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MINISTRY OF LAW

OVERVIEW

Mission Statement

Advancing access to justice, the rule of law, the economy and society through policy, law and services.

Vision Statement

A Trusted Legal System; A Trusted Singapore.

FY2026 EXPENDITURE ESTIMATES

Expenditure Estimates by Object Class

Code	Object Class	Actual FY2024	Estimated FY2025	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026	Change Over Revised FY2025	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	639,390,117	454,354,400	451,068,400	659,356,700	208,288,300	46.2
	MAIN ESTIMATES						
	OPERATING EXPENDITURE	272,693,178	315,380,900	314,625,500	372,309,100	57,683,600	18.3
	<i>RUNNING COSTS</i>	<i>254,429,143</i>	<i>291,008,700</i>	<i>289,998,900</i>	<i>343,957,700</i>	<i>53,958,800</i>	<i>18.6</i>
	Expenditure on Manpower	79,623,914	93,317,000	95,515,300	103,145,400	7,630,100	8.0
1200	Political Appointments	1,905,840	2,745,500	3,051,300	2,595,400	(455,900)	(14.9)
1500	Permanent Staff	77,555,256	90,245,900	90,796,300	99,550,000	8,753,700	9.6
1600	Temporary, Daily-Rated and Other Staff	162,818	325,600	1,667,700	1,000,000	(667,700)	(40.0)
	Other Operating Expenditure	163,509,950	170,010,800	169,995,100	202,127,500	32,132,400	18.9
2100	Consumption of Products and Services	156,157,529	158,064,400	161,779,300	189,533,700	27,754,400	17.2
2200	Maintenance	—	—	—	8,862,300	8,862,300	n.a.
2300	Staff Development and Well-Being	—	—	—	2,913,900	2,913,900	n.a.
2300A	Manpower Development	1,617,975	2,542,100	1,984,400	—	(1,984,400)	(100.0)
2400	International and Public Relations, Communications	5,320,973	9,267,600	6,092,400	694,200	(5,398,200)	(88.6)
2700	Asset Acquisition	338,276	30,000	34,000	23,000	(11,000)	(32.4)
2800	Miscellaneous	75,197	106,700	105,000	100,400	(4,600)	(4.4)
	Grants, Transfers and Capital Injections	11,295,279	27,680,900	24,488,500	38,684,800	14,196,300	58.0
3100	Grants and Capital Injections to Statutory Boards	11,295,279	27,680,900	24,488,500	38,684,800	14,196,300	58.0

Code	Object Class	Actual FY2024	Estimated FY2025	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026	Change Over Revised FY2025	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
	<i>TRANSFERS</i>	<i>18,264,035</i>	<i>24,372,200</i>	<i>24,626,600</i>	<i>28,351,400</i>	<i>3,724,800</i>	<i>15.1</i>
3600	Transfers to Institutions and Organisations	16,730,055	20,972,900	21,234,500	25,243,100	4,008,600	18.9
3800	International Organisations and Overseas Development Assistance	1,533,979	3,399,300	3,392,100	3,108,300	(283,800)	(8.4)
	OTHER CONSOLIDATED FUND OUTLAYS	34,075,860	41,060,900	41,050,400	45,510,400	4,460,000	10.9
4100	Expenses on Land Sales	34,075,860	41,014,400	41,014,400	45,464,400	4,450,000	10.8
4600	Loans and Advances (Disbursement)	—	46,500	36,000	46,000	10,000	27.8
	DEVELOPMENT ESTIMATES						
	DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE	366,696,939	138,973,500	136,442,900	287,047,600	150,604,700	110.4
5100	Government Development	366,590,739	138,925,000	136,155,900	286,818,400	150,662,500	110.7
5200	Grants and Capital Injections to Organisations	106,199	48,500	287,000	229,200	(57,800)	(20.1)

Establishment List

Category/Personnel	Actual FY2024	Estimated FY2025	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026
POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS	3	3	3	3
Minister	2	2	1	1
Senior Minister of State	–	–	1	1
Minister of State	1	1	–	–
Senior Parliamentary Secretary	–	–	1	1
PERMANENT STAFF	524	578	541	589
Administrative	5	5	2	2
Information Service (2008)	4	4	7	7
Legal	72	78	78	85
Management Executive Scheme (2008)	426	474	428	468
Management Support Scheme (2008)	17	17	14	14
Others	–	–	12	13
TOTAL	527	581	544	592

FY2025 BUDGET

The revised FY2025 total expenditure of the Ministry of Law is expected to be \$451.07 million. This is a decrease of \$188.32 million or 29.5% compared to the actual FY2024 total expenditure of \$639.39 million. Of the revised FY2025 total expenditure, \$314.63 million or 69.8% is for operating expenditure while \$136.44 million or 30.2% is for development expenditure.

