



## Home Team Departments

### Singapore Police Force



*The mission of the Singapore Police Force (SPF) is to uphold the law, maintain order and keep the peace in the Republic of Singapore. This is achieved through the delivery of four main services, namely policing, investigation, police counter services and public education. Our Shared Vision is to be "A Force for the Nation" that ensures the security, survival and success of Singapore, and helps to build it into our best home.*

### Achievements and Highlights

#### STAR Unit Displays New Maritime Assault Capability

Crimes at sea involving highly armed and dangerous criminals have been on the rise worldwide. Operating as a major international sea hub, Singapore waters have one of the world's highest sea traffic. To deal with potential illegal armed activities in our territorial waters, the Special Tactics and Rescue (STAR) Unit has been building up its maritime assault capabilities over the past few years. STAR finally showcased its new Maritime Assault Capability to the public in February 2005.

#### Establishment of Police MRT Unit

A Police Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Unit was formed on 15 August 2005 to provide greater armed police presence through high visibility patrols and security checks on MRTs.

Together with existing security measures adopted by the two MRT operators, which include the use of surveillance closed-circuit televisions (CCTVs) and the deployment of private security guards, these measures help to ensure the security of the 1.2 million Singaporeans who use the MRT system daily and to harden Singapore against terrorist attacks.



Patrols on MRT



## Singapore Police Force

### SPF Sets Up Police Custodial Department

The management of Persons-in-Custody is an everyday feature of police work. Hundreds of Persons-in-Custody are processed daily. To ensure fair dealings and professionalism in our Persons-in-Custody management, the Police Custodial Department was formed on 25 January 2005. It became fully operational on 1 April 2005. The department plans, directs, controls and coordinates activities which facilitate line units in their pursuit of excellence in the management of Persons-in-Custody, professional training and development of Persons-in-Custody officers.

### Formation of Bomb and Explosive Investigation Division

Bombs and improvised explosive devices are commonly used by terrorists. To enhance the capability of the SPF in dealing with incidents involving such devices, the Bomb and Explosive Investigation Division was officially set up in November 2005 under the ambit of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID). Besides developing SPF's operational capabilities in dealing with bomb and explosive incidents, the division also manages the training of officers in post-blast investigation, streamlines and consolidates CID's resources to better manage investigations of incidents involving explosive devices, as well as facilitates the sharing of relevant information with foreign and local enforcement agencies.

### Acquisition of New Operational Equipment

To enhance its operational capabilities, SPF added to its anti-terrorism arsenal several new equipment and vehicles in 2005. These included the Mobile Crash Barrier which serves as a critical preventive measure in mitigating security threats by vehicles; the Clipper Bus which carries Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) escape hoods for rapid evacuation of persons at contaminated incident sites; the Fast Response Vehicle (FRV)--a sport-utility truck that enables Neighbourhood Police Centres to carry chemical agent protection equipment and bullet proof vests for frontline use; and the new VIP motorcade escort which is another sport-utility vehicle meant to enhance the capability of the Security Command in order to defend VIP cars against attacks by high-powered and similarly large vehicles, such as multi-purpose vehicles, which are common on roads these days.



SPF's newly acquisition new Operational Equipments - The Fast Response Vehicle (FRV), the Clipper Bus and the Mobile Crash Barrier



## Singapore Police Force

### Provision of Security Coverage for the 117 th IOC Session

SPF conducted one of its largest security operations when the 117th International Olympic Committee Session (IOC) took place in Singapore in July 2005. About 400 officers were deployed for the security operation each day during the session from 2 to 9 July 2005. This number peaked at 1,000 officers during the crucial period of 5 and 6 July 2005 when bidding cities congregated to present their bids, culminating in the announcement of the chosen host city.

Regular officers, full-time Police National Service officers (PNSFs), Police National Servicemen (PNSmen) and Volunteer Special Constabulary officers were all mobilised for the operation. The required level of vigilance was at an all-time high due to the participation of high risk countries and high profile personalities who required tight security coverage. This was especially so because of the London bombings which occurred a day after the decision on the host city was made, and while other activities of the IOC Session were still ongoing.

Besides the large deployment of officers at this event, newly acquired equipment were also deployed for use in the operation. These included the mobile crash barriers, concrete blocks and the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) escape hoods.

### Operation Peaceful Return

Singapore was among the first nations to offer and deliver its assistance to neighbouring countries affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami of 26 December 2004. Within days of the disaster, SPF activated a team of officers to join an inter-ministry mission to help the Thai authorities in identifying the victims. Together with an international group of experts, SPF's Disaster Victim Identification team worked tirelessly to take fingerprints and photographs of the deceased persons for identification purposes. In Phuket, officers were also stationed at the Singapore Contact Centre to coordinate efforts with the home Contact Centre to establish the conditions and whereabouts of missing or uncontactable Singaporeans.



