

Total Defence Day 2026

National Education Engagement Package

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We are living in volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) times

Geopolitical Tensions

US captured Venezuela's Maduro after strike, Trump says



The Straits Times, 3 Jan 2026

Disruptions

Large parts of Spain and Portugal hit by power outage



Channel NewsAsia, 4 Nov 2025

Disinformation

GE2025: Surge in AI-generated videos related to elections after polls called



Channel NewsAsia, 21 Apr 2025

Economic Pressures

Growth in Singapore key exports seen slowing to 0%-2% in 2026 on US tariff impact



The Straits Times, 21 Nov 2025

Cyber Threats

Singapore actively dealing with ongoing cyberattack on critical infrastructure: Shanmugam



Channel NewsAsia, 18 Jul 2025

Climate Change

Long-term planning and political will needed to tackle climate change in Singapore: Zaqq



The Straits Times, 22 Sep 2025

Total Defence is our collective response against these evolving threats

Total Defence (TD) was introduced in 1984 as “the national defence concept” to rally all Singaporeans behind the SAF should war occur.

Over time, TD has evolved to a **whole-of-society approach** to address new and emerging threats. Total Defence involves every Singaporean playing a part, **individually and collectively**, to build a strong, secure, and cohesive nation. When we are strong, we are able to deal with any crisis.

1984-1990s



Post 9-11



Today



- Support for national conscription
- Oriented towards military threats
- Contextualised to deal with non-conventional threats/crises, such as terrorism and pandemics
- What individuals and communities can do to keep Singapore safe, secure, and cohesive.

Six Pillars of Total Defence



A strong and credible defence force of committed Regulars and National Servicemen, supported by the entire nation.



A cohesive and caring society, with strong bonds uniting diverse groups who live in harmony with one another.



A vigilant and prepared society, with a crisis-ready mindset.



A digitally-prepared population that is discerning and responsible online.



A robust, resilient, and globally competitive economy.



The collective will to act, the resolve to defend our way of life and national interests, and the fighting spirit to overcome challenges together.

Total Defence has evolved to meet the changing needs of Singapore

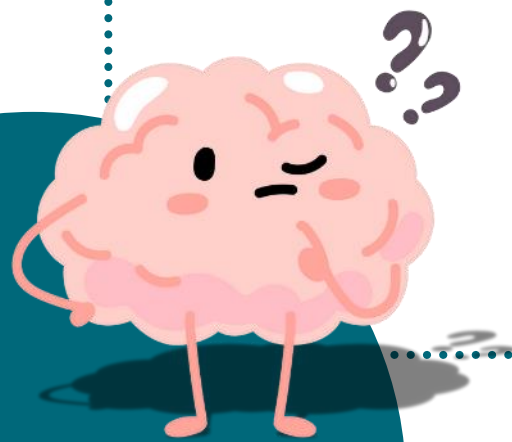
In a world often divided by intolerance and self-interest, TD has stood strong and been strengthened as a result of these stress tests.

In recent years, TD has placed greater emphasis on readiness for disruptions to everyday life. Alongside preparing for disruptions to power and digital connectivity, there is a renewed focus on fostering a “We-First” mentality and mutual care within the community.

If and when crises and disruptions hit our shores, every one of us must be prepared, stay united, and play our part.

How can my daily actions contribute to Total Defence?

How should we, as a nation, ensure that Singapore is ready and stay resilient during crises and disruptions?



“

Let us take heart in how we have come together over the last six decades as one nation through many crises and emerged stronger, including the **racial riots in the 1960s**, the **financial crises in 1997 and 2008**, and the recent **COVID-19 pandemic**. Through these crises, **our shared values of unity and mutual support** remain the cornerstone of our nation's strength.

”

- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry, Gan Kim Yong, at Exercise SG Ready and Total Defence Day Commemoration Event on 15 Feb 2025

The question is...

ARE YOU READY FOR DISRUPTIONS?

