

Home Team Connects

Connecting You with the Home Team

An initiative by the Home Team Volunteer Network



Second Reading

Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Amendments)



The Bill was passed in Parliament on 4 November. These are the key points from the Bill.

1 Introduction of Caning for Scams and Calibration of Other Caning Penalties

Fighting scams continues to be a top national priority. Caning serves as a stronger deterrent for scams and scams-related offences.

This bill will:

- ✓ Introduce mandatory caning for scammers, and recruiters and members of scam syndicates;
- ✓ Introduce discretionary caning for scams-related offences; and
- ✓ Introduce discretionary caning for non-scam cheating.

MHA will continue to monitor the scams situation closely and increase penalties further if needed.

The Bill will also remove caning as a penalty or replace mandatory caning with discretionary caning for certain offences, where caning or mandatory caning is no longer necessary.

1 >>>

2 Amendments to Sexual Offences and Enhancement of Penalties to Protect Vulnerable Victims

This bill will:

- ✓ Introduce amendments to tackle offences relating to obscene materials, especially the large-scale circulation of these materials;
- ✓ Extend the offence of sexual grooming to cover illicit sex acts intended to be done overseas, and increase the penalties for sexual grooming; and
- ✓ Introduce amendments to offences involving intimate images and child abuse materials to keep up with technological advances and make it clear that our laws cover all forms of AI-generated materials.

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3 Enhancement of Penalties for Fatal Abuse of Vulnerable Victims

The 2019 Penal Code amendments introduced new offences for causing or allowing the death of a child below 14 years of age, a domestic worker, or a vulnerable person, through abuse.

- ✓ The Bill increases the maximum imprisonment penalties for these offences from 20 years to life imprisonment or 30 years. Offenders remain liable to caning.

3 >>>

4 Increased Protection Against Doxxing for Public Servants and Public Service Workers

All harassment of public servants or public service workers is unacceptable.

This bill will:

- ✓ Amend the offence of doxxing a public servant or public service worker under the Protection from Harassment Act so that there is no need for the victim to feel harassed, alarmed or distressed; and
- ✓ Introduce a new offence in the Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) Act which criminalises the doxxing of a public servant when accompanied by a falsehood about the public servant.

4 >>>

5 Adequate Penalties for Older Youth Offenders

To expand rehabilitative support for older youth offenders, amendments to the Children and Young Persons Act ("CYPA") and Criminal Procedure Code were passed in 2019 to allow the cases of older youth offenders aged 16 to below 18 years to be heard in the Youth Courts, while allowing certain cases to be transmitted out of the Youth Court for adequate sentences like imprisonment or caning to be imposed.

- ✓ This Bill will introduce amendments to fully achieve this intended policy.

This maintains the intent of the 2019 CYPA amendments and reflects the Government's tough stance on crime.

5 >>>

6 Updated Regulatory Requirements for Workers and Dealers in Precious Metals

- ✓ The Bill amends the Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) Act to increase the waiting time before workers or dealers of precious metals can melt, alter, deface or put away goods sold to them from three days to five, and applies this waiting period only to the worker or dealer who first receives the goods from a customer.

- ✓ The Bill also repeals provisions containing a now-defunct registration requirement.

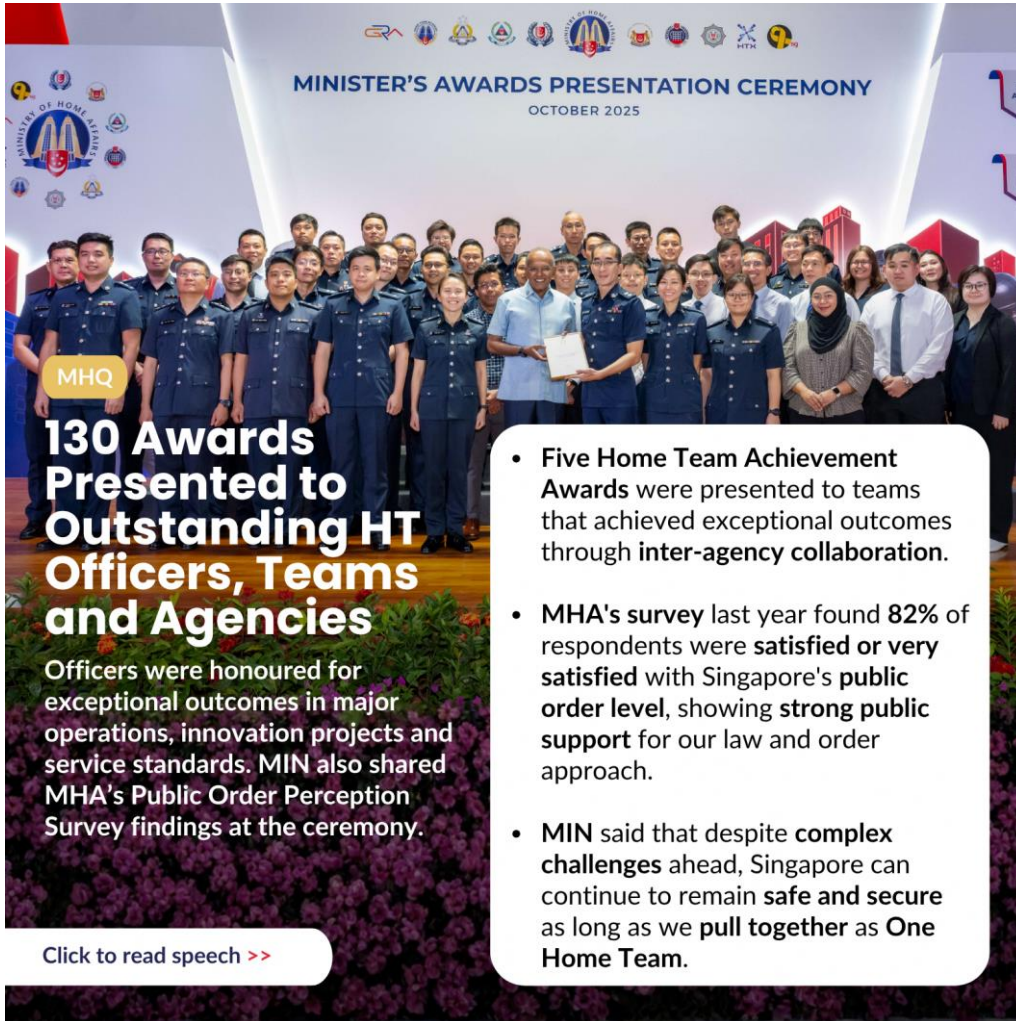
This will meet law enforcement needs better while managing the compliance burden on industry.

