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THE STRAITS TIMES

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sph media

New TTSH Medical Tower to offer 600 beds, bigger emergency dept

Project will provide patients with faster access to specialist and intensive care

Judith Tan
Correspondent

Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) is set to add about 600 acute beds and have a bigger emergency department (ED) under a plan to develop the former Communicable Disease Centre 2 and Annex 2 buildings into a medical tower.

The project will give patients faster access to specialist and intensive care for severe, complex or life-threatening medical conditions across the integrated network of public healthcare cluster NHG Health.

With shorter waiting times, patients can move seamlessly between primary, tertiary and community care.

The TTSH Medical Tower marks the second phase of the HealthCity Novena Master Plan, and was launched on Sept 9.

Speaking at the unveiling of the new phase at TTSH, Minister for Health Ong Ye Kung said: “As the Singapore population grows older and the healthcare needs of our population become more complex, we need more than just a refresh of ageing facilities. (We need) a major revamp and re-imagining of their value and offerings.”

Mr Ong, who is also Coordinating Minister for Social Policies, said the new phase will build on the achievements of phase one, which was completed in 2024.

“Phase two will introduce new healthcare facilities and enhance capacity through innovation of processes and better patient flow management,” he said.

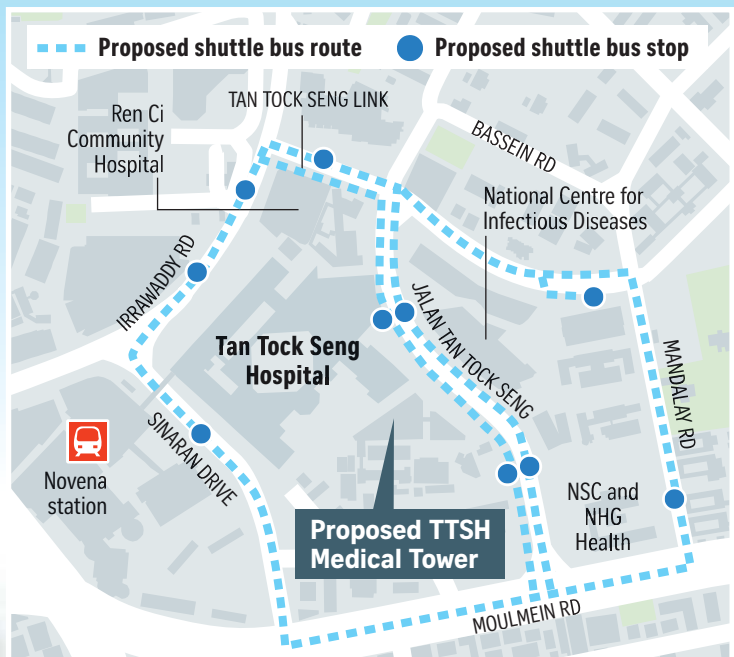
Helmed by TTSH, the development marks a crucial step in NHG Health’s road map to strengthen its healthcare capacity, advance frailty-ready care, improve access to medical intervention and improve clinical care outcomes for the 1.5 million residents of central and north Singapore.

Mr Ong said the TTSH Medical Tower “will be designed for greater efficiency, with streamlined

Phase two of the HealthCity Novena Master Plan

After the completion of developments in phase one of the HealthCity Novena Master Plan, phase two will turn the former Communicable Disease Centre 2 and Annex 2 building sites into the proposed TTSH Medical Tower, which will house an additional 600 acute beds and a bigger emergency department.

- Phase 1 ● Phase 2 ● Future ● Existing
- 1 TTSH Integrated Care Hub
 - 2 Ren Ci Community Hospital
 - 3 Dover Park Hospice
 - 4 Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH)
 - 5 Future healthcare development
 - 6 National Neuroscience Institute
 - 7 TTSH Medical Centre
 - 8 National Centre for Infectious Diseases
 - 9 Ng Teng Fong Centre for Healthcare Innovation
 - 10 Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine Clinical Sciences Building and Headquarters
 - 11 Future medical education and training development
 - 12 National Skin Centre (NSC) and NHG Health



SOURCE AND PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: TAN TOCK SENG HOSPITAL STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS

S’porean boy, 14, given ISA restriction order; first self-radicalisation case from mixed ideologies

David Sun
Crime Correspondent

Within a year of consuming extremist content, a 14-year-old boy supported ISIS, far-right and far-left extremism, communism, hated women and Jews, and idolised Osama bin Laden, Adolf Hitler and Kim Jong Il.

He was in contact with several foreign extremists, one of whom offered to help the boy plan an attack in Singapore and even sent him bomb-making manuals.

His picking and choosing of ideologies was so varied that the Internal Security Department (ISD) said on Sept 9 his was the first self-radicalisation case involving a “salad bar” of ideologies.

The teen is one of two male Singaporeans recently issued with restriction orders (ROs) under the Internal Security Act (ISA).

The other is a 30-year-old self-employed online business owner. ISD said the boy, who was issued an RO in September, became exposed to extremist ideologies online in mid-2024. He had chanced upon foreign extremist personalities who posted far-right extremist and true crime content.

True crime refers to a genre of media that focuses on real-life criminal cases, often involving violent offences like murder, assault or serial killings.

ISD said the boy chatted with these online personalities to learn more, and became exposed to the manifestos of far-right terrorists Brenton Tarrant and Anders Breivik.

Tarrant carried out the 2019 Christchurch mosque shootings in New Zealand that left more than 50 dead.

Breivik was responsible for the 2011 Norway attacks that killed more than 70 people.

SECURITY THREAT

Anyone who supports, promotes, undertakes or makes preparations to undertake armed violence, regardless of how they rationalise such violence, or where the violence takes place, is a security threat to our society.



INTERNAL SECURITY DEPARTMENT

ISD said the boy developed a strong hatred for Jews and backed Nazi figures like Hitler.

However, as a Muslim, he rejected anti-Muslim rhetoric. He also advocated far-left extre-

mism, viewing it as anti-Zionist.

In particular, he was a fan of socialism and communism, rejecting capitalism, which he saw as a Jewish ideology, said ISD.

In this regard, he claimed to be

supportive of Kim Jong Il for establishing a socialist/communist government in North Korea.

In November 2024, he watched a video of ISIS engaging in armed combat on social media.

This led to him joining pro-ISIS and jihadist communities online, becoming convinced of ISIS’ cause of establishing an Islamic caliphate through violence.

In April, he pledged his allegiance to ISIS, idolising Osama, the former Al-Qaeda leader, whom he saw as the founding father of modern jihad.

ISD said the boy shared voluminous amounts of ISIS-related materials on his social media accounts and aspired to become a fighter for the militant group when he was older.

The boy also shared such extremist content with some of his schoolmates, but none became radicalised.

He was in contact with several foreign extremists, including an alleged Iraq-based ISIS supporter who had offered to help the boy plan an attack in Singapore and sent him bomb-making manuals.

The boy did not take any steps to

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

AGO audit • Report flags 132 irregularities

The Auditor-General’s Office, Singapore’s public accounts watchdog, has flagged 132 lapses and irregularities in its annual audit of government ministries and agencies, including 25 more significant lapses.

Some of the issues highlighted in its report released on Sept 9 included contract management and procurement; management of operations, revenue and grants; weaknesses in IT controls; as well as the handling of research and development grants.

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