

Onward, Singapore!

What key messages did you take away from the Prime Minister's National Day Rally on Sunday? Which of the policy changes outlined by PM Lee strike you as most important or urgent, and why?

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THIS year's National Day Rally saw the Prime Minister outlining the nation blueprint for advancement in the next 20 years. My key takeaway is the government's strategies to keep the country sustainably competitive in the global world by instilling faith in our people and confidence in investors. These "acts of faith" will create political stability which is fundamental to support the blueprint. With progressive development plans in infrastructure and basic needs of housing, healthcare and education addressed in alignment to standards of a developed nation, we should see healthy economic growth of 1-3 per cent which reinforces stability in the long run.

For the blueprint to take off, the utmost important directive would be to address the needs of the lower tier ensuring a secured safety net comprising affordable housing, promised education and medical coverage. This comes with a high cost and of equal importance would be the calibration of our budget allocation. End of the day, it helps to narrow the gap between the rich and less privileged through working on the fundamentals instead of pure populist-driven policies.