Police conducting security checks during the IOC event.





## Singapore Police Force

The SPF also raised a total of \$141,000 for the Singapore Red Cross Society within a week. The following week, on 15 January 2005, members of the Singapore Police Association for National Servicemen and the Civil Defence Association for National Servicemen took part in a Body Combat Challenge and raised another \$100,000 for the Red Cross. Trainees and officers from Training Command and the NPCC also volunteered to pack essential items to be sent to Sri Lanka on New Year's Day on in 2005.

## Closure of Police Academy

The Police Academy located at Thomson Road was closed down on the eve of 2006. Giving officers a last chance to walk around the academy and reminisce the memorable times spent there, an open house entitled "Walking Down Memory Lane" was held on 10 December 2005 for officers, both serving and retired, Police National Servicemen and their families.



CP hands the donations to Singapore Red Cross for Tsunami Victims.



On 31 December 2005, almost 500 staff and officers of the Training Command bade their final farewell to the academy. Marking the closure of Police Academy and commemorating the move to a new home, 77 runners bearing flags representing each of the 77 glorious years of Police Academy's history from 1929 to 2005 embarked on a 21-km relay run from the academy to the new base at Home Team Academy.

The 21 km run from Police Academy to Home Team Academy



## Singapore Police Force

### Celebration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the SPF Band

The SPF Band is the oldest band in Singapore and the only service band in the country that is complemented by a group of bagpipers. Established in 1925, it has grown from a 33-bandsmen formation to a 110-strong band.

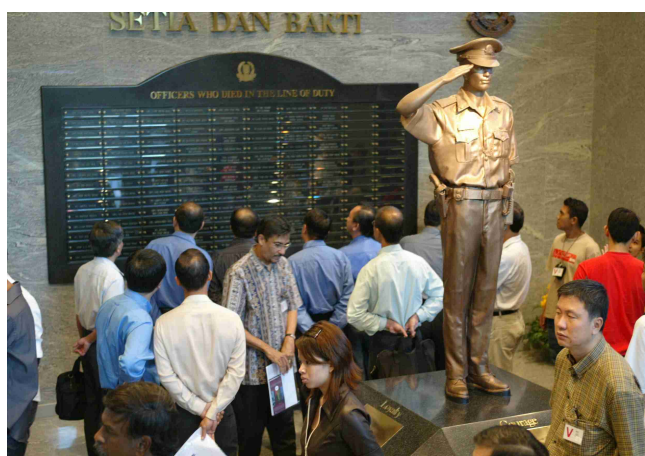
The SPF Band celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2005 with a grand charity concert themed “Metamorphosis”. A total of S\$100,000 was raised for beneficiaries Dover Park Hospice and Kidney Dialysis Foundation. A new composition “Celebration 80” was also specially commissioned and performed at the concert. The band also cut a music album containing this new composition and other music pieces which they had previously played.



The SPF Band's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert

### 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Full-time Police National Service (PNSF)

2005 was the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the implementation of full-time Police National Service (PNSF). Since the enlistment of the first intake in July 1975, PNSF officers have played a pivotal role in maintaining peace and safety on the island. To commemorate this 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, an open house of the Police Heritage Centre, which houses a section dedicated to the history of Police National Service, was organised for the Police National Servicemen and PNSF officers on 29 October 2005.



There were also several new developments in the training and progression of PNSF last year. To accommodate the shorter term of national service, the in-camp training period for junior rank PNSF officers was shortened from six to three months. For the first time, junior rank trainees with higher potential were also given the opportunity to be promoted to Officer Cadets.

Police Heritage Centre Open House for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of PNSF



## Singapore Police Force

### Moving Forward

SPF will continue to seek improvements on all fronts in line with its key strategic thrusts. For general frontline officers, a system has been implemented to enable patrol officers to screen handphones against a database of those reported stolen. Soon, there will also be SMS alerts to the grassroots to provide updates on the latest crime and security situations.

With the launch of the Community Engagement Programme by the government, engagement with the grassroots, schools and private sector will be catapulted to the forefront of policing. The Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) system is also being fine-tuned to ensure it remains relevant to the evolving operational environment. To enhance the level of service delivery to our customers, SPF will apply for ISO9001:2000 certification for police NPC/NPP (Neighbourhood Police Post) counter services in 2006.

On the specialist fronts, with an eye on the World Bank-IMF Annual Meeting in September, further improvements will be made to police anti-rioting and counter-terrorist capabilities, including the acquisition of new tactical and support vehicles. On a broader front, a scheme that aids businesses in business continuity will be implemented to provide incentives for business groups to work even closer with police. CCTV coverage of problem spots island-wide will also be unified to enable better management.





