

Singapore's Government

- (Read pg. 44–56 of the SS Textbook)
- Three main branches (organs of state)
 - The Legislature: Parliament + President
 - The Executive: PM + Cabinet
 - The Judiciary: Supreme + Subordinate Courts

Government

Executive

(decision-making body)

government

Legislature & Judiciary

(law-making body and the courts)

The State

Military and Bureaucracy

(comprising law enforcement and other public services eg. healthcare)

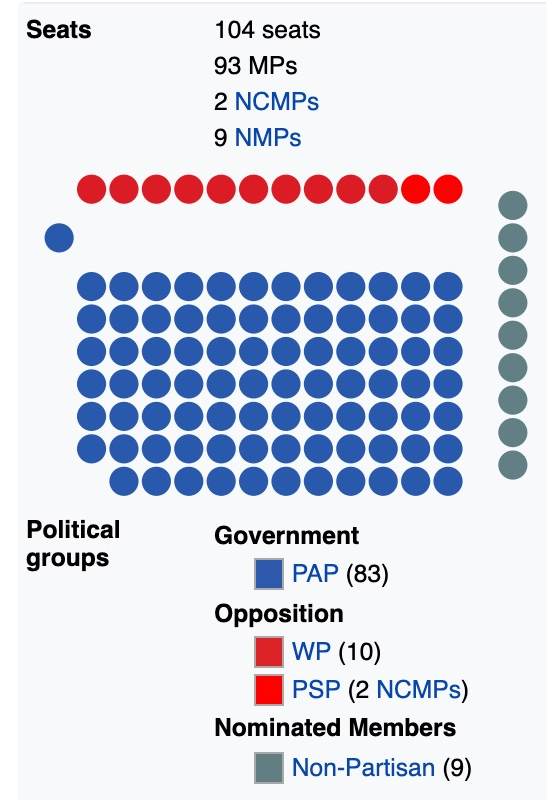
The Parliament of Singapore

- **Makes laws** by debating and approving Bills
- **Approves Government budget** during Committee of Supply debate and approval of Supply Bill
- Serves as a **check on Government** by questioning Ministers



The Parliament of Singapore

- Based on Westminster system
- Unicameral (one house)
- Comprises elected **Members of Parliament** (MPs), NCMPs, & NMPs
- Total **104 seats**
- Maximum term of 5 years (currently 14th Parliament)



The Parliament of Singapore

- Non-Constituent Member of Parliament
 - Scheme introduced in 1984 to ensure Opposition representation in Parliament
 - Up to 12 NCMPs (since 2016 amendment) from “best losers” Opposition candidates
 - Does not represent any constituency
 - Have equal voting rights as elected MPs (since 2016 amendment)
 - Two NCMPs from nominated after 2020 GE (with WP winning 10 seats in 2 GRCs): Hazel Poa & Leong Mun Wai from PSP

The Parliament of Singapore

- Nominated Member of Parliament
 - Scheme introduced in 1989 to ensure wider representation of independent and non-partisan views in Parliament
 - Up to nine NMPs appointed by the President (after selection by Special Select Committee) within six months of a new Parliament meeting
 - Serve fixed term of 2.5 years, represent no constituency
 - Entitled to vote on all matters except Supply Bills, Money Bills, Constitutional amendments, motions of no confidence and motions on removal of President

The President

- Became elected presidency in 1991 with constitutional roles on top of ceremonial roles
 - **Safeguard reserves** with veto power over any budget or transaction that draws on Past Reserves
 - **Ensures impartiality** of public sector and govt. companies with veto of appointments of key personnel
 - **Protect minority rights** with President's assent to bills that pass Presidential Council for Minority Rights
 - **Represent Singapore** as ceremonial Head of State



The Cabinet

- Responsible for day-to-day administration of the affairs of state
- Collectively held accountable by Parliament
- Comprises the **Prime Minister** (PM), Deputy PMs, and ministers in charge of the **16 ministries** (textbk. pg. 52-53)
- President appoints PM, who then appoints Cabinet members from among elected MPs

CABINET RESHUFFLE



LEE HSIEN LOONG
Prime Minister



HENG SWEE KEAT
Deputy Prime Minister;
Coordinating Minister for
Economic Policies



TEO CHEE HEAN
Senior Minister;
Coordinating Minister
for National Security



**THARMAN
SHANMUGARATNAM**
Senior Minister; Coordinating
Minister for Social Policies



NG ENG HEN
Minister for Defence



VIVIAN BALAKRISHNAN
Minister for Foreign Affairs



K. SHANMUGAM
Minister for Home Affairs;
Minister for Law



GAN KIM YONG
Minister for Trade and
Industry



S. ISWARAN
Minister for Transport;
Minister-in-charge of
Trade Relations at Ministry of
Trade and Industry



GRACE FU
Minister for Sustainability
and the Environment



CHAN CHUN SING
Minister for Education;
Minister-in-charge of
Public Service



LAWRENCE WONG
Minister for Finance



MASAGOS ZULKIFLI
Minister for Social and Family
Development; Second Minister
for Health; Minister-in-charge
of Muslim Affairs



ONG YE KUNG
Minister for Health;
Minister-in-charge of
ageing issues



DESMOND LEE
Minister for National
Development; Minister-in-
charge of Social Services
Integration



JOSEPHINE TEO
Minister for Communications
and Information; Second
Minister for Home Affairs;
Minister-in-charge of Smart
Nation initiative



INDRANEE RAJAH
Minister in Prime
Minister's Office; Second
Minister for National
Development and Finance



MALIKI OSMAN
Minister in Prime
Minister's Office; Second
Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Education



EDWIN TONG
Minister for Culture, Community
and Youth; Second Minister for
Law; Deputy Chairman of
People's Association



TAN SEE LENG
Minister for Manpower; Second
Minister for Trade and
Industry

The Judiciary

- Comprises
 - **Supreme Court** (High Court & Court of Appeal)
 - **State Courts** (District & Magistrate Courts)
 - **Family Justice Courts** (Family & Youth Courts)
- Headed by the **Chief Justice** (Sundaresh Menon, 2012)



Q13. Case Study: PMD Regulations in SG

- **Active Mobility Advisory Panel (AMAP)** set up by LTA in Jul 2015 in response to concerns about PMD use; **public feedback** sought from Jul-Aug 2015; first set of **recommendations** released by AMAP in Mar 2016
- **Active Mobility Bill** first read in Parliament on Nov 2016; passed as **Active Mobility Act** in Jan 2017, assented to by President on Feb 2017
- LTA (with SPF and NParks) **enforce Act** with “more than 3,700 offences committed under the AMA” from May 2018-2019
- To further regulate of PMD use, **amendments** were made to the Active Mobility Act by Parliament in 2020 and 2020; **Small Motorised Vehicles (Safety) Act** passed in May 2020 to control imports of PMDs