

**Ex-PM: Hsien Loong's siblings trying to bring him down**  
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**The former Singapore prime minister vouches for the integrity of Lee Hsien Loong in parliamentary debate over abuse of power accusations made against the prime minister.**

SINGAPORE: Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong says Lee Hsien Yang's goal is to bring his elder brother, Lee Hsien Loong, down as prime minister.

Channel NewsAsia quoted the former prime minister of Singapore as saying the family feud between Hsien Loong and his two siblings had tarnished Singapore's reputation.

He asked if the two siblings were whistle-blowing in an effort to save Singapore or waging a personal vendetta against Hsien Loong.

"It is now no longer a cynical parlour game. If the Lee siblings choose to squander the good name and legacy of Lee Kuan Yew and tear their relationship apart, it is tragic but a private family affair.

"But if in the process of their self-destruction, they destroy Singapore too, that is a public affair."

Goh was speaking on the second day of a parliamentary discussion over a public dispute between the children of Lee Kuan Yew, following allegations by Hsien Yang and his sister Lee Wei Ling that Hsien Loong was abusing his powers to block the demolition of their 38 Oxley Road family home.

Channel NewsAsia quoted Goh as saying Singaporeans were getting sick and tired of all this.

"There must be a clear conclusion at the end of this debate. Either we clear the PM over the allegation on his abuse of power, or we censure him," he said.

Goh went on to take the side of Hsien Loong, vouching for his integrity and competence.

"I reaffirm my full confidence in the integrity of the prime minister. I have known and worked closely with him for more than 30 years. I brought him into politics in 1984, and I should add, it was not at Lee Kuan Yew's behest.

"He was my deputy prime minister for 14 years. He has been prime minister for some 13 years.

“This episode, in fact, reveals the PM’s political sensitivity and integrity. He gave the proceeds from the sale of 38 Oxley Road away so that no one could accuse him of benefiting should the government acquire the land. He put country before self and family interest.”

Goh was also quoted as saying that he had told Hsien Yang that the dispute over the demolition of the house was actually between him and the government, not with Hsien Loong, as the latter had no say over the fate of the house.

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