## Home Team Departments

### Internal Security Department



*ISD manages and addresses the threats that can undermine Singapore's internal stability, security and sovereignty. In this age of globalisation, Singapore remains as ever, if not more vulnerable, to international socio-political dynamics, influences and activities that can destabilise and destroy our society.*

The multi-ethnic and multi-religious make-up of our society continues to present latent fault lines that can be exploited by communal extremists and foreign subversives. ISD devotes resources to ensuring that the violent race riots of the past do not recur.

ISD also ensures that Singapore's sovereignty is not compromised by foreign espionage and the import of foreign causes and politics. Espionage did not die out with the end of the Cold War but remains a very real threat. The arrests of 6 persons in 1997 and 1998 for engaging in espionage activities for foreign powers against Singapore underline this.

### Main Challenge Ahead

Today, all over the world, the main challenge to internal security is terrorism. The ISD security operations against the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) terrorist groups, and other groups and individuals sympathetic to the violent ideology of the extremists and terrorists, are on-going. Four more people were detained for their involvement in the JI or MILF in 2004 and 2005.

ISD will continue to safeguard the internal stability, security and sovereignty of Singapore.



## Home Team Departments

### Singapore Civil Defence Force



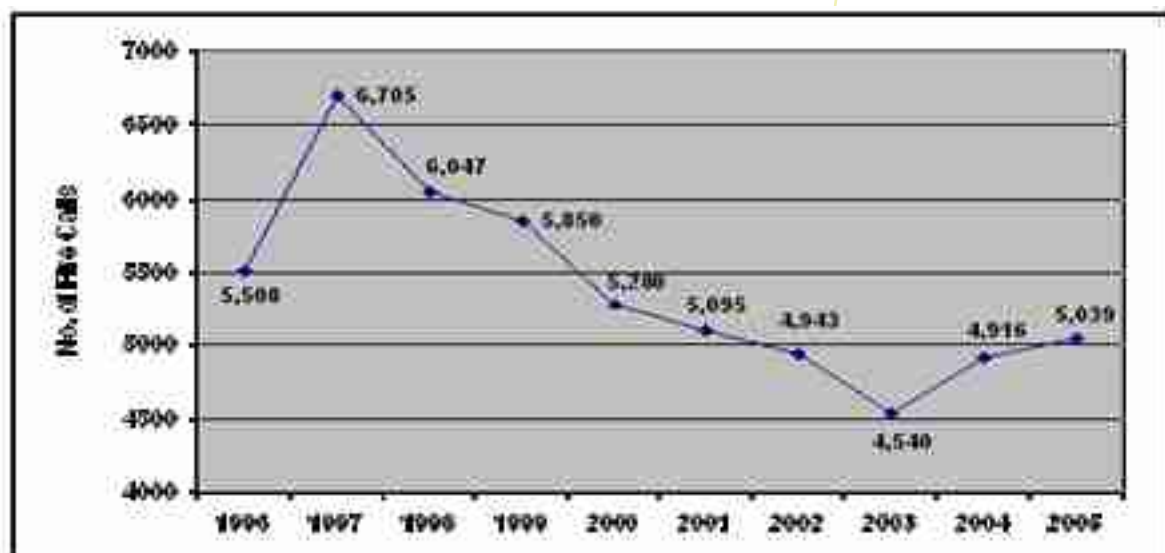
*The peacetime role of the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) is to provide fire fighting, rescue and emergency ambulance services. The SCDF actively promotes public education on emergency preparedness and regulates fire safety in buildings. During national emergencies, the SCDF controls and manages the Public Warning System and Civil Defence shelters, providing the population with advance and adequate protection.*

## Highlights and Achievements

### Operational Excellence

#### Key Statistics

In 2005, the SCDF responded to a total of 5,039 fire calls in Singapore. Although this figure marginally exceeded that of 2004 by 123 cases (3%), it remained relatively low when compared to records of previous years. (see Graph 1). The increase in fire incidents was attributed to the sharp increase in non-building fires, primarily due to the record high number of vegetation fires during the dry spell in early 2005.



Graph 1: Number Of Fire Calls Attended By SCDF From 1996 To 2005





## Singapore Civil Defence Force

The SCDF's emergency ambulance crews last year responded to a total of 88,663 calls. This was an increase of 5,793 calls since 2004 which registered 82,870 calls. The bulk of the calls were related to emergency situations, accounting for 79,895 calls (i.e. 90%) out of the total ambulance calls. 6,046 (i.e. 7%) ambulance calls were non-emergency cases while 2,722 (i.e. 3%) were false alarm cases. See Table 1.

