

Govt to continue studying options on population issues: DPM Teo

Posted: 06 March 2013 1640 hrs

SINGAPORE: Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean said Singapore's ageing population issue is a one-off problem that resulted from having a very large baby boomer generation from the early 1950s to mid-60s.

He said it is necessary to make preparations for the future to ensure Singapore's seniors are able to look after themselves and are well looked after by their children and by the nation in the coming two decades.

Nominated MP Assistant Professor Eugene Tan asked Mr Teo in Parliament how the government is planning to get Singaporeans' buy-in for the Population White Paper and land use plan.

Prof Tan also asked whether the government will provide regular updates on its progress in addressing Singapore's demographic challenge.

Mr Teo responded: "We will continue to study options and engage Singaporeans on population and its related issues on multiple fronts, including through Our Singapore Conversation and other forums.

"As we continue to engage Singaporeans and work together on policies, address and overcome the specific and practical problems we face and deliver programmes to benefit Singaporeans, we hope to strengthen trust and consensus among Singaporeans on the future that we must build together. The government will continue to provide regular updates on the progress of proposals in the Population White Paper and land use plan through the release of studies, reports and announcements. We're also working towards a medium term review before 2020."