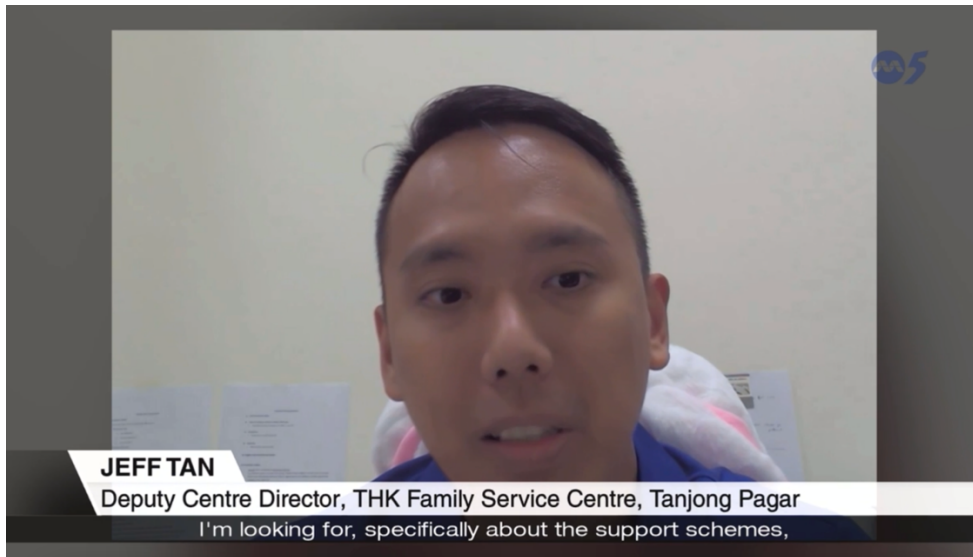


News Coverage

Ch5 News, Ch8 News and CNA
16 Feb 2025

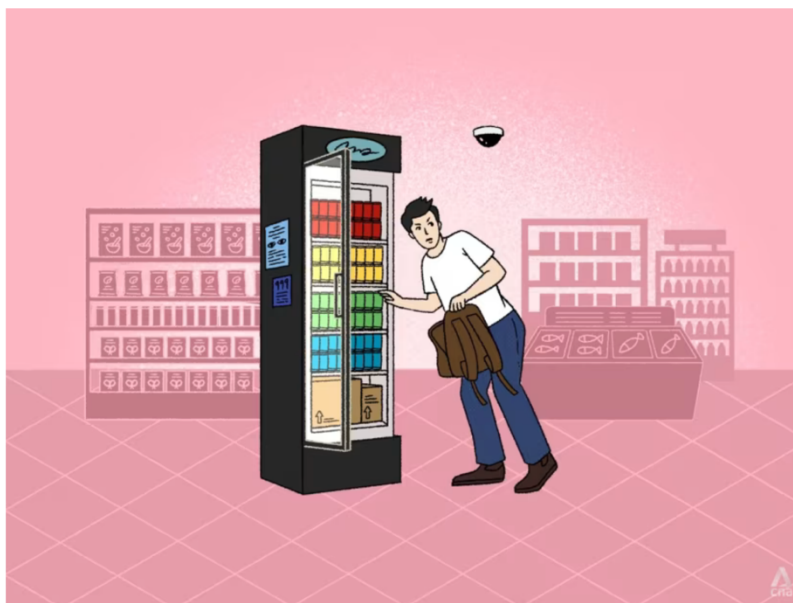


CNA TODAY
17 Feb 2025

BIG READ

Stolen goods and hidden costs: Why shoplifting is on the rise in Singapore

Shopkeepers interviewed said that although they have hired more workers and installed surveillance cameras to combat shoplifting, challenges such as manpower constraints and high footfall make it difficult to fully address the problem.



Amanda Yeap

24 Jan 2025 09:30PM
(Updated: 25 Jan 2025 10:38PM)



Nearly 4,000 shop thefts were reported in 2023 in Singapore. (Illustration: CNA/Nurjannah Suhaimi)

Summary of news coverage

Parents, social agencies call for review of financial aid criteria to support bigger families

Some social service agencies are advocating for a review of financial aid criteria to better support larger families, as these families have been facing increasing expenses on daily necessities and caregiving. At the National Day Rally last year, Mr Wong announced a new scheme to support large families, adding that details were being worked out. "Under this scheme, we will provide more support for those thinking about having a third child. And more help to parents who already have three or more young children," he said, adding that he hopes to share more good news in the 2025 Budget.

Mr Jeff Tan, deputy centre director at Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charities' Family Service Centre at Tanjong Pagar, hopes for more comprehensive assistance through the support schemes. He cited how Child Development Accounts, for instance, could "encompass the expenditures of childcare all the way through primary school. I think that will be very beneficial and helpful for the families, especially bigger families," he added.

Still, social agencies stressed that families should not rely on government support alone. Mr Tan said that families need to consider their purchases to avoid financial strain. "This financial decision-making is a conscientious effort by the family, whereby habits are learnt and passed on through each generation. So unfortunately, if they are making poor choices or purchases, this may lead to unbearable outcomes, and which may strain the family's relationship."