Description	Jan-Dec 2004	Jan-Dec 2005	% change
Emergency Calls	73,915	79,895	+8%
Non-Emergency Calls	6,233	6,046	-3%
False Calls	2,722	2,722	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,870</b>	<b>88,663</b>	<b>+7%</b>

Table 1: Number and Types of Ambulance Calls

## New Operational Appliance to Tackle Vegetation Fires

The spate of vegetation fires in the early months of 2005 prompted the SCDF to study better ways of fighting vegetation fires. In many of the large vegetation fires, the problem was in the thick vegetation which prevented the conventional fire-fighting vehicles from coming close to the source of the fire. To overcome this problem, the SCDF has developed the Tracked Fire-Fighting Vehicle (TFV). The tracks of the TFV allow the vehicle to traverse deep through the vegetation and apply a concentrated water stream from its mounted water monitor to knock out the fire. Commissioned for operation in September 2005, the TFV can also be deployed to help mitigate industrial fires and HazMat incidents.



The Tracked Fire-fighting Vehicle is developed to better tackle vegetation fires.



## Singapore Civil Defence Force

### Community Preparedness

#### Launch of New 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of Civil Defence Emergency Handbook

As part of its outreach effort, the SCDF launched the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of its Civil Defence Emergency Handbook on 17 April 2005 to provide the public with basic information on emergency preparedness. This handbook incorporates new emergency preparedness measures, such as what one should do in the event of an unconventional attack and when undergoing decontamination; as well as how to look out for suspicious characters and objects. To drive home the message that people are responsible for their own safety, a collection rather than a distribution exercise was organised instead.

During and after the launch, copies of the handbooks were placed at all Residents' Committee Centres, Community Centres/Clubs, Civil Defence establishments and Neighbourhood Police Centres for the public to pick up their personal copies. As at February 2006, more than 860,000 copies of the new handbook have been collected.



The 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the CD Emergency Handbook, launched on 17 Apr 05, incorporates new emergency preparedness measures.

#### Community-Driven Exercises for the Heartlands

Community-based exercises in the heartlands, known as Exercise Community Spirit (ECS) and Emergency Preparedness (EP) Day, are usually spearheaded by the CD Divisions and supported by the CDECs and other grassroots organisations. In July 2005, the responsibility of organising the EP Day was given to the community, through the Emergency Preparedness Groups (EPGs) and with the SCDF playing a supportive role. This initiative aims to involve the grassroots in a larger role in ensuring the safety and security of their constituencies. In 2005, 48 such exercises were carried out.



## Singapore Civil Defence Force Effective Public Protection

### Widening Licensing Control on Flammable Materials

In view of the heightened security in Singapore following a series of terrorist attacks in the region, the amendment Bill to the Fire Safety Act was passed on 6 February 2004 with the objective of tightening control on the import, storage and transportation of flammable materials in Singapore. Following the passing of the amendment Bill, the new Fire Safety (Petroleum and Flammable Materials) Regulations were gazetted on 16 February 2005 and came into effect on 1 July 2005. Previously, the Fire Safety Act covered only petroleum-based flammable materials as well as their transportation and storage. However, the new regulations give wider licensing control to the SCDF by including non-petroleum-based flammable materials, as well as the import of flammable materials into Singapore.

### Tracking of Vehicles Transporting Hazardous Materials

The HazMat Transport Vehicle Tracking System (HTVTS) was conceived with the objective of preventing vehicles transporting hazardous materials from being hijacked and used as a weapon of mass destruction by terrorists. Since 1 July 2005, the System has been tracking vehicles transporting toxic, flammable, explosive or biological materials above a defined threshold. These vehicles are required under the various regulations to be fitted with permanent and portable tracking devices for local and foreign registered ones, respectively.

In the event of an unauthorised removal or tampering of the device, or a violation of the transportation rules, such as deviating from the approved transportation routes or timings, audible and visual alarms will go off at the monitoring centre at HQ SCDF.

If the violation is determined to be suspicious, a series of security measures will be triggered off. On 1 October 2005, the System was further enhanced to enable the hazard lights and horn on the vehicle to be activated as well to warn off other motorists. In the next phase of development, the HTVTS will be equipped with a remote immobilisation capability.

In line with the implementation of the HTVTS, the SCDF has also established mobile enforcement teams to carry out enforcement checks on these vehicles moving on the roads. For this purpose too, three checkpoints at Anson Road, Orchard Road and Victoria Street have been established to check on all vehicles entering the Central Business District.



With the implementation of HTVTS since 1 Jul 05, the movements of HazMat transport vehicles are monitored round-the-clock.





## Singapore Civil Defence Force Organisational Excellence

### SCDF Gets National Recognition

After attaining the Singapore Quality Class (SQC) in 2001, the SCDF achieved its goal of the Singapore Quality Award (SQA) on 4 October 2005 when it was officially conferred the award by the SQA Governing Council. Joining only a handful of private and public sector organisations who have won this prestigious award, the award represents the SCDF's ascension to the ranks of world class organisations in Singapore.

