting for your future.
- I will also speak in English and Chinese.

**PART 1 – NATIONAL MATTERS**

**The Opposition failed to address the most important issue**

- Over the past eight days, we heard the SPP and other Opposition parties say many things to get your vote.
- They want to be an alternative voice in Parliament.
  - With the enhanced NCMP scheme, there will be at least nine Opposition voices in Parliament, if fewer than nine Opposition candidates are elected
- The Opposition also wants to hold the government accountable.
  - The PAP Government is always accountable to the people.
  - The Government is not perfect but it learns from mistakes, takes actions and improves its policies.
  - Every five years, the PAP seeks to renew the mandate from Singaporeans. That is the real test of accountability.
  - People will not re-elect the PAP if they are not satisfied with our performance.
- But we have not heard the Opposition nor the SPP talk about the most important matter – how will they improve your lives?
  - The SPP say they will adopt PAP’s plans if they are elected. But can they deliver?
  - The SPP team was put together less than two months ago, just to contest this GE.
  - One SPP candidate said, “We are only in the beginning stage of the election. When the election is over and we are properly set up, we will produce all the ideas.”

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- That is not saying much. In other words, they have no idea what to do for you!
- The PAP has delivered its previous promises and plans. Our PAP teams have announced the coming five year plans. We will implement them with your support.

**Vote wisely**

- Singaporeans are excited to vote.
  - I hear that when I visited markets, hawker centers, neighborhood malls, homes and residents.
  - This is also the first time that residents of Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC have a chance to vote after 20 years.
  - It is good that voters have a choice. We will respect their decision.
- There is no right or wrong way to vote. Everyone decides what the vote means for themselves.
  - Based on party and its ideals.
  - Based on the teams' plans.
  - Or based on teams and personalities.
- But there can be a wise or dangerous way to vote.
  - The wise way is to vote the team that can best take care of you and secure your future, whether PAP or the Opposition. It is the most straightforward way.
  - The dangerous way is to vote for Opposition, thinking others will vote for PAP and keep it in power. That is what the Opposition wants you to think, to "ban jang" them.
  - But if everyone thinks that way, you may wake up on 8 May with a government that you don't want.
  - I believe you can choose wisely to secure our future together.

**Singapore needs strong leadership to weather future storms**

- Enough about Opposition.
  - This election is about YOU, Singaporeans, and Singapore's future.

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- Later in my speech, I will share with you what lies ahead and what plans we have for all Singaporeans.
- Singapore has done well in the last forty years.
  - Many call Singapore a miracle.
  - Generations of Singaporeans have contributed and made sacrifices to make this possible.
  - Our younger generations too are doing the same.
  - I thank all Singaporeans for working with the Government and making what Singapore is today.
- I am optimistic about Singapore's future.
  - Singaporeans have shown that we can prevail against all odds.
  - The Government will do what is needed, so that our next generation will continue to enjoy the same prosperity and peace that we inherited from those who built the foundation.
- But we must not let our past progress lull us into complacency. There are storm clouds in the horizon.
  - Growth economies like China and India are buying up almost everything in the world. Many countries are losing businesses, talent and jobs to these regions.
  - Developed economies, like US and Europe, are suffering from chronic unemployment and severe budget deficit. They are printing money to stimulate growth but the problems are far from resolved. Some like Greece, Ireland and now Portugal have to be bailed out.
  - The unrest in Middle East is driving up oil prices.
  - These are driving up costs and inflation everywhere including Singapore.
  - At the same time, terrorism is still a serious threat even when Osama Bin Laden is dead.
  - There are many more "Osamas" around.
- What does this mean for Singapore?
  - We are a small country, and are an open economy.
  - We are affected by global trends and events, like the unrest in Middle East and natural disasters elsewhere in the world.

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- No one knows what events will surprise us in 5 years, 10 years.
- But, we are better placed than many countries to weather the storm but we need a strong team to support Singaporeans through the journey.
  - The PAP is a tried and tested team that has steered Singapore through previous storms.

