

PAP Needs To Adjust Policies To Serve Singaporeans Better, Says PM Lee
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SINGAPORE -- Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong says the People's Action Party (PAP) needs to adjust its policies to serve the people better, and that the party also needs to improve on its engagement and outreach to involve Singaporeans much more on issues affecting them.

"We have to be active in listening, as well as in putting our message across, and in countering mistaken views and disinformation," said Lee, who is also the PAP's Secretary General.

He was quoted by local television Channel NewsAsia as making these observations in the latest issue of Petir, the party's magazine.

The editorial comes in the wake of the party's performance in the last General Election, having won 81 out of 87 seats.

Lee said the ruling People's Action Party must reflect on the meaning of the May 7 General Election, and strengthen and reinvent itself to maintain a leading role in Singapore politics.

He also said the party must also strengthen its presence in cyberspace and learn to use the new media more effectively. This meant not just going onto Facebook and Twitter, but being on the same wavelength as the netizens and resonating with the Internet generation.

That way, the prime minister said the MPs and leaders could continue serving the widest spread of society and work with all citizens to shape the new Singapore together. Lee said constituency work also remained crucial, as a caring, hardworking and effective MPs, backed by a strong team of activists and the party, could make the difference.

He said this was clear in the General Election as MPs who had worked hard, enjoyed strong support.

As for the opposition wards, Lee urged the PAP to maintain its presence, keep the branches active and take care of supporters and fight hard to win back lost constituencies.

(Bernama)