Besides the SQA, the SCDF was also recognised on various fronts, having been awarded The Enterprise Challenge Shield for its innovation project, "The development of Watermist Technology for Front Line Fire-Fighting"; Distinguished Public Service Award for its achievement of SQA and other qualifying standards, such as ISO 9000 Certification and People Developer Standard (PDS); ISO 9001:2000 certification for its Fire Safety and Shelter Department; Singapore H.E.A.L.T.H (Helping Employees Achieve Long-Time Health) Platinum Award; and the PRISM Awards for its effective internal communications system and Multilingual Video Broadcast System.



Comr James Tan (left), Commissioner SCDF receiving the SQA trophy from Mr Lim Hng Kiang on 4 Oct 2005

### International Assistance

Besides responding to the operational needs locally, the SCDF also provided humanitarian assistance to countries in need. On 18 August 2005, the SCDF despatched its Operation Lionheart team to Pekan Baru to assist the Indonesian government in combating forest fires.

DPM Wong sending off the Operation Lionheart team to Pekan Baru to assist the Indonesia government in combating forest fire.





## Singapore Civil Defence Force

The 54-man team helped to put out deep-seated fires covering an area of almost 10 hectares during the six-day mission. Another Operation Lionheart contingent of 44 members departed for Muzaffarabad, Pakistan, on a search and rescue mission on 10 October 2005 following an earthquake that claimed 79,000 lives. During the 12-day mission, the contingent rendered medical aid to almost 501 casualties and participated in helicopter-evacuation operations to help bring some of the casualties to field hospitals.

## Moving Forward

Tracking the movements of HazMat transport vehicles in itself is not adequate in preventing terrorists from hijacking the vehicles. Hence, the SCDF will enhance the HTVTS so that the system will have the capacity to immobilise a HazMat transport vehicle that violates the transportation rules.

Recent terrorist attacks in other parts of the world have shown that explosives continue to be the main threat posed by terrorist attacks. In some instances, even first responders have been targeted. Thus, it is essential for the SCDF as first responders to have the capability to detect and remove the threat posed by either primary or secondary devices quickly and effectively, so that the rescue operation can be carried out unhindered. The SCDF's Improvised Explosive Device Disposal (IEDD) Unit will become operational in June 2006. The build-up dovetails existing IEDD capabilities within the Police and SAF, contributing to the overall national IEDD capacity in Singapore.



The SCDF is building up its IED-mitigating skills to complement the Police and SAF.

The SCDF will further engage the community to enhance their emergency preparedness by increasing the frequency of its community exercises and extending its Community Emergency Preparedness Programmes (CEPP) to targeted groups such as school students, workers in commercial and industrial premises, as well as security guards. Through these measures, the SCDF hopes that the public will learn to attend to themselves better, before the arrival of the emergency authorities at the scene of any incident.



## Home Team Departments

### Singapore Prisons Service



*As a key partner in Criminal Justice, we protect society through the safe custody and rehabilitation of offenders, cooperating in prevention and aftercare.*

## Achievements and Highlights

### Implementation of New Treatment and Rehabilitation Regime

The Singapore Prison Service introduced a treatment and rehabilitation regime for synthetic drug abusers (SDAs) on 1 Jul 2005. Under the regime, first and second time abusers of MDMA ("Ecstasy"), Ketamine, Methamphetamine ("Ice" or "Yaba") and Nimetazepam (Erimin-5) will undergo a focused addiction treatment programme in a Drug Rehabilitation Centre (DRC). This is to help the increasing number of synthetic drug abusers to achieve a drug-free lifestyle without the criminalising effect of imprisonment.

The new rehabilitation regime, which is specially tailored to meet the treatment needs of synthetic drugs and Nimetazepam abusers, includes an institutional phase at the DRCs where abusers participate in the treatment programmes. The abusers will be assessed by Prisons Counsellors and their treatment customised to fit individual rehabilitation needs, addiction severity and readiness for change and treatment. After completing the first phase of the regime in the DRCs, abusers who are assessed to be suitable will be released on community based rehabilitation programmes.

### Achievement of the Singapore Service Class (S-Class)

On 30 May 2005 at SPRING Singapore Auditorium, Mr Lohman Yew, then Deputy Director /Chief Of Staff, was presented with the S-Class plaque by Mr Low Hock Meng, Director of Enterprise Division, SPRING Singapore.



The then Deputy Director receiving plaque from Director of Enterprise Division, SPRING Singapore





## Singapore Prisons Service

Being an active advocate of service excellence, SPS has always been cognizant of the need to provide a high standard of service, which is fast becoming the cornerstone of every organisation in today's competitive environment. By espousing the S-Class framework, SPS can now create more innovative propositions and fine-tune existing processes to achieve service excellence. The success of attaining S-Class affirmed the steadfast efforts of SPS in promoting service excellence in our organisational culture.

