

**SPEECH BY NUSS PRESIDENT MR EDDIE LEE
AT THE NUSS MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE 2018
4 APRIL 2018, WEDNESDAY
7PM AT KENT RIDGE GUILD HOUSE**

1. Address the audience

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister-in-Charge of the Smart Nation initiative
Mrs Balakrishnan
Distinguished guests
Fellow NUSS members
Ladies and gentlemen

Good evening and a very warm welcome to NUSS!

Please allow me to first thank our Minister, and fellow alumni for graciously agreeing to engage our members through the dialogue this evening.

As a graduate society, NUSS strives to promote the interests of its members and NUS by contributing positively towards Singapore's social and economic development through meaningful Dialogues such as tonight's Ministerial Dialogue Series.

2. About the NUSS Ministerial Dialogue

The NUSS Ministerial Dialogue Series aims to provide a platform for our leaders to share their insights as well as encourage discussion and discourse on current topics and issues that are of long term significance to the nation.

3. Introduce the session

You may have heard of Minister Lim Swee Say saying in Parliament that he felt like a sua ku when he was in China. Well, I too experienced it firsthand when I was there last week, even the Yu Char Kway seller uses Wechat for payment and I had to ask the guide to demonstrate to me.

Yesterday, an Indian National came to my office for notarisation and wanted to make payment by card. I told him that we didn't have such a facility and he had to walk 2 blocks to withdraw cash from the ATM.

I have just downloaded Paylah this morning, which makes it easier for me to both receive and make payment.

The Minister will not only speak on e-payment, but also the opportunities and challenges faced in Singapore's drive in becoming a Smart Nation. I am sure that at the end of tonight's session, all of us will be better informed on how technological improvements could improve our lives.

I would also like to thank Mr Jeffrey Khoo, Chairperson of the Intellectual Pursuit Sub-Committee for being the moderator for this evening.

I wish all of you a pleasant and enriching evening.

Thank you.