



Mr Tan Chuan-Jin

Speaker of Parliament

Republic of Singapore

Mr Tan Chuan-Jin was elected the 10th Speaker of Parliament on 11 September 2017.

Mr Tan had previously served as the Minister for Social and Family Development from 9 April 2015 to 10 September 2017. He introduced initiatives to pre-empt developing issues, improve the coordination of aid for the vulnerable, strengthen support for families amidst evolving trends, and galvanise the larger community to care for the less fortunate around them. These included amending the Women's Charter in 2016 to strengthen social support systems, infrastructure, and services to protect women and support families; and piloting KidSTART to support low-income and vulnerable children to enable them to have a good start in life. He also implemented a common regulatory framework for childcare centres and kindergartens under the Early Childhood Development Centres Act to ensure more consistent and higher quality in standards in the early childhood sector. In fostering a more inclusive society, Mr Tan helped strengthen the ecosystem of support for persons with disabilities to improve their quality of life through the 3rd Enabling Masterplan.

As Speaker, Mr Tan presides over Parliamentary debates and ensures fair and full discussions of national issues. He also oversees SG Cares, a national movement which encourages Singaporeans to volunteer and give back to society. He is concurrently adviser to the National Council of Social Service (NCSS). An avid sportsman, Mr Tan serves as the President of the Singapore National Olympic Council.

In October 2021, he was appointed as a Member of the Climate Governance Singapore Advisory Board.

He is the Patron of the Centre for Fathering, Club Rainbow (Singapore), and SHINE Children & Youth Services. These build upon his earlier work in the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) to build a more gracious, compassionate, and cohesive Singapore society.

Prior to the MSF, Mr Tan headed the Ministry of Manpower from May 2014 to April 2015. He led the charge in creating better jobs and raising incomes for Singaporeans, while helping to strengthen retirement adequacy. Mr Tan introduced the Silver Support scheme, increased older workers' CPF contribution rates to better support the elderly, and worked with tripartite partners to review re-employment age. He oversaw the implementation of the Progressive Wage Model to provide structured training and career progression pathway for workers to earn better wages. Mr Tan introduced the Fair Consideration Framework to ensure a level employment playing field for Singaporeans. Employment legislation and dispute management system were improved to reinforce fair and progressive workplace practices. This included amending the Employment Act to better protect Professionals, Managers and Executives, the Industrial Relations Act to provide more options for representation of executives at the workplace, and the setting up of the Employment Claims Tribunal, a more accessible system to resolve salary-related claims. Mr Tan also instituted the WorkRight programme to ensure workers know their rights and employers to comply with employment standards. Workplace safety systems were also strengthened. His previous appointments included the Acting Minister for Manpower (1 August 2012 to 30 April 2014), Senior Minister of State for National Development (1 August 2012 to 1 September 2013) and Minister of State for National Development and Manpower (June 2011 to 31 July 2012).

Mr Tan was first elected as the Member of Parliament for Kembangan-Chai Chee, Marine Parade Group Representation Constituency, in May 2011. He was re-elected in July 2020.

Before leaving to run in the 2011 General Election, Mr Tan had served in the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) for nearly 24 years. In the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, he led the SAF's relief efforts to Meulaboh, Aceh in Indonesia. The mission provided much needed humanitarian assistance in an area that was devastated and cut off. This remains the SAF's largest military operation to date.

Born in 1969, Mr Tan studied in the Anglo-Chinese School and Raffles Junior College. He was awarded the SAF Overseas Scholarship to study Economics at the London School of Economics in the United Kingdom. Mr Tan also holds a Master's Degree in Defence Studies from King's College London. In 2008, he completed a Master's Degree in Public Management at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore.

Mr Tan is married with two children. He enjoys running and photography. He has published books capturing his travel photographs and has auctioned his prints in support of charitable causes.

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Parliament of Singapore