### e-Society Excellence Award for the Internet Home Tele-visit

The e-Society Excellence Award honours the best in the private and public sectors that take the lead in innovatively exploiting infocomm technology to impact the society and benefit the people.



Implemented in August 2004, the Internet Home Tele-visit (IHT) project was a breakthrough in Singapore Prison Service's visit process. Using Internet video-conferencing technology, IHT enables the loved ones of offenders to "visit" them from the comfort of their own homes at a convenient time.

A total of 61 nominations from 39 organisations were made with the IHT project emerging as one of the five winners. The award recognised SPS' efforts to continuously innovate and improve operational processes for the benefit of the offenders and their families, thereby making a positive impact on society.

### Expedition to Rebuild Lives in Sri Lanka

A team of 10 prison officers, together with 18 ex-offenders from Changi Women's Prison and Kaki Bukit Centre (Prison School), embarked on a Youth Expedition Project (YEP) to two tsunami-stricken villages in south Sri Lanka, Galle and Hikkaduwa. The team from KBC left in May while the CWP Team left in September.

During their stay in Sri Lanka, the ex-offenders worked hand in hand with prison officers to rebuild the villagers' homes and a school in Galle. They also conducted IT and reading courses for the teachers and children there. The team built wooden beds for villagers who were displaced by the tsunami and housed in camps. The team also brought with them computer notebooks, stationery and toys that had been donated by prison officers, corporate sponsors and other well-wishers.



## Singapore Prisons Service

The expedition was part of the National Youth Achievement Award programme which encourages young people to develop personal qualities of self-reliance, perseverance and a sense of responsibility to themselves, to society and to the nation.

### Yellow Ribbon Project 2005

The Yellow Ribbon Project (YRP) 2005 was well-received by the community, with about 400,000 yellow ribbons sold and over 300 new volunteers signed up. 125 potential employers also approached the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE) to offer jobs to ex-offenders. Community outreach was at an all time high with over 175,000 people participating in the various Yellow Ribbon events.



The team worked hand in hand to rebuild the villagers' homes and a school in Galle.

YRP 2005 has brought us one step closer to giving a second lease of life to the 11,000 ex-offenders released every year. The YRP will continue to adopt the many helping hands approach and partner all who believe in offering second chances, so as to create awareness, generate acceptance and inspire greater community action.

### Towards the Future

The Singapore Prison Service will continue to pursue organisational excellence by constantly learning and reinventing to create new value. For SPS, attaining awards such as the Innovation Class (or I-class), which encourages organisations to assess their innovative capabilities, and S-class in recent years have affirmed its innovation capabilities and efforts in providing quality service. In addition, these achievements will help SPS to be recognised as it progresses towards the Singapore Quality Award standard of world-class organisations.



## Home Team Departments

### Immigration & Checkpoints Authority



*We ensure that the movement of people, goods and conveyances through our checkpoints is legitimate and lawful. We administer and uphold our laws on immigration, citizenship and national registration fairly and effectively.*

## Highlights and Achievements

### Stepped-up security at the checkpoints

ICA has stepped up security checks on persons, cargo and conveyances that passed through our checkpoints. These checks contributed significantly to our nation's security, especially since terrorism remains a clear and present threat to Singapore. These enhanced security checks have been effective in helping to detect smuggling of contraband and items of security concern. They also deter immigrant offenders and persons of security concern.

2005 was another dismal year for smugglers as ICA detected more than 17,000 cases of attempts to smuggle contraband or items of security concern into Singapore. The number of immigration offenders arrested at the checkpoints also saw a 167% increase from 600 in 2004 to 1,600 in 2005.

## Technology

### Integrated SAVE/VETS System

The integrated system comprising of Submission of Application for Visa Electronically (SAVE) and Visa Electronic Transmission System (VETS) was developed to achieve a more robust and streamlined visa processing system to tackle the issue of counterfeit visa stickers without inconveniencing genuine applicants.

SAVE is an e-Service available to authorised travel agents and the general public for application of Singapore visas online, while the VETS system is an internal system for ICA and Overseas Missions (OMs) officers for visa processing and issuance. VETS is used to issue visa stickers with improved inherent security features. They electronically link all the information, including photo image of the visa holder, to ICA checkpoints and head office. This helps to reduce the number of visa forgery cases.





## Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

The two systems are integrated so that applications submitted by the Travel Agents (TAs) and individuals are routed to the respective OMs and ICA office for processing. ICA fully operationalised the SAVE and VETS at the Visitor Services Centre in ICA Building, all checkpoints as well as 23 OMs of Singapore on 15 Oct 2004.

### Biometrics Database for Immigration Clearance

ICA's Biometrics Database for Immigration Clearance (BDIC) was developed to allow comprehensive screening to establish the identities of people during clearance and investigation. With the introduction of BDIC, ICA officers are now able to conduct selective screening of suspected travellers to detect ex-immigration offenders, persons with adverse records and persons of security concern who may attempt to gain entry into Singapore using false or different identity. As of end Dec 2005, 33,409 travellers were screened by the BDIC at the checkpoints and 770 ex-immigration offenders were detected.

