

21 Mar 2023

Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question on Election Campaigning Before Nomination Day

Question:

Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether election campaigning is allowed from the day the Writ of Election is issued to Nomination Day; and (b) whether potential candidates for the General Election are allowed to conduct house-to-house visits, or visit markets and coffee shops, to (i) check on residents' well-being or (ii) explicitly canvass for votes while wearing their party uniforms and badges during this period.

Oral Reply by Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister of Education, for the Prime Minister:

Mr Speaker Sir, on behalf of the Prime Minister please.

2 Our election laws primarily regulate campaigning during the campaign period, which commences from the closure of the place of nomination on Nomination Day and ends at the start of the eve of Polling Day. Outside of the campaign period, the election laws do not prohibit political parties and aspiring candidates from conducting activities such as house-to-house visits, visiting markets and coffee shops to interact with residents, or to explicitly canvass for votes while wearing their party uniforms and badges. This is assuming that these activities comply with the other laws of the land.

3 However, there are some restrictions during this period. For example, election advertising must comply with the prevailing publishing requirements and non-Singapore citizens must not publish or display election advertising.