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Forum Page Editor  
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Dear Editor

## **MINISTRIES SHARE MINISTERS AS WELL AS THEIR SALARIES**

I refer to the letter 'How is a multi-portfolio minister paid?' (ST April 5) by Png Eng Huat.

Mr Png asked about the formula for computing the salary of a minister who holds two or more portfolios.

A minister is paid according to his salary grade, regardless of the number of portfolios he holds. When a Minister holds multiple portfolios, the respective ministries discuss and agree on the apportionment of his salary.

The entry grade of a Minister is MR4, which is benchmarked to the private sector. The salaries of the more senior Ministers (including the Prime Minister, Senior Minister, Minister Mentor) are set based on pre-determined ratios to the MR4 salary. The current MR4 annual salary is \$1.2 million, while the benchmark is \$2.2 million. Currently, only PM, SM and MM are drawing more than \$2.2m.

The manpower expenditure on political appointees in the Prime Minister's Office reflects the fact that there are senior ministers in the Office.

Yours sincerely

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