

Do cleaning work in busy areas at night

I UNDERSTAND that carrying out tree pruning at night could be a problem. But some cleaning work, such as toilet washing and street cleaning, in areas with heavy human traffic could be done late at night or early in the morning, to avoid causing inconvenience to the public.

Many cities, such as Taipei, Paris and Munich, have implemented this practice.

A few times, I took visitors to the Merlion Park and one-quarter of the area was barricaded with one cleaner mopping the floor. This was between 9am and 10am, a peak time for tourist visits.

Then at Mount Faber, there were many busloads of tourists but only one working toilet for women (the other toilet was out of service) and it was not cleaned yet. This was between 8am and 9am.

It is worthwhile to pay cleaners more to work at night or in the early morning, as we reap the returns in terms of better efficiency and the boost to Singapore's image in the eyes of tourists.

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