### Integrated Cargo Inspection System (ICIS)

In line with the increased need to enhance homeland and maritime security, ICA deployed the Integrated Cargo Inspection System (ICIS), an integrated cargo scanning system to maximise border security at Woodlands and Tuas Checkpoints on Mar and May 2005 respectively.

The ICIS uses a drive-through concept, which allows cargo vehicle drivers to drive through the scanner while the vehicle is being scanned. The ICIS includes a high-speed radiographic imaging system, radiation scanning system, Optical Character Recognition (OCR) capabilities and an automated traffic control system that enables the scanning and control of high volumes of cargo vehicles that are passing through the two land checkpoints. The radiographic imaging system captures a full image of the trailer of the cargo vehicle while the radiation scanning system provides a graphic profile of the radioactivity levels inside the entire cargo vehicle. At the same time, the vehicle registration number of the cargo vehicle will be captured by the OCR. All these are carried out with monitoring by the traffic control system. This set of integrated data, consisting of the radiographic image, radiation graphic profile and OCR results is then sent to the ICIS viewing terminal in real-time for analysis.

The Integrated Cargo Inspection System (ICIS), an integrated cargo scanning system to maximise border security at Woodlands and Tuas Checkpoints.





## Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

### Awards

ICA achieved the Singapore Innovation Class and Singapore Service Class certifications from SPRING Singapore in October and November 2005 respectively. In recognition of its organizational excellence efforts, ICA was also conferred the Public Service Award for Organisational Excellence at the ExCEL Convention and Award Ceremony held on 21 Nov 2005. The certifications and award affirmed ICA's commitment to review and improve its systems and structures to meet the ever-changing operational needs.

### Counter-Terrorism & Security (CTS) Training

Counter-Terrorism & Security (CTS) training is one of the core training programs for all front-line officers in the Home Team. The Training Branch of ICA, with the help of MHA Homefront Security Division (HSD), had rolled out a series of CTS training for all ICA officers. The learning objectives of these programmes were to increase the level of our officers' awareness on terrorism issues and to keep up their vigilance both at work and in their daily lives. The content of the programmes was customised to cater to different groups of staff so as to better address the different learning needs of ICA officers.

### Moving Forward

In the year 2006, ICA will continue to leverage on technology to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of its operations.

### BIOPASS

Ensuring the integrity and security of the Singapore passport is an integral part of our overall security efforts. Biometric passports would restrict the space for terrorist movements by tightening passport controls and border surveillance. The full introduction of the Singapore biometric passports is likely to take place in the second half of 2006.





## Immigration & Checkpoints Authority

### E-IACS

Singapore first introduced the Immigration Automated Clearance System (IACS) in 1997 to provide efficient and secure immigration clearance at checkpoints. Clearing travellers through automated lanes in less than 12 seconds, the system has enabled us to cope with increasing passenger traffic volume without compromising on security.

The E-IACS enables all citizens who have already registered for their National Registration Identity Cards with valid machine-readable Singapore passports to use the automated lanes. Under the system, a Singaporean only needs to scan his passport at the self-service kiosk located before the automated lane. The system will read the Machine Readable Zone (MRZ) of his passport to retrieve his fingerprint record from the National Registration Office database for authentication purpose. Once the system authenticates his fingerprint, the automated gate will open for him to pass through.

The E-IACS will be first implemented at the Budget Terminal in first half of 2006. It will be fully implemented at all checkpoints in Singapore by December 2006.

### BIKES

Biometric Identification of Motorbikers (BIKES) will allow speedier but more secure immigration clearance for motorcyclists. It will also help to ease congestion at the land checkpoints especially during peak hours as well as reduce dependence on human resources to carry out immigration clearance.





## Home Team Departments

### Central Narcotics Bureau



*Formed in 1971, the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) is the principal agency in Singapore tasked to prevent and curb drug trafficking and abuse. It conducts vigorous enforcement against drug offenders, actively cooperates with local and foreign agencies in drug-related matters, and promotes a drug free lifestyle through preventive education and active engagement of the community.*

## Highlights and Achievements

### Singapore Drug Situation

The local drug situation continued to improve. The total number of drug abusers arrested decreased by 17%, from 955 in 2004 to 793 in 2005. The situation amongst new abusers also registered sustained improvement. 453 new abusers were arrested in 2005, a 25% decline as compared to 2004. Majority of the abusers arrested were synthetic drug abusers (79%), while heroin abusers formed only 8%. The most commonly abused drug was Nimetazepam, which accounted for 26% of the abusers arrested.

