

Ensure minimum hygiene standards for all public toilets

I WOULD like to bring up the issue of the cleanliness of our public toilets in coffee shops and hawker centres.

I think this is the appropriate time because of the Influenza A(H1N1) virus, and I hope it will not take another Sars epidemic for proper hygiene practices to be observed.

Either the Environmental Health Department at the National Environment Agency (NEA) is not doing its job well or people in Singapore are just “bo-chap” (Hokkien for “cannot be bothered”) with their personal habits and civic-consciousness regarding usage of public toilets.

I would like to think that if there is a clean toilet, the users are apt to be more conscious when using them

and will definitely handle basic personal hygiene better, much less complain about it.

Not only that, can operators please have regular checks to make sure that the flush is always working?

It is agonising to find out that the flush is not working after you're done. I mean, it makes you feel so sinful.

I would hope to see the relevant authorities enforce minimum acceptable toilet standards (eg, having soap dispensers that are always filled – definitely not soap bars – and toilet paper) at all food courts, hawker centres, coffee shops, and restaurants in Singapore.

Also, lastly, Singaporeans should by now be mature enough and be responsible for practising good hygiene.