Exercise SG Ready (ESR) 2026

Watch Video on ESR 2026



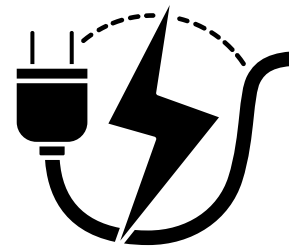
Launched in 2024, Exercise SG Ready encourages individuals, communities, and businesses to translate Total Defence into action by looking out for one another ("We First") and putting contingency plans for disruptions in place against hybrid threats.

For more information:

go.gov.sg/exercisesready

ESR 2026 will be conducted from 1 to 15 Feb 2026 and is based on an exercise scenario set against the backdrop of geopolitical uncertainties and hybrid threats. The exercise emphasises preparedness to disruptions, while highlighting the importance of looking out for others.

Scenario Focus



Power Disruption



Digital Connectivity Disruption



Public Security

Through realistic scenarios, participants will:

- Experience firsthand how disruptions can impact daily life and business operations.
- Refine contingency and continuity plans.
- Test emergency protocols and identify areas for improvement.



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Exercise SG Ready 2026

How can businesses and organisations play their part in Total Defence?

**Take part in ESR 2026
through self-facilitated TTX
packages to review
contingency plans**

TTX (Power Disruption)



<https://go.gov.sg/esr25powerttx>

TTX (Cybersecurity)



<https://go.gov.sg/esr25cyberttx>

**Manage and mitigate
cyber risks**

Phishing Playbook



<https://go.gov.sg/sreadyphishingplaybook>

Cyber Resilience
Guide for Boards



<https://go.gov.sg/sid-cyber-resilience-guide>

**Review business
continuity plans**

EMA's guide on What to Do
During a Power Outage



<https://go.gov.sg/esr-power-outage-readiness>

IMDA's guide on What to
Do During a Power Outage



<https://go.gov.sg/guide-on-digital-connectivity-disruption>

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Exercise SG Ready 2026

How can I support and put Total Defence into action in my daily life?

Plan for disruptions

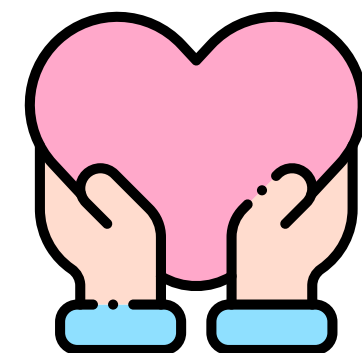
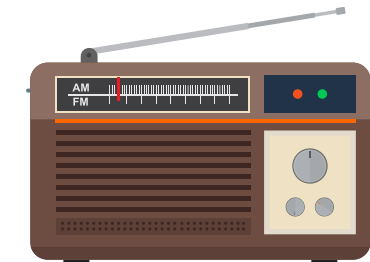
- Disruptions to power and digital connectivity can happen anytime. Develop plans with your family and loved ones on what to do and be aware of those around you who may need help.
- Being mentally and practically prepared helps reduce uncertainty and impact.
- Familiarise yourself with what to do and pack a Ready Bag.

Prepare to respond

- During a major crisis or disruption, Singaporeans should refer to official media channels for accurate information, i.e., digital channels, TV broadcasts, or FM radio broadcasts. Official information and updates are also available at community nodes such as the community centres.
- Familiarise yourself with what to do and pack a Ready Bag.
- Equip yourself with life-saving skills such as basic first-aid and CPR skills.

Play your part

- Singapore stays strong when we stay united. Look out for one another, especially the vulnerable, and play your part in supporting your community during times of crisis.



Reflections

Are you ready to put Total Defence into action in your daily life?

Knows neighbours, learns their cultures, and helps them when needed.

Keeps a Ready Bag in household shelter

Supports local produce

Puts CPR/AED skills in action via myResponder app

Practises good cyber hygiene and is vigilant against fake news and foreign influence

