

December 2011

Dear Residents



Year 2011 is a watershed year. We saw two major elections to choose a new slate of MPs and a new President for our country. These are key events that will shape the future of our country as many new faces were brought into positions of leadership. There were also many significant developments around us from the launch of new MRT services, redevelopment of estates, markets and hawker centres to latest victory in the field of sports at the South East Asian Games.

But in the meantime, there have been many glitches some directly and others indirectly affecting us. There was the tragic loss of lives arising from accidents, suicides and others. Our economy was moving along with the ebb and flow of the events in the US and the Euro Zone. Our cost of living went up, property prices rose but we managed to check the escalation, and there were hiccups on our transport system, and flash floods persisted with the torrential downpour. All said, we can consider ourselves fortunate compared with Thailand which was inundated by knee-deep flood for weeks, radiation disaster after the earthquake in Japan, riots in London, New York, civil unrest almost across the Middle East, and events are still unfolding even now. We can thus safely say we were blessed.

As analysts have predicted, we have to brace for a slower economic growth in the coming year. There are companies who are already feeling the after-taste of the financial havoc in the West and they are getting less orders, and are forced to opt for shorter work week. The rosy job prospects are beginning to dim. But we are prepared; our political leaders have anticipated the aftershocks and we will face the challenges.

For you and all our Nee Soon South residents, we will begin to shore up our social programmes. We will roll up our sleeves and put funds and other resources in place to help those who need assistance in the event of a recession or economic slowdown.

For now, go ahead and enjoy your year-end holiday. By all means go out and join in the celebrity mood but exercise prudence and spend within budget. We can look back with pride on what we have done together as a community in Nee Soon South. I want to say “Thank you for everything”. It goes without saying that one of my New Year resolutions is to make Nee Soon South the best home it can be for all the residents.

Last but not least, may I invite you to join us for the Year-end Countdown at the Khatib (field near Blk 838 basketball courts). Don't you think it will be great for all of us to take the opportunity to welcome the New Year with family, loved ones and friends? Let's work hand-in-hand and welcome year 2012 with one resounding voice.

I wish everyone Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year!

Grassroots Adviser

Er. Dr. Lee Bee Wah

MP Nee Soon GRC (Nee Soon South)

Email: mp4nss@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.neesoonsouth.org.sg/>

Facebook : <http://www.facebook.com/people/Lee-Bee-Wah/1491101320>

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亲爱的居民

2011 年这一年里经历了一个分水岭，也充满了许多转折。我们经历了两大深具影响力的选举，选出了新一批的国会议员与国家的新总统。这些历史性的事件不仅塑造了我们国家的未来，也为领导层带来了许多新的面孔。今年，从新地铁服务的启用、组屋区、巴刹和熟食中心的重建，到最近在东南亚运动会场上的杰出表现，让大家见证了我国的许多重大发展。

但是，与此同时，许多事物对我们也起着直接和间接性的影响。譬如宝贵的生命可能因种种意外而不幸失去，我国的经济也随着美国和欧元区的走势渐入低潮。同时，生活费上涨、物价走高，但我们已设法做出调整、交通系统出现故障以及多日来豪雨所造成的淹水情况等事件不断发生。尽管如此，与泰国多个星期来被洪水淹没、日本大地震后的辐射危机、伦敦和纽约的暴动、中东的民间动乱以及其他随时发生的局势相比，我们应该感到非常庆幸。

在经济方面，分析师预测我们在接下来的一年会面临较慢的经济增长。有些公司已经受到西方区域金融危机的影响，他们的订单开始减少而因此被迫缩短工作时间。就业前景也开始暗淡。然而，我们的政治领袖已做好准备，迎接挑战。

为了您与义顺南的居民们，我们将开始推出社会福利计划活动，将积极帮助因经济衰退而遇到困难居民。

2011 年已来到了尾声，请尽情地享受你们的年终假期。出外感受佳节气氛的当时，要记得谨慎花费，别超出预算。回顾这别具意义的一年，义顺南能够如此同心协力，我感到十分骄傲。我想对大家说，“谢谢您所做的一切”。由此，我的新年愿望之一，是希望把义顺南成为所有居民心中的完美家园。

最后，我想邀请您在 12 月 31 日傍晚，到大牌 838 的篮球场前的大操场上来，一同参与我们一年一度的年终的卡迪倒数活动。这将是与家人和亲友聚在一起迎接新年的好机会。让我们携手迎接 2012 年的到来！

我祝大家佳节愉快，新年快乐！

基层组织顾问

李美花博士启

义顺集选区国会议员（义顺南）

电邮：mp4nss@gmail.com

网址：<http://www.neesoonsouth.org.sg/>

Facebook：<http://www.facebook.com/people/Lee-Bee-Wah/1491101320>