



MEDIA RELEASE

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LAUNCH OF ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION TO GATHER DESIGN IDEAS FOR NEW INDIAN HERITAGE CENTRE

A call for an innovative and contemporary architectural design that is representative and respectful of Indian heritage.

SINGAPORE, 25 January 2011 – The new Indian Heritage Centre's (IHC) vision of becoming a "living" showcase of Indian traditions and cultural expressions will soon be fulfilled with the launch of an architectural competition on 28 January 2011 to gather proposed designs for the upcoming centre. Organised by the Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA) in partnership with the National Heritage Board (NHB), the architectural competition will be opened to both local and foreign design consultants including members of the Architects Regional Council of Asia. For more information on the competition, please visit www.indianheritage.org.sg.

2 The competition will be organised in two stages with the first stage involving the submission of proposed designs for the new IHC, and the second stage involving the submission of an architectural model with detailed plans for designs shortlisted in the first stage.

3 Says Mr S Iswaran, Chairman of the IHC Steering Committee: "Through the competition, we hope to receive design submissions that are contemporary yet capture the rich and diverse heritage of the Indian community in Singapore." Mr S Iswaran, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry and Education, assumed the chairmanship in October 2010 from the late Dr Balaji Sadasivan. Dr Balaji Sadasivan had played an instrumental role in the development of the IHC.

4 The judging panel, chaired by Mr R Jayachandran, Chairman of the IHC Design and Construction Sub-Committee, and co-chaired by Mr Ashvinkumar s/o Kantilal, President of SIA, will comprise members from the NHB, Urban Redevelopment Authority, The Institution of Engineers, Singapore, as well as representatives from the community.

5 "The judging panel will be looking for the successful translation of IHC's stated vision into an innovative and unique building concept and design encompassing a good mix of tradition and modernity to blend seamlessly with the surrounding Little India heritage architecture. Such a design should also allow for flexibility and sustainability in the centre's programming needs," adds Mr R Jayachandran.

6 All shortlisted entries from the second stage will be exhibited for public viewing in April 2011 and the winning design will be announced in May 2011. Following the architectural competition, construction works for the IHC are expected

to commence in the second half of 2011, and the IHC is scheduled to open in December 2013.

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About the National Heritage Board

The National Heritage Board (NHB) champions the development and promotion of a vibrant cultural and heritage sector in Singapore. It makes heritage enriching, relevant and accessible to all through staging innovative programmes and forging partnerships with both private and people sector counterparts. NHB leverages on state-of-the-art technology and refreshing new approaches to make heritage more dynamic, alive and exciting for different audiences. It also manages both national and public museums, the National Archives of Singapore, the Preservation of Monuments Board and the Heritage Conservation Centre. NHB was formed on 1 August 1993 as a statutory board under the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA). Please visit www.nhb.gov.sg for more information.

About the Indian Heritage Centre

The Indian Heritage Centre (IHC), under the Heritage Institutions Division of the National Heritage Board, traces the history of the Indian and South Asian community in the Southeast Asian region. Located at the Little India Heritage District, the centre has been scheduled to open in 2013 and will feature small scale museum facilities as well as programming and educational spaces.

About the Singapore Institute of Architects

The Singapore Institute of Architects is a professional organisation established in 1961 with the objective to promote the architectural profession and the built environment in Singapore. The Institute is the sole representative for the architectural profession in Singapore. Over the years, the Institute has helped organise several design competitions, which include such projects like the Maybank Headquarter Redevelopment, Marina Line Stadium and Museum Stations, The NUS Alumni Complex, scape* Youth Complex, Tampines Town Council Neighbourhood Renewal Programme and recently the Al Ansar Mosque in Bedok.

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