Reduces, reuses, recycles

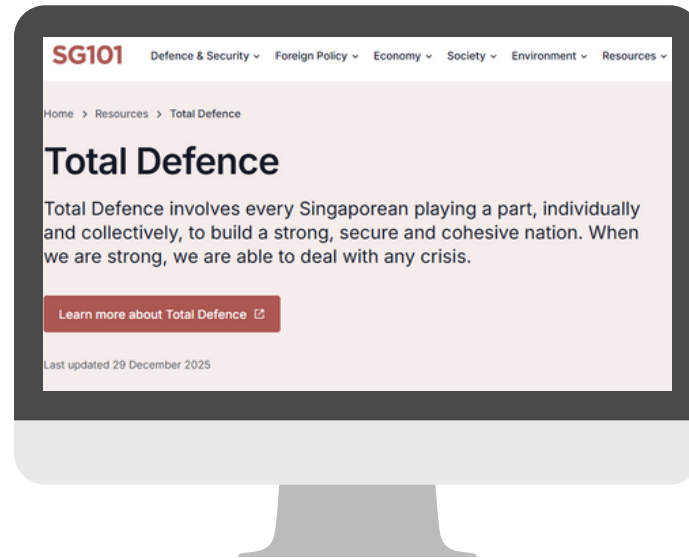
Joins the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and SAF Volunteer Corps

Volunteers and learns new skills using SkillsFuture credits



Useful Resources

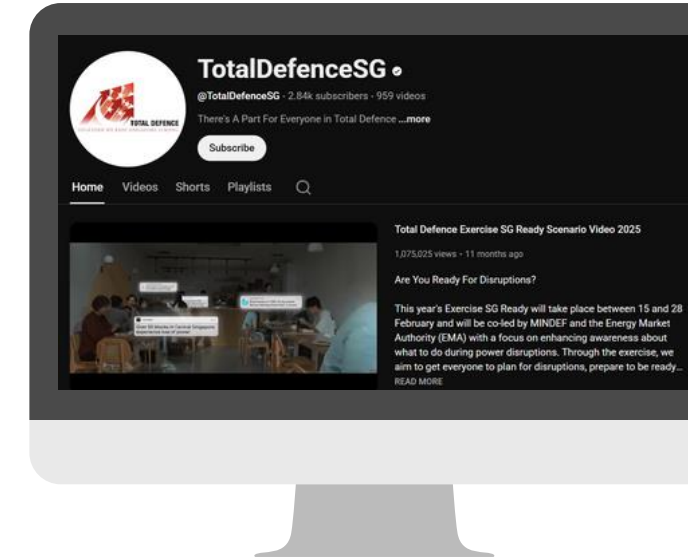
Access TD resources on SG101



<https://www.sg101.gov.sg/resources/total-defence/>



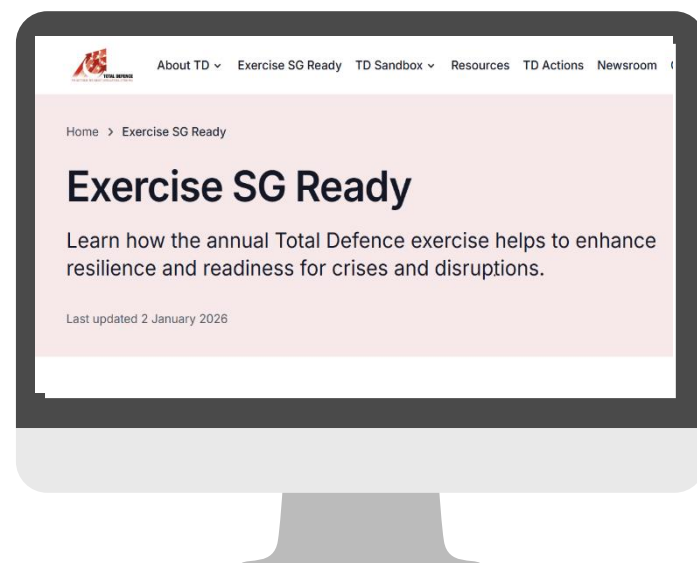
Learn more about TD on YouTube



<https://www.youtube.com/user/TotalDefenceSG>



Learn more about Exercise SG Ready



<https://go.gov.sg/exercisesready>



Follow @wearetotaldefence



Watch the TD Day 2026 message

which will be made available at

<https://go.gov.sg/tdmessage2026>

on 1 Feb 2026!



Thank you!

Your feedback is valuable to us.

Please take a minute to share your feedback through the following link or QR code:



<https://go.gov.sg/feedback-tdp2026>

**Follow @ConnexionSG
for more NE content!**