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The Government regularly reviews and updates our criminal laws to ensure they remain effective, fair, and responsive to emerging challenges.



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A large group of officials in uniform and civilian attire are posed for a group photo on a stage. In the background, a banner reads "MINISTER'S AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY" and "OCTOBER 2025". Various agency logos are visible at the top of the stage backdrop.

130 Awards Presented to Outstanding HT Officers, Teams and Agencies

Officers were honoured for exceptional outcomes in major operations, innovation projects and service standards. MIN also shared MHA's Public Order Perception Survey findings at the ceremony.

- **Five Home Team Achievement Awards** were presented to teams that achieved exceptional outcomes through inter-agency collaboration.
- MHA's survey last year found 82% of respondents were **satisfied or very satisfied** with Singapore's **public order level**, showing **strong public support** for our law and order approach.
- MIN said that despite **complex challenges** ahead, Singapore can continue to remain **safe and secure** as long as we **pull together** as **One Home Team**.

[Click to read speech >>](#)




MOS Goh is speaking at a podium during a panel discussion. The background features a banner for "Uplifting Public-Private Partnership to Combat Scams" and logos for "SICW 10th Edition" and "Singapore International Cyber Week 2025".

MOS Goh Urges Stronger Collaboration Against Scams

Addressing a panel at Singapore International Cyber Week 2025, MOS Goh encouraged a whole-of-society approach and deeper partnerships to counter scams.

- **Three ways** the public and private sectors can **better collaborate** to fight scams: **co-locate more industry partners** at the Anti-Scam command, **co-create anti-scam safeguards** and enhance **data sharing**.
- As the government works on **coordinating anti-scam efforts**, **regulating through effective laws** and **enforcing against scammers**, the private sector must proactively prevent and detect scams on their platforms.
- Scams are becoming increasingly borderless, sophisticated, and scalable through AI and deepfakes. Thus, the Government and private sector partners must be ready to **innovate and quickly scale successful anti-scam solutions**.

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Panel Discussion

Project Group 1: Strengthening Support for Vulnerable Families Impacted by Incarceration
Salina Samion (SPS) & Saleemah Ismail (New Life Stories)

Project Group 2: Strengthening Support for Inmates and Ex-offenders with poor or no Family Support
Mohamed Nizaar (SPS) & Ustadah Dr Alaniah (PERGAS)

Project Group 3: Strengthening Efforts to Prevent Offending Amongst Youths
Rudy Dzulkarnaen (SPF) & Didicazli Ismail (4PM)

MHA SPS CNB SPF

Exploring New Ways to Prevent Offending and Re-Offending

The fourth annual Malay/Muslim Organisations (MMO) Rehabilitation Network Forum saw the three Project Groups sharing their interim findings and gathering attendees' feedback on it.

[Click to read more >>](#)

- The Forum welcomed several new Malay/Muslim Organisations (MMOs) and community partners for the first time, broadening the network's reach and strengthening the support ecosystem.
- The Project Groups' preliminary recommendations include a 'first touch' programme to support families at the point of arrest and building an integrated MMO support system, a holistic 'Recovery Hub' centre and involving more desistors as mentors for inmates and ex-offenders.
- MHA will work closely with the Project Groups to refine recommendations and explore implementation opportunities.



HTX

HTX Launches New Testing Facility

2MIN unveiled Garage@HTX, Singapore's first dedicated engineering testing and evaluation facility for public safety, on 13 October.



[Click to read more >>](#)

- Garage@HTX features four specialised zones for comprehensive testing and evaluation of assets like drones, vehicles, and communication systems.
- The facility accelerates the development and deployment of capabilities needed to tackle emerging threats.
- It builds HTX's internal engineering capabilities and expands its ability to leverage cutting-edge technology to force multiply HT operations.



YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS

GOT A MINUTE?

Thank you for reading our HT Connects newsletter! 😊

Any feedback on this month's HT Connects issue? Let us know by scanning the QR Code or email us at MHA_HTVOLUNTEERS@mha.gov.sg!

Connect with Us!



One Home, One Team – Together We Keep Our Home Safe and Secure



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