### Preventive Drug Education

In 2005, CNB continued with its preventive education efforts to spread the anti-drug message, organising a wide range of activities, such as talks, exhibitions, art competition, essay competition and Teachers Seminar. One key event was the anti-drug concert, 'High On Life', which was held on 19 March in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the National Council Against Drug Abuse (NCADA) and broadcasted on television nationwide. The annual Anti-Drug Abuse Campaign was also launched on 26 June, during which green and white collar pins specially commissioned for the anti-drug cause were distributed to the public.

Senior Minister of State for Home Affairs, Assoc Prof Ho Peng Kee, at the "High On Life" concert (19 March 2005), which featured popular celebrities and personalities as anti-drug ambassadors propagating their drug-free lifestyles to the audience.





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CNB also initiated a number of new preventive education activities, such as the Parent-Kid camp, which allowed families to take part in outdoor activities to promote bonding and learn the importance of a drug-free lifestyle. Another new activity was the Soccer Clinic, which leveraged on the popularity of soccer to impart the anti-drug message to youths. In September, CNB jointly conducted the “Kick Off! Street Soccer Challenge” with the People's Association's T-Net Club to promote a healthy, drugs-free lifestyle. Fringe activities with anti-drug themes such as banner-making competition were also organised. During the year, CNB also produced the inaugural issue of the publication, ‘Foster’, to help parents teach their children how to stay away from drugs.



30 families took part in the inaugural Parent-Kid Camp, held on 9 and 10 June 05, which aimed to disseminate anti-drug messages to students, their parents and siblings through a series of physical and mental challenges. It also aimed to provide an opportunity for parent-kid bonding in an environment out of their comfort zones.

Kick Off! Street Soccer Challenge was held on 3 and 4 September 2005. A collaboration with PA's T-Net Club, the competition aimed to promote a healthy, drugs-free lifestyle and to educate students and their supporters on the dangers of drug abuse through fringe activities with anti-drug themes such as the Anti-Drug banner-making competition.





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### National Seminar 2005 and Appreciation Dinner

On 18 September 2005, CNB together with the Ministry of Home Affairs organised the National Seminar on “Community Action Against Drugs: A Decade of Progress Towards a Drug-Free Society”. More than 400 representatives from government agencies and community organisations gathered to mark a decade of progress in Singapore’s fight against drugs and explore ways to tackle future challenges. On 22 September 05, an appreciation dinner was held at the Istana for members of the community who made significant contributions to the fight against drug abuse over the decade.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Wong Kan Seng, viewing the exhibits at the National Seminar (18 September 2005) which showcased how the government and its community partners fought the anti-drug war over the past decade.



### Regional Forums and Training Programmes

CNB continued to play an active role in the regional anti-drug fight in 2005. In September, it hosted two key regional drug forums, namely the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) and the Second Joint Taskforce Meeting of the ASEAN-China Co-operative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD). Both forums discussed ways to tackle the drug problem in the region. CNB also co-chaired the Second ACCORD International Congress, which was held in Beijing, China in October. At the conference, member countries unanimously endorsed the Beijing Declaration, which urged the international community to provide financial and technical support that would help the region achieve its goal of a drug-free ASEAN and China by 2015.



In his welcome speech to participants of the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ASOD on 26 September 05, Director CNB, Mr Ng Seng Liang, encouraged Member Countries to share their experiences and expertise in the anti-drug fight as well as explore ways to enhance areas of co-operation.





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In the area of training, CNB partnered the Australian Federal Police to conduct the “Total Approach for Illicit Drug Control” course for law enforcement officers in the ASEAN region in September. The course was jointly sponsored under the Singapore Cooperation Programme and the Australian Law Enforcement Cooperation Programme. CNB also organised the “Basic Training Course on Investigation in Anti-Drug Money Laundering for ASEAN Law Enforcement Officers” in February, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Participants of both courses gave very positive feedback.

## Moving Forward

Although the local drug situation is under control, many countries in the region continue to be plagued by heroin and synthetic drug problems. CNB needs to be on the alert against the potential spillover effects from these countries to our shores. The discovery of numerous clandestine laboratories in these countries is a clear indication of the potential threat to our drug situation. Moreover, although heroin abuse has declined significantly, the threat of synthetic drugs remains.

To counter these challenges, CNB will explore new ways to enhance or leverage on its strategic partnerships on both the regional and local fronts. It will continue to actively engage its foreign counterparts through intelligence exchange and joint investigations to fight international drug trafficking and cut the drug supplies at their sources. On the local front, CNB will continue to monitor the abuse of prescription drugs such as subutex (or buprenorphine) and work closely with the Ministry of Health to ensure that the situation remains under control. To keep the synthetic drug situation in check, it will continue to explore ways to enhance its detection of synthetic drug abusers as well as review existing enforcement and preventive drug education approaches to ensure their effectiveness.