**[Anecdote – Global Financial Crisis]**

- Let me give you tell you a story. Three days' ago, my friend, Andy (not his real name), related to me his experience during the global financial crisis.
  - In Dec 2008, after Lehman declared bankruptcy, a CEO told Andy that the priority was to protect the company as the world economy was at the edge of the cliff.
  - The CEO then produced a long list of staff to be retrenched, including some in the senior core team. He had to cut staff to save cost. This was the fastest way to cut losses.
  - Outside the office, the company staff were preparing for the holiday season, unaware of the company's plans to retrench them.
  - When Andy returned to office, he found that all his colleagues had similar meetings with many other business leaders.
  - Andy felt depressed by this sobering experience. He could not sleep well for a while.
- Many Singaporeans were at the brink of losing their jobs without knowing it.
- Even those who were employed were worried about losing their jobs.
- In Jan 2009, the Government announced the Resilience Package in our annual Budget statement.
  - We launched the S\$4.5b Jobs Credit Scheme. Grants were given to employers for every Singaporean employee kept on the payroll.

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- Companies shelved their retrenchment plans, and many Singaporeans continued working. They had no idea how close they were to losing their rice-bowl.
- Many jobs were saved.
- Unemployment remained low. Our economy rebounded, stronger than before in 2010.
- Today, many countries are still struggling to recover from the crisis.
  - The crisis exposed the flaws in their economies such as poor regulation and fiscal laxness.
- How did Singapore survive the global financial crisis so well?
  - First, Singapore built up savings through the years of surplus. We were able to dip into our piggy bank to fund the Resilience Package. We did not need to borrow.
  - Second, the Government thought out of the box and acted decisively. Had there been no Resilience Package, jobs would have been lost, and the Lunar New Year 2009 would have been a gloomy one.
- Strong leadership and long term focus remain crucial to Singapore's future survival and progress, more than ever before.
- We cannot be complacent. 创业百年，败家一天. Who can say when the next major crisis may come.
- Singaporeans are worried about cost of living and housing prices.
- The Government understands and shares these concerns. We are taking steps to address them.
  - To buffer the impact of rising cost, the government has introduced the Grow and Share package.
  - The Government will also continue to build more new flats and enhance the value.
  - This requires good economic growth.
  - To sustain better living standards and address the issue of cost of living, we will continue to invest in education, upgrade our workers' skills, and help them earn more.

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- Most of all, we must continue to make Singapore competitive and attractive to businesses and investments.
- Singaporeans are also worried about having so many foreigners.
  - The Government understands the concerns.
  - We have cut the number of new PRs in the last two years.
  - We are managing the inflow of foreign workers.
  - Because of the low TFR, we also need them to add to the critical mass of skilled labour so that we can attract businesses and investments.
  - But YOU, Singaporeans, come first.
  - Over the years, we have sharpened the distinction between Singaporeans and foreigners.
    - Only Singaporeans get subsidies in healthcare, social assistance schemes, and are eligible to buy new HDB flats.
    - Only Singaporeans get the Grow and Share Package.
    - We will continue to take good care of you.
- The PAP has plans and policies to help Singapore navigate these challenges ahead.
  - A strong, effective government is the insurance against the challenges in the world.
  - The PAP has been a trustworthy steward for our people through the last five decades.
  - We remain committed to serve Singaporeans for the coming five years.

- 政府知道人民关注生活费、屋价上涨和有关外劳移民的问题。

**房价高涨**

- 有一些居民跟我说他们的孩子，孙子买不起碧山的组屋。太贵了。
- 我问他们，那你们的房子现在值多少钱？他们说好几倍了。他们很高兴，因为可以养老，留给孩子。

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- 我问刚搬来的年轻夫妇为什么买碧山组屋？他们有的要住靠近父母（享有折扣）。有的说碧山环境好，交通方便，设施齐全又清洁。
- 这就是我们施行资产增值计划的实际成果。
- 目前，政府正在兴建更多组屋，并让现有组屋增值。但是，这些都需要时间见效。政府没有背弃当初的使命，让新加坡人都能够拥有负得起的组屋。

### 生活费上涨

- 生活费上涨实际上是受国际趋势所影响。
- 我们是小国，没有天然资源，任何所需物资都靠进口。
- 中国印度目前在收购全世界的资源来开发本身的市场。中东的动乱把油价抬高。国际物品价格提高，全世界面临通货膨胀，进口成本高，物价必然上涨。
- 政府不是视而不闻。我们努力提高本地工人的素质，改变我国经济发展蓝图，开发新技能，使新加坡市场更具潜力和吸引力。
- 这样一来，国人有工作，有高薪，必然能够抵消国际的通货膨胀和物价高涨等问题。
- 短期内，政府推出了“增长和分享”配套，给人们分红，让人们可以更有效的应付生活费的上涨。

