

FORUM

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Upgrade toilets of all eating places

MR SEAN Yeo Su Ren's suggestion to upgrade the hawker centre at Block 270, Queen Street ("Upgrade this run-down hawker centre"; ST, Oct 12) – to which the National Environment Agency (NEA) replied that it would do so in May next year – is timely as we prepare to move into the age of integrated resorts, with an expected sharp rise in tourist arrivals.

May I suggest that the NEA upgrades other eating places as well?

Working in the Raffles Place business hub, I am amazed that the shops along Circular Road are functioning with very poor toilets.

The eatery opposite Anne's Corner off Sixth Avenue has a single dirty toilet; so does the coffeeshop along

Toh Tuck Terrace, just to name a few.

It would be appropriate for the authorities to work together on a comprehensive study of hawker centres, coffeeshops and restaurants, so that proper and standardised guidelines could be drawn up for toilet and other facilities in these eating establishments.

An on-going committee comprising representatives from the relevant ministries could be set up to look in-depth into the upgrading exercises.

Bearing in mind Sars and potential bird-flu outbreaks, prevention is surely better than cure.

Yap Swee Hoo

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