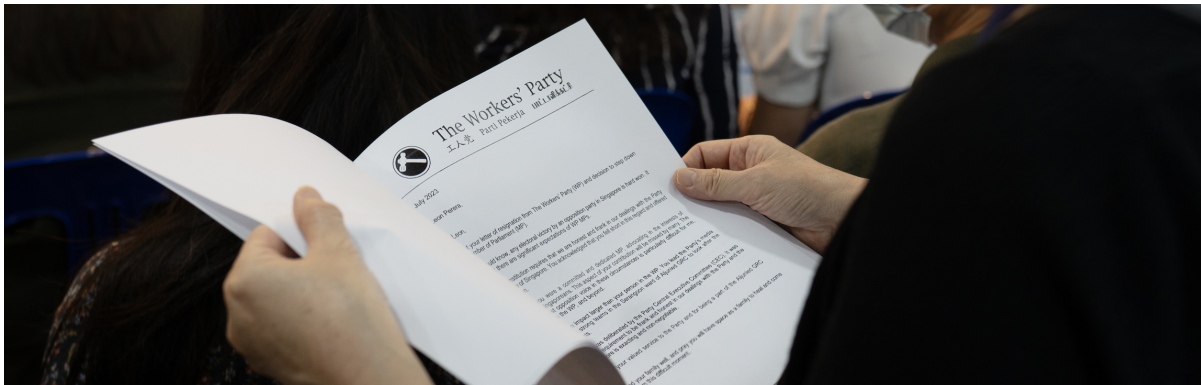




Takeaways

A newsletter by