

## Details of 2,000 extra university places

I THANK Mr Law Che Kun for his query (“How will Govt count extra uni places?”; last Wednesday). The Government will provide 2,000 more publicly funded university places by 2015.

Mr Law assumed that some of these places would go to foreign students. In fact, all 2,000 places are meant for Singaporeans.

He asked for the spread of the additional university places across institutions and disciplines. Based on current plans, the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) will increase its annual intake by another 1,000. This caters largely to polytechnic students seeking to upgrade themselves.

SIT currently offers a balance of both engineering and non-engineering programmes, and will continue to evolve its mix of offerings to facilitate graduates in their employment.

The other 1,000 places will be spread across the four autonomous

universities: the National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore Management University and Singapore University of Technology and Design, including new institutions within these universities like the Yale-NUS College and the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine at NTU.

The Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and the LaSalle College of the Arts will also offer, in partnership with overseas institutions, degree programmes.

The Ministry of Education has set up a committee to review university education pathways beyond 2015, and is studying ways to expand these pathways to meet the aspirations of students and the evolving needs of the economy.

**Tan Gee Keow (Ms)**  
**Director, Higher Education**  
**Ministry of Education**