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Press Release

Launch of “Pioneers Once More: The Singapore Public Service 1959 – 2009”

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister in Charge of Civil Service and Minister for Defence Mr Teo Chee Hean officially launched a book detailing 50 years of history of the Singapore Public Service at the “Excellence In Public Service Awards Ceremony” on 21 May 2010.

Titled “Pioneers Once More: The Singapore Public Service 1959-2009”, it is published by the Public Service Division and Straits Times Press and written by Straits Times senior writer Chua Mui Hoong, with additional interviews and assistance from Ken Kwek, a former Straits Times Journalist.

The book features interviews with public officers who share their passion for public service. It details the achievements and challenges faced by public officers through the years in shaping the country’s development.

“The Singapore Public Service has evolved quite significantly since 50 years ago. Today, we have some 124,000 public officers working in 15 ministries, nine organs of state and more than 50 statutory boards. While it is natural that we would have some sense of belonging to the respective organization we work in, it is important for all public officers to remember that we are all part of the larger family called the Singapore Public Service.

“We bring the story of the Service to the reader through the eyes of the many officers who have played a part, big and small, in shaping it. Their stories tell of a people who don’t just do a job but play their respective roles with passion and commitment in serving Singapore and her people.

“This book serves to remind all public officers that it is only by working together, with passion and commitment, that we can serve Singapore and Singaporeans,” says Ms Lim Soo Hoon, Permanent Secretary, Public Service Division on why the book was commissioned.

“Pioneers Once More: The Singapore Public Service 1959 – 2009” will be available in bookstores from 21 May (6pm) at \$42.80 inclusive of GST. Members of the public can get more information about the book at www.psd.gov.sg/pioneersoncemore

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