### 外劳和移民政策

- 国人担心外国人来抢饭碗。
- 引进外国人的理由有二。
  - 一， 做新加坡人不愿意做的工作。
  - 二， 填补厂商迫切需要有技能劳工的需要。这样才有办法引进外来投资和生意，提供国人更高薪的工作。
- 我们的政策考量以新加坡人为中心。
- 我们会不断的通过各种管道聆听国人的意见，使政策更为完善。

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- 如今，新加坡人和外国人所享有的利益分歧更为明显。例如刚收到的“增长和分享”，国人的保健计划，社区计划和购买新政府组屋的优惠等。
- 该做的政府已经做了。我们没有停歇。现有计划还在进行当中，需要时间见效。新的计划也准备出炉。我们也时刻观察世界动态，放眼未来，一边有效快捷的应付下一轮挑战。

**PART 2 – PAP’S PLANS FOR BISHAN-TOA PAYOH GRC**

**My PAP team has concrete plans to improve the lives of Bishan-Toa Payoh residents**

- My team and I are committed to improving the lives and welfare of Bishan-Toa Payoh residents.
- This is captured in our manifesto – Beautiful Homes, Caring Community. Mayor Zainudin will talk about this later.
- Engendering a Caring Community is particularly important to me and my colleagues.
- It is how we make a difference in each other’s lives. This is what we have been doing all along.

**Choose the team that can serve you best**

- Throughout the campaign, many residents and media asked me what I thought of Mr Chiam See Tong and his team.
  - The SPP has said a lot to attack the PAP and my team.
  - But I still told everyone that I do not wish to comment on individuals. It is not for us but for voters to assess them and what they say.
  - Mr Chiam’s decision to lead a team contest Bishan-To Payoh is welcomed.
  - It gives our residents a choice.
  - Ultimately, our residents will vote in the better team to take care of them and their constituency.
- We ask you to assess and decide which team – whether the PAP or SPP – can better serve your needs and look after your estates.

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- There are three areas that we are stronger.
  - First, we have a proven and strong track record.
    - The SPP team has one veteran politician. The rest surfaced to contest barely 2 months ago.
      - Do our residents know them?
      - What they stand for?
      - What they can do for our residents?
      - I don't think you know much of them.
  - The PAP team delivered what we have promised in the past, even when the opposition did not contest in the GRC.
    - We have served generations of residents.
    - Now I would like to tell you a second story.

**[Anecdote – Helping residents through generations]**

- Two weeks ago, I received an email from a Toa Payoh resident. Let's call her Irene [not her real name]. Irene reminded me that:
  - 24 years ago, when she was four years old, I helped her Malaysian mother get a visa to stay in Singapore after the parents divorced.
  - I helped them get a rental flat in Toa Payoh and they stayed here for many years.
  - Five years ago, Irene's mother obtained Singapore PR after I appealed for her.
  - Four years ago, I helped Irene in another personnel matter.
  - Now, Irene is happily married and moved to a new flat in Toa Payoh. She wrote to remind me of what I did for her mother and her.
  - She wanted to express her appreciation.
- This is what serving residents is about – improving their lives.
- All our PAP candidates have been helping residents in this quiet, low key manner, through the MPS and other ways.

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- Second, our team is experienced.
  - We have run Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council for more than 20 years.
    - The SPP team was only formed two months ago.
    - Mr Chiam has experience in running a small Potong Pasir Town Council.
    - You can compare the performance between his town council and our town council.
- Three, we have a concrete 5-year plan to improve our GRC
  - Our plan is built on our track record.
  - What do they have?
  - They want you to vote them in, before they decide what they will do for you. They want a blank check.