Operating Expenditure

The revised FY2025 operating expenditure of the Ministry of Law is expected to be \$314.63 million. This is an increase of \$41.93 million or 15.4% compared to the actual FY2024 operating expenditure of \$272.69 million. The increase is mainly due to higher expenditure on manpower, consumption of products and services and provision of grants.

Development Expenditure

The revised FY2025 development expenditure of the Ministry of Law is expected to be \$136.44 million. This is a decrease of \$230.25 million or 62.8% compared to the actual FY2024 development expenditure of \$366.70 million. The decrease is mainly due to lower land acquisition costs.

Other Consolidated Fund Outlays

The revised FY2025 other consolidated fund outlays of the Ministry of Law are expected to be \$41.05 million. This is an increase of \$6.97 million or 20.5% compared to the actual FY2024 other consolidated fund outlays of \$34.08 million. The increase is mainly due to a projected increase in the number and value of land sites sold.

FY2026 BUDGET

The FY2026 total expenditure of the Ministry of Law is projected to be \$659.36 million. This is an increase of \$208.29 million or 46.2% compared to the revised FY2025 total expenditure of \$451.07 million. Of the FY2026 total expenditure, \$372.31 million or 56.5% is for operating expenditure while \$287.05 million or 43.5% is for development expenditure.

Operating Expenditure

The FY2026 operating expenditure of the Ministry of Law is projected to be \$372.31 million. This is an increase of \$57.68 million or 18.3% compared to the revised FY2025 operating expenditure of \$314.63 million. The increase is mainly due to higher consumption of products and services and provision of grants.

Development Expenditure

The FY2026 development expenditure of the Ministry of Law is projected to be \$287.05 million. This is an increase of \$150.60 million or 110.4% compared to the revised FY2025 development expenditure of \$136.44 million. The increase is mainly due to higher projected land acquisition costs and higher expenditure for new development projects anticipated in FY2026.

Total Expenditure by Programmes

Lands and Properties Administration Programme

The Lands and Properties Administration Programme administered through the Singapore Land Authority includes the management of State land and properties, State land sales, and compulsory acquisition of private land. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$155.51 million or 41.8% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure. The FY2026 development budget for this programme is \$276.19 million or 96.2% of the total FY2026 development expenditure.

Management and Development Programme

The Management and Development Programme formulates policies and legislation for sectors under the Ministry's purview (e.g. intellectual property, insolvency, legal aid), implements data governance measures, and drives digital transformation within the Ministry. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$123.21 million or 33.1% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure. The FY2026 development budget for this programme is \$10.86 million or 3.8% of the total FY2026 development expenditure.

Policy and Corporate Services Programme

The Policy and Corporate Services Programme formulates and reviews legal and land policies, administers law practice licensing, and provides corporate support for the Ministry, including in human resource, finance, corporate planning and development, as well as audit and enterprise risk management. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$54.27 million or 14.6% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Insolvency Programme

The Insolvency Programme administers bankruptcies, debt repayment schemes, company liquidations, and regulates insolvency practitioners. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$13.18 million or 3.5% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Legal Aid Programme

The Legal Aid Programme provides legal aid, assistance, and advice to persons of limited means on a wide range of civil matters such as divorce, adoptions, tenancy disputes, and motor and industrial accident claims. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$12.44 million or 3.3% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Registries of Moneylenders and Pawnbrokers Programme

The Registries of Moneylenders and Pawnbrokers Programme licenses and regulates moneylenders and pawnbrokers. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$4.26 million or 1.1% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Maintenance Enforcement Programme

The Maintenance Enforcement Programme strengthens the enforcement of maintenance orders between legally separated parties. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$3.90 million or 1.0% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Public Trustee Programme

The Public Trustee Programme administers relevant estates of deceased persons and relevant motor accident compensation claims. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$2.67 million or 0.7% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Community Mediation Programme

The Community Mediation Programme provides community mediation services to the public and promotes mediation as a preferred means of dispute resolution. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$2.55 million or 0.7% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Appeals Board Programme

The Appeals Board Programme is a tribunal constituted under the Land Acquisition Act to hear appeals lodged against compensation awards made by the Collector of Land Revenue. The FY2026 operating budget for this programme is \$0.32 million or 0.1% of the total FY2026 operating expenditure.

