



*Prime Minister
Singapore*

17 Jul 2026

The Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon
Supreme Court of Singapore

Dear *Chief Justice*,

As you conclude your distinguished tenure as the fourth Chief Justice of Singapore, I write to express my deepest appreciation for your exceptional service to Singapore over the past 14 years.

In leading the Judiciary, you have brought intellectual rigour, sound judgment and a deep sense of public duty to every aspect of your work. Under your leadership, the Singapore Judiciary has grown in stature and earned widespread respect for its integrity, independence and excellence. At a time when trust in public institutions is eroding in many parts of the world, Singapore's courts continue to enjoy the confidence of our people and the respect of the international community.

Equally significant, our jurisprudence has continued to develop in depth and influence. Judgments of the Singapore courts are increasingly cited in other jurisdictions, reflecting the quality of our legal reasoning and the growing standing of Singapore law. Through your judgments, speeches and writings, you have advanced legal thinking on the rule of law, the administration of justice, judicial ethics and the challenges posed by technological change. Your influence extends well beyond the cases you have decided, and your ideas have shaped legal discourse in Singapore and internationally.

You have complemented intellectual leadership with far-reaching institutional reform. You modernised court structures and procedures, introduced the new Rules of Court in clear and accessible language, and thoughtfully deployed technology to improve the administration of justice. These efforts have made our courts more efficient and responsive to the needs of society.

Just as importantly, you sought to make justice more accessible to court users, particularly those navigating the legal system without legal representation. During your tenure, the Government introduced legislative changes to simplify matrimonial proceedings and strengthen the rehabilitation of offenders, especially young offenders. Under your leadership, the Judiciary gave practical effect to these reforms. The Family Justice Courts were established as a dedicated forum where family matters could be dealt with in a non-adversarial manner. Therapeutic justice was subsequently implemented in the Family Justice Courts and Youth Courts, supported by multidisciplinary approaches that better addressed the underlying causes of conflict while promoting healing, rehabilitation and more constructive outcomes.

Your vision extended beyond our shores. Following the constitutional and legislative changes to establish the Singapore International Commercial Court, you played a key role in building the Court, and subsequently its International Committee, into institutions of international standing, together with its International Judges. All these have strengthened Singapore's position as a trusted and neutral forum for resolving complex cross-border disputes, while contributing to the development of international commercial jurisprudence. Your extensive engagement with judiciaries and legal institutions around the world has also enhanced Singapore's standing as a respected voice within the global judicial community, and reinforced our reputation as a principled and reliable partner.

Beyond your contributions to jurisprudence and the administration of justice, you strengthened the institutions that support Singapore's legal system. As President of the Singapore Academy of Law and Founder of the Singapore Judicial College, you have fostered excellence, professionalism and continuous learning across the Bench and the Bar. You have also been a steadfast advocate of the highest standards of professional conduct within the legal profession, setting clear expectations and upholding those standards with consistency and fairness.

More importantly than any individual reform, you leave behind a Judiciary that is stronger institutionally, richer intellectually and better prepared for the future. The strong foundations you have laid will serve Singapore well for many years to come.

You have always emphasised that the strength of our legal system rests not only on its institutions, but also on the integrity and sense of public duty of those who serve within it. Those same values have guided your approach to leadership renewal. I have valued the conversations we have had on this subject, and I am grateful that you have always placed the long-term interests of the Judiciary above all else. You recognised that strong institutions depend on orderly renewal, and your support helped ensure a smooth and seamless transition.

On behalf of the Government and the people of Singapore, thank you for your many years of distinguished service to our nation. I wish you every success, fulfilment and good health in the years ahead.

Yours *Sincerely,*


Lawrence Wong