

What makes sense for S'pore is at the heart of what govt does

By Dylan Loh | Posted: 28 August 2012 2248 hrs

SINGAPORE: Acting Manpower Minister Tan Chuan-Jin said what makes sense for Singaporeans and the country today, and in the future, is at the heart of what the government does.

He said decisions made are shaped by Singapore's strategic vulnerabilities and circumstances as a small nation.

Mr Tan said this at a post-National Day Rally dialogue with Singapore Management University students.

He said Singapore has always thought out-of-the-box to overcome its constraints.

And while the government does consult the public, the key is to strike the right balance when making decisions.

"Do we then clamour for consultation, engagement in every single thing... before we get a decision? At some point as leaders, you must have the capacity to listen, the sincerity to listen, take on board perspectives, society feedback and so on, but you must have the courage to make the calls. And it is not always a popular call," said Mr Tan.

- CNA/cc



Acting Manpower Minister Tan Chuan-Jin