Other Consolidated Fund Outlays

The FY2026 other consolidated fund outlays of the Ministry of Law are projected to be \$45.51 million. This is an increase of \$4.46 million or 10.9% compared to the revised FY2025 other consolidated fund outlays of \$41.05 million. The increase is mainly due to an projected increase in the number and value of land sites sold.

Total Expenditure by Programme

Code	Programme	Running Costs	Transfers	Operating Expenditure	Development Expenditure	Total Expenditure
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
R-A	Management and Development Programme	97,500,300	25,712,300	123,212,600	10,858,600	134,071,200
R-D	Appeals Board Programme	316,500	–	316,500	–	316,500
R-E	Public Trustee Programme	2,667,900	–	2,667,900	–	2,667,900
R-F	Registries of Moneylenders and Pawnbrokers Programme	4,255,200	–	4,255,200	–	4,255,200
R-G	Insolvency Programme	13,180,500	–	13,180,500	–	13,180,500
R-I	Legal Aid Programme	12,443,500	–	12,443,500	–	12,443,500
R-J	Policy and Corporate Services Programme	51,631,000	2,639,100	54,270,100	–	54,270,100
R-N	Lands and Properties Administration Programme	155,511,500	–	155,511,500	276,189,000	431,700,500
R-O	Community Mediation Programme	2,550,800	–	2,550,800	–	2,550,800
R-P	Maintenance Enforcement Programme	3,900,500	–	3,900,500	–	3,900,500
Total		343,957,700	28,351,400	372,309,100	287,047,600	659,356,700

Development Expenditure by Project

Project Title	Total Project Cost	Actual Expenditure Up to End of FY2023	Actual FY2024	Estimated FY2025	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE	...	...	366,696,939	138,973,500	136,442,900	287,047,600
<i>GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT</i>	...	...	<i>366,590,739</i>	<i>138,925,000</i>	<i>136,155,900</i>	<i>286,818,400</i>
MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME						
Public Defender's Office Case Management System	9,724,753	1,408,922	4,151,638	81,000	3,281,900	461,000
MinLaw Development Projects	12,764,750	374,877	5,238,782	5,225,000	5,849,800	1,301,200
Minor Development Projects	...	...	2,093,741	9,171,400	8,374,500	8,867,200
Completed Projects	...	...	2,413,248	4,664,200	320,000	–
LANDS AND PROPERTIES ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMME						
Restoration works at 9 & 15 Stadium Link (former Kallang Airport)	13,620,000	9,433,563	184,847	777,500	1,160,000	510,000
Remediation works at Kampong Bugis	39,000,000	9,329,126	3,671,110	7,384,300	6,761,000	3,000,000
Land Essential Works	39,825,000	9,096,228	3,456,107	1,509,700	533,000	3,129,700
Restoration Works at No. 9 Shenton Way	14,340,000	12,668	120,744	2,930,200	180,000	901,300
Restoration Works at Tanjong Pagar Railway Station	48,990,000	16	551,803	6,188,500	1,562,500	235,200
Safeguarding public safety on offshore islands	15,260,000	833,312	–	–	117,300	16,500
Chong Pang Integrated Development	341,080,000	–	40,781,226	62,634,700	68,988,900	89,930,500
Building Essential Works for State Properties	84,450,000	29,999,698	9,686,131	9,295,600	15,270,000	25,428,100
Remediation Works at Queens Crescent and Lower Delta, and Environmental Site Assessment at Selected Sites	71,700,000	–	218,750	493,800	357,500	650,000
Land Acquisition for General Development	...	...	279,909,388	16,616,300	17,060,600	51,984,200
Improvement to State Lands / Provision of Amenities	...	...	8,033,796	867,500	610,000	106,800

