

MEE
SIAM
MAI
HUM

SOME OF THE
DARNEDEST

THINGS OUR POLITICIANS

SAY

EDITED BY
Edmund Wee
ILLUSTRATED BY
Jacqueline Goh







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"Common sense requires the taxi drivers, when they encounter such an incident, to get as much information as they can from the fare evader: basic information like name, address and so on."

Minister for Transport Khaw Boon Wan
(2016), on dealing with fare evaders



"To be a Singaporean is not a God-given right, it requires hard work to fight for that right to be called Singaporean."

**Minister in the Prime Minister's Office
Ghan Chun Sing (2016)**

"If you don't have a certain natural aristocracy in the system—people who are respected because they have earned that and we level everything down to the lowest common denominator—then I think the society will lose out."

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (2015)

"Our job as leaders is not to provide the answers but to bring out the answers from everybody."

Senior Minister of State for Defence
Chan Chun Sing (2012)



"The co-driver is there to slap the driver when he drives off course or when he falls asleep or drives dangerously. But of course, if the driver is friendly and drives responsibly, we just keep talking to him to keep him awake."

Workers' Party Secretary-General
Low Thia Kiang (2011), on his party's role

"The PAP has one idea and the opposition has another idea, which is a different idea. Doesn't work like that in real life."



Member of Parliament Hri Kumar Nair (2014),
on checks and balances in government

"We do not criticise our parents for their imperfections. We love them, warts and all. But we see only warts in the government and freely criticise it for its slightest mistakes or when we disagree with it."



**Former Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong (2014),
on forming a "Singapore Family"**

"Suppose you had 10, 15, 20 opposition members in Parliament. Instead of spending my time thinking what is the right policy for Singapore, I'm going to spend all my time thinking what's the right way to fix them, what's the right way to buy my own supporters over, how can I solve this week's problem and forget about next year's challenges?"

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (2006)

An illustrated collection of stretched analogies, verbal gaffes and mind-bogglers uttered by Singapore's politicians.

"The co-driver is there to slap the driver when he drives off course."

"You talk about bak chor mee. I will say mee siam mai hum."

"You need a very small space to have sex."

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