**PART III – SECURING YOUR FUTURE – VOTE PAP**

**风雨同舟**

- 这几年来人民也辛苦了。国际形势不稳定，政府也一直努力掌舵这艘船。但是，没有大家的同心协力，配合政府的政策，我们也不能迅速的离开漩涡。
- 但是，我们还没有到岸。未来的航程仍然坎坷。
- 这次的大选，关系到我们共同的未来。

**明智投票**

- 二十年了，居民终于可以有投票机会。
- 如何投票，没有对和错。请理智的投票。不能把它当儿戏。也不要把投反对党当作潮流。
- 把票投给可以照顾您和家人，为新加坡的前途着想的政党。

**一，二，三**

- 我建议当您在投票站，在打上叉 (x) 的时候，请您记住：
- “一，二，三”

**“一”：同一个未来**

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- 不要拿你的未来当赌注。创业百年，败家一年。
- 新加坡迅速从国际经济危机反弹，保持低失业率，不是偶然。政府的周详政策，破釜沉舟的意志，果断采取措施，帮助国人守住工作岗位，尽力开辟新工业，提高国人的工作资本和薪金的成果。
- 有您的支持和委托，人民行动党才可以继续为新加坡的未来奋斗，实施长远，有利于您和家人的计划，保障我国的未来。

**" 二 " 代表我们团队对居民的两个承诺。**

一， 打造美好家园

二， 建立关怀备至的社区

- 过去五年，我们完成了各项翻新计划，未来五年，我们将致力打造充满活力的家园，关怀乐龄人士，建设亲家庭的环境和尽力帮助贫困家庭。我们不是空谈。详细的内容，我行动党的队友会详细介绍。
- 在社区方面，我们也努力在帮居民解决问题，改变生活。
- 居民应该还记得，今年1月18日，联合晚报刊登了一则碧山家庭的困境。父亲，身为家里唯一的支柱，不幸早世。家庭陷入困苦。我马上通知了碧山的基层领袖，基层领袖告诉我其实他们在报章刊登新闻之前已经知道该家的困境。然而基层领袖采取行动，帮助该家搬迁新居，并为他们申请补助基金。
- 两天后，晚报后续报道：“社区领袖上门协助碧山母女”。
- 母女目前的情况已经改善。他们搬入新家，如今仍然收到社区关怀基金的援助。这就是我们建立关怀备至社区的好例子。

**" 三 " 是选我们人民行动党团队的三个理由：**

一， 我们的政绩有目共睹

二， 我们有具体周详的计划。

三， 我们是一支有经验的团队。

- 前几天，我走访居民。一名老太太上前，用福建话说：“请人还是要请熟的，新人还是不熟。”

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- 姜还是老的辣。一针见血。
- 今天，我们五个人站在你的面前：
  - 一， 黄永宏部长
  - 二， 再努丁市长
  - 三， 杨莉明女士
  - 四， 哈利古玛先生
  - 五， 和我，黄根成
- 常言道，“日久知人心。”
- 这许多年来，我们鞠躬尽瘁为国奉献， 为民服务。
- 我团队的贡献是有目共睹， 绝非滥余充数。
- 不管有没有反对党，五年前的承诺我们兑现了。我们说到做到，从不开空头支票。
- 我们讲诚意，重信用。这就是实实在在的向人民负责任。
- 我们相信选民的眼睛是雪亮的。你们就是我们的伯乐。我相信你们会做出明智的决定。
- 记得“一，二，三”
  
- You will cast your vote this Saturday. I hope you can think of “One-Two-Three” when you do.
- One: We have **One Future** together
  - Don't take chances with your future.
  - Singapore has done well only because of strong government, sound policies and good support of our people.
  - With your mandate, the PAP Government will be able to implement long term policies for Singapore's future.
  - With your support, the PAP will continue to serve you and improve your lives.
- Two: The PAP team for Bishan-Toa Payoh has **Two Promises** to our residents

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- Beautiful homes.
- And a Caring community.
- We will deliver our promises.
- Three: the PAP team is the better team for the residents of Bishan-Toa Payoh for **Three Reasons**
  - Track record
  - Experience team that you know well.
  - Concrete plans
- Dr Ng Eng Hen, Mayor Zainudin, Hri Kumar, Josephine Teo and I, stand before you today.
- We offer ourselves to serve you the residents of Bishan-Toa Payoh once again.
- We believe we are the better team that can look after you and your family, now and in the future.
- With your support, we will continue to serve you.
- Vote for PAP and secure your future!
- 记得在5月7日，投PAP, 投人民行动党一票。
- 谢谢.