Project Title	Total Project Cost	Actual Expenditure		Estimated FY2025	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026
		Up to End of FY2023	Actual FY2024			
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Remediation at 21 Lim Chu Kang Lane 6F	8,000,000	—	—	—	104,000	280,000
Remediation at Geylang Bahru Lane and Restoration at Old Changi Hospital	48,440,000	—	—	—	151,000	720,000
New Projects	...	...	—	9,402,300	4,905,900	99,296,700
Completed Projects	...	...	6,079,429	1,683,000	568,000	—
<i>GRANTS & CAPITAL INJECTIONS TO ORGANISATIONS</i>	...	...	106,199	48,500	287,000	229,200
MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME						
Minor Development Projects	...	...	106,199	48,500	287,000	229,200

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Desired Outcomes

- A sound and progressive legal framework
- Access to legal help for low-income residents
- Effective community mediation services
- An efficient public trustee system
- A vibrant legal services sector
- A sound and efficient insolvency regime
- Optimal use of land resources
- An efficient and reliable land titles registration system
- A robust intellectual property regime

Key Performance Indicators

Desired Outcome	Performance Indicator	Actual FY2023	Actual FY2024	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026
A sound and progressive legal framework	World Ranking of Singapore's Rule of Law in the IMD's World Competitiveness Yearbook	4 th	3 rd	5 th	Top 10
	World Ranking of Singapore's Fairness in Administration of Justice in the IMD's World Competitiveness Yearbook	17 th	5 th	5 th	Top 10
	World Ranking of Singapore in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index – Civil Justice is Not Subject to Unreasonable Delay	1 st	1 st	1 st	Top 5
	World Ranking of Singapore in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index – Civil Justice is Effectively Enforced	2 nd	4 th	2 nd	Top 5
	World Ranking of Singapore in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index – Criminal Justice	7 th	7 th	8 th	Top 10
Access to legal help for low-income residents	% of cases where processing of new civil legal aid application is completed within 4 months of registration ¹	98.8	96.4	>95.0	>95.0
	% of cases where processing of new criminal defence aid application is completed within 6 weeks of registration ¹	95.5	95.0	>80.0	>80.0
Effective community mediation services	Settlement rate of cases mediated by the Community Mediation Centre (%) ²	83.0	77.0	>75.0	>75.0
An efficient public trustee system	% of cases of un-nominated CPF monies where beneficiaries received distribution from public trustee within 28 working days of receipt of complete documentation and monies ³	83.5	85.9	>80.0	>80.0
A vibrant legal services sector	Nominal value-added of the legal services sector (\$ billions) ^{4, 5}	3.21	3.27	3.34	3.44
	Dollar value of legal services exports (\$ billions) ⁴	1.69	1.74	1.77	1.83

¹ Figure for Actual FY2023 has been revised from previous Revenue and Expenditure Estimates following change from Calendar Year (CY) to Financial Year (FY) reporting.

² Figure for Actual FY2023 has been revised from previous Revenue and Expenditure Estimates based on updated figures from Community Mediation Unit.

³ Figure for Actual FY2023 has been revised from previous Revenue and Expenditure Estimates following revision in methodology.

⁴ Figures are reported on a CY basis.

⁵ Figure has been revised from previous Revenue and Expenditure Estimates following revised figures from Department of Statistics.

Desired Outcome	Performance Indicator	Actual FY2023	Actual FY2024	Revised FY2025	Estimated FY2026
A sound and efficient insolvency regime	% of discharged bankruptcy cases where all dividends are paid to creditors within 4 weeks of discharge	98.1	97.6	>95.0	>95.0
Optimal use of land resources	Utilisation rate of State land available for use (%)	96.2	96.4	>95.0	>95.0
	Occupancy rate of usable State properties managed by SLA (%)	97.6	98.9	>95.0	>95.0
An efficient and reliable land titles registration system	% of documents registered within target time ⁶	99.1	99.2	>90.0	>90.0
A robust intellectual property regime	World Ranking of Singapore's innovation ecosystem in the World Intellectual Property Organization's Global Innovation Index	5 th	4 th	5 th	Top 5

⁶ This is a composite indicator for the registration of property transactions (e.g., registration for private property and HDB documents, issuance of new certificates of title pursuant to issue of State titles, issuance of new certificates of title pursuant to applications, notification of caveats). Target times range from 1 to 14 working days.