

## SINGAPORE PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMISTS CELEBRATE TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Economists past and present from the Government's Economist Service – a scheme of service for public sector economists under the Ministry of Trade and Industry, gathered on Friday 15 July 2011 to celebrate 10 years of service in shaping Singapore's public policies. To commemorate this milestone, Guest of Honour, **Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade and Industry** launched the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative book – "*The Art of Economic Analysis*" and *unveiled a new scholarship, the Economist Service Scholarship*, for undergraduate studies in economics at top universities around the world.

2. At the celebratory dinner, the Minister acknowledged the role of public sector economists, and recounted their contributions in making a difference to Singapore. He urged the Economist Service to continue the pursuit for excellence, and to rise up to the occasion to meet the growing demand for robust economic analysis in policy formulation, in the context of an increasingly complex socio-economic environment.

3. The guest-list included senior civil servants, serving Economist Service officers, as well as their academic and private sector counterparts who have been part of the family.

### **Commemorative Book Launched by Minister Lim Hng Kiang**

4. "*The Art of Economic Analysis*" documents the history of the Economist Service, and highlights its key areas of work. Through this book, the public will be better able to appreciate how economics can help to shape public policies and the role of public sector economists in this regard. The 84-page commemorative book is available for download at the Economist Service's website [www.economistservice.gov.sg](http://www.economistservice.gov.sg).

5. The Economist Service contributes to Singapore's economic success by undertaking macroeconomic surveillance, as well as applying economic principles and quantitative techniques to aid in the analysis and formulation of public policies.

6. In the past decade, the Economist Service has influenced many areas of public policies, ranging from macroeconomic and trade policies, to socio-economic policies such as land transport and healthcare financing policies. Officers in the Economist Service have also contributed in the design of energy conservation policies and the formulation of land use policies, among others.

### **New Economist Service Scholarship for Studies in Economics**

7. The need for the Economist Service to stay relevant to achieve economic growth and higher wages for all Singaporeans remains a top priority. Therefore, a key task ahead will be talent attraction for the service.

8. To increase the pool of public sector economists, the Minister launched a new scholarship, the Economist Service Scholarship, for undergraduate studies in economics at top universities around the world. The Economist Service Scholarship aims to attract top students who are keen on economics, and are passionate about public policy to become public sector economists. Through the scholarship, these students will be able to study economics in the best universities. There will also be opportunities for them to gain exposure to how economics can be applied to public policy formulation in Singapore.

9. The scholarship will be awarded and administered by the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The introduction of the Economist Service Scholarship represents the Ministry's commitment to strengthen the Economist Service by growing a talent pool for the Service. It also clearly signals that a career as a public sector economist is a rewarding and meaningful option for top students.

10. The Economist Service Scholarship will be open for application on the PSC's gateway portal ([www.pscscholarships.gov.sg](http://www.pscscholarships.gov.sg)) in September 2011. [More](#) details on the scholarship will also be released on the Economist Service's website [www.economistservice.gov.sg](http://www.economistservice.gov.sg) at a later stage.

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**  
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