

**Definitions:**

Government: made up of people divided into ministries, to lead a country

Governance: The laws and policies

Social Contract: An abstract concept, where the masses give up part of their freedom in exchange for their needs

Democracy: a system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.

The 6 points

- Education
- High cost of living
- High healthcare
- Transport
- Foreign Workers
- Housing

**Principles of good governance:**

- Leadership is Key
  - Doing what is right vs what is popular, pragmatic leadership, be forward looking, eschew corruption
- Reward for work, work for reward
  - Meritocracy to ensure the best use for talent, self reliance - not welfare
- A stake for everyone, opportunities for all
  - Make singapore a global city and choice home, promote collective responsibility, promote active citizenry, preserving our core identity and values
- Anticipate change, stay relevant
  - Turn constraints into advantages, exploit opportunities even in adversity, stay nimble and flexible, staying ahead of the competition

**Education:**

- PM Lee says put more weight on job performance and relevant skills rather than starting qualifications
- MOE providing financial assistance to needy students in government/government-aided sch
- Subsidy of sch fees for students from lower/middle income families in independent sch
- Result-oriented education → risk-averse with little creativity
- Education minister says lack of drive in students is worrying
- Restrict travelling to faraway/expensive countries → level-playing field

**Transport:**

- Expanding rail networks that can support SG in the next 20 years
- Wheelchair accessible by 2020

**Healthcare:**

- Although healthcare costs are subsidised, S'poreans have to pay a bit and a single hospitalisation can wipe out one's entire life savings
- Rose by 4.5% in 2012, slightly above overall inflation rate

- Shortage of hospital beds

#### **Housing:**

- 85% S'poreans own their homes but most are purchased by taking a loan
  - 1980s - four room flat cost \$60,000 and pay of graduate is \$1500
  - Now - flat four times more, pay only two times more
- S'poreans have insufficient funds in CPF cos they used it for HDB
- Increased by 25% between 2006 and 2008

#### **Foreigners:**

- No. of foreigners increase → overcrowding and falling reliability of transport, increased property prices, suppressed wage level, increased competition for job and education, increased income gap
- SG's GDP is one of the highest in the world

Gini Coefficient: 0.412

The **Gini coefficient** (also known as the **Gini** index or **Gini** ratio) is a measure of statistical dispersion intended to represent the income distribution of a nation's residents. This is the most commonly used measure of inequality.

#### **Inequality Schemes:**

- Healthcare subsidies
  - Medisave - Put aside income to be used in the future
  - Medishield - Meet expenses from major/longterm illnesses
  - Medifund - Safety net if Medisave and Medishield aren't enough
  - Eldersshield - Meet expenses in case of severe disability
- Financial Assistance
- Bursary Schemes

#### **Maslow's hierarchy of needs:**

1. Physiological Needs
2. Safety
3. Sense of belonging (we are here)
4. Esteem
5. Self-actualisation

#### **CONCEPTS**

HPI: Happy Planet Index, stress levels, work life balance

Economic Growth: Progress (Government and **Governance**)

Quality of Air *cough cough haze*: Quality of Life

Income Gap: Gini Coefficient, Social contract

Social Contract: Housing, cost of living, education, transport, healthcare

Community relationship: Inclusive society