



## Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council

**Toa Payoh Office:**

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**EMBARGOED TILL 9 AUGUST 2008**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **CONSERVANCY WORKERS WILL FOR THE FIRST TIME GET AWARDS WHEN BISHAN-TOA PAYOH OBSERVES THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL DAY**

- ❑ **Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council gives recognition to long serving conservancy workers**
- ❑ **DPM Wong Kan Seng to present awards to first batch of conservancy workers for their commitment in keeping estates clean**
- ❑ **Each 5-Year Long Service Award recipient to receive a \$500 cash award**

**Singapore, 8 August 2008** – It will not be just grassroots leaders and community volunteers who will be going on stage to receive recognition for their contributions at this year's events to celebrate National Day in Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC. For the first time, conservancy workers will share the limelight for their good work in keeping the GRC clean and green.

This award is organised by the Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council in appreciation of the diligent effort put in by these workers daily as they toiled under all weather conditions to upkeep the cleanliness in the housing estates. Their hard work has kept the estates environment clean and contributed towards creating a congenial dwelling environment for all Singapore residents.



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The awards will be given out by the respective Members of Parliament in the division under which the workers are currently working. Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC has five divisions, namely, Bishan East (Mr Wong Kan Seng), Bishan-Toa Payoh North (Mr Zainudin Nordin), Thomson (Mr Hri Kumar), Toa Payoh Central (Dr Ng Eng Hen) and Toa Payoh East (Ms Josephine Teo).

Altogether 13 workers will qualify for the award this year, each of them having served at least five years in Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC. Each will receive a \$500 cash award.

On National Day, seven of these workers will receive their award from the Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng at the Bishan East National Day Observance Ceremony to be held at Bishan Community Club, 51 Bishan Street 13, at 9 am on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Chairman of Bishan-Toa Payoh Town Council, Mr Zainudin Nordin, said: "The award is our appreciation for the effort that these workers put in so that we can all enjoy a clean and healthy environment. We feel that it would be befitting for us to recognise them during our National Day celebrations so that they too have a sense of belonging and participation in our nation's joy."

Explaining the rationale for each MP to give out the awards to the workers, Mr Zainudin Nordin said: "Each MP in the GRC will present the award to the workers who served under their division, so that they get an opportunity to be personally thanked for their efforts in maintaining their estates."



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“The longer these workers remain working in the same area the more they are familiar with the surroundings and the residents, and the better they perform as they feel a sense of ownership and belonging.” Mr Zainudin Nordin is also the Mayor of Central Singapore District.

Singapore’s cleanliness has in fact won international recognition, and its reputation as a Clean and Green City was due in no small part to the effort and diligence of its cleaning workers. The cleaning industry has also made a significant contribution not only to the Singapore economy but also affected the lifestyle and well-being of the people.

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