

Govt needs to manage these tensions and remain forward-looking.

Definition: gov't needs to make decisions that will benefit the people in the future.

When citizens' needs are adversely affected in the short term due to long term considerations, tensions may arise.

Anticipating Change & Staying Relevant
e.g. Integrated Resorts in SG created a lot of tension → econ & social costs were high. → jobs & ↑ tourist
↳ Anticipation of change: potential econ & benefits
+ National Council of Problem Gambling to mitigate potential social problems
→ gov't prepares in advance for future challenges & leverage on potential opportunities.

Definition: Providing a stake for everyone gets a say in everyone

decision-making and the creation of opportunities, inducing a sense of belonging to the country as they have a right to decide the country's plans.

e.g. Public Housing Scheme and Centre Provident Fund enables all Singaporeans to own a home regardless of financial status.

Definition: The gov't implements legislations that safeguards the interests of citizens. To ensure that citizens have a sense of security about living in the country.

safeguarding the interests of citizens

Definition: The Judiciary is responsible for interpreting laws individually and apply laws passed by the legislature. This is to bolster the confidence that people are judged fairly in court.

E.g. clear guidelines on what is defined as family violence → who can apply for a

Ensuring Justice
protection order, how to apply as well as the actions that can be taken by court.

↳ This serves to protect vulnerable groups as well as safety of the people. → confidence that their well-being is taken care of and there is a fair justice system → safe environment where crimes are deterred and social stability can be achieved.

Definition: Police and civil defence force protect citizens, property and what society believes should be protected.

E.g. ISD keeps S'pore safe & sovereign
→ They collect accurate intelligence, makes impartial assessments and takes timely action to counter security threats. (Internal)

→ (External) agencies such as The Navy and The Army strengthens SG's defence and potential armies are deterred
Maintaining internal order & external security

→ from Singapore. Singapore's foreign policy to advance our national interests through forging strong partnerships to position Singapore as a responsible and constructive member of the international community.

moral courage to do what is right → not what is popular with the people. (maintain stability)

Address the needs of the people and for the nation's best interest.

pol & social stability facilitates investments.

Definition: leaders must be honest and capable.

→ incorruptible
win respect & confidence of people
→ steer country in a right direction.

Having good leadership

For example, Mr Liu Thai Ker who saw the need for a more vibrant arts scene enabled more opportunities for local talents to participate locally and internationally in arts-related activities.

↳ Result: SG became internationally recognized and an attractive place for tourism.

Definition: system that distributes opportunities to enable future successes.

Practicing Meritocracy

E.g. Students who perform well in their studies & CCAs are rewarded well via Edusave Scholarships and Merit Bursary awards to the top 10% and top 25% respectively.

↳ hard work will be rewarded duly → encouraged to do well

Definition: volunteer their time, effort and money towards meaningful social causes they are concerned about OR enable changes and improvements to be made; helps gov't be clearer about the needs and aspirations of its citizens. [influencing gov't decisions]

o they usually do so as they feel that their actions would be helpful, → they feel strongly towards the cause.

o Their actions can benefit many people and the improvements that result can be immediate

Individuals

o As individuals closer to their community, they may be able to identify the needs of the society which may never be picked out by the gov't & take actions immediately to help.
↳ individuals can also complement and work on specific needs of society which cannot be met by the gov't.

Issue 1: Working for the good of Society

Role of Citizens

As such, they can help to complement the role of the gov't in providing support structure, resources and services in specific areas that may have been lacking.

o To bolster the limited pool of resources that the gov't has so as to fill in the gaps to ensure the various needs and interest of people are not neglected.

o They are also able to provide expertise to cater to the diverse needs of the society more effectively which may not be achieved if left to the gov't to handle alone.

Definition:

They are non-governmental organisations, having a clear objective to address a wide range of interests and are also registered by the government.

E.g. Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS) which aim to advance the development, well-being and aspirations of persons with intellectual disability and their integration into society.

Formal Groups (NGOs)

Providing goods & services

Definition: The government devotes significant resources to improving the well-being of their citizens. Citizens enjoy benefits from the provision of goods and services.

E.g. transportation: gov't worked towards developing a people-centred public transport system, interconnected with high quality.

o All citizens have access to these goods & services.

o Improve the well-being of citizens & not deny those who cannot afford, making citizens more willing to contribute to the country

o This is so that citizens' needs can be met to ensure peace and stability in the country.

o Some of these goods and services are also important infrastructure that attract investors to our economy.

People that contribute to the needs of society by volunteering in areas they are passionate in, so that the well-being of the society can be sustained and improved. (Formal or Informal)

Informal Groups

Definition:

Informal groups are organisations with a specific, short term objective related to issues that arise suddenly. These groups are temporarily formed and may not be registered.

E.g. A group of youths organised themselves during the haze period to distribute masks. They contributed in a constructive and responsible manner by identifying the country's problem in managing the haze.

↳ As such, they are able to:

- organize themselves
- attend to specific needs
- complement the support structures provided by the gov't.

o fill in the gaps & improve the overall well-being of the citizens