

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 5 MAY 2022, 8.00PM  
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**SPEECH BY MR K SHANMUGAM, MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER  
FOR LAW, AT HOMETEAMNS KHATIB 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
5 MAY 2022**

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President of HomeTeamNS, MOS Muhammad Faishal

Board of Governors,

Management Committee,

HomeTeamNS Volunteers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. Good evening.
2. We opened this clubhouse officially one year ago.
3. Happy to be here now for the first anniversary.

**II. NATIONAL SERVICE IN THE HOME TEAM**

4. Since 1967, generations of NSmen have kept Singapore safe and secure. More than 290,000 NSmen have served in the Home Team to date and more than 52,000 NSmen remain active today, in SPF and SCDF.
5. I just visited Police Transcom a couple of days ago, on Hari Raya. 80% of its officers are NSF's. They help to keep our MRT and Bus Transport System safe.
6. In the SCDF, 1 out of the 3-man crew in SCDF ambulances is an NSman.
7. In SPF and SCDF, our NSmen serve at the frontline, patrolling, firefighting, providing emergency medical services and more.

**III. HTNS KHATIB CLUBHOUSE**

8. We wanted to show clearly: we value our National Servicemen.
9. When we were planning for the new HomeTeam Clubhouses, I told the planning team we should not take an incremental approach. The new clubhouses must be state-of-the-art, best in class, and of the highest quality.
10. The Clubhouses must generate a strong sense of pride.
11. Khatib was the first clubhouse under the new Home Team Clubhouse Masterplan.
12. We will build two more clubhouses in the East - Bedok and the West - Tengah.
13. The Bedok clubhouse will be opened in December 2022. It will face Bedok Reservoir and provide a different experience.

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14. Khatib Clubhouse has achieved several milestones since its opening in April last year.
15. The Clubhouse has had more than 660,000 visitors, or an average of 55,000 visitors a month, despite the Pandemic or maybe because of it: WFH.
16. The Club's facilities are attractive: state-of-the-art gym, indoor adventure hub and indoor playground, which have been featured in various media publications.
17. And the level of satisfaction amongst HTNS members has increased, after we opened Khatib Clubhouse. More than 85% of HTNS members surveyed in late last year, said they were highly satisfied with HTNS. This is up from 68% in 2018.
18. The Clubhouse has also achieved several prestigious awards:
  - The BCA Green Mark Platinum Award 2020;
  - The BCA Design and Engineering Safety Merit Award 2021;
  - An Honourable Mention at the Architecture MasterPrize 2021; and
  - The Second Award in the Sports & Recreation category at the Rethinking the Future Awards 2021.
19. Most importantly, it has struck a chord with our NSmen and their families. They are the ones who matter.
20. This positive reception bears testament to the hard work of the Executive Committee, led by COL(NS) Sim Meng San, the dedicated staff of HomeTeamNS, and our volunteers, who were integral in the development of this clubhouse.
21. Congratulations for an excellent job. You saw through a successful opening year, despite the pandemic.

**IV. CELEBRATING NS 55**

22. This year, the nation celebrates 55 years of National Service.
23. The theme of NS55 is "Generations of Strength".
24. To all NSmen across the generations, thank you for your service, for your dedication, your commitment and sacrifices. You have helped to make Singapore a safe and secure home for all who live here.
25. To your families, thank you for your support for our NSmen.
26. To commemorate NS55, all NSmen will receive a NS55 Recognition Package this year.
27. It will consist of a one-year complimentary HomeTeamNS principal membership, and \$100 worth of NS55 credits that can be accessed via the LifeSG mobile application.
28. There is also a slate of celebrations for NS55 being lined up such as the NS55 Showcase later this month, the NS55 Roving Heartlands Exhibition in June, and the NS55 Week in August.

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**V. CONCLUSION**

29. In closing, we hope that our NSmen will enjoy Khatib Clubhouse, the upcoming Bedok Clubhouse, and the NS55 celebrations.
30. They are our small way of showing our appreciation to you and your families.
31. I wish everyone an enjoyable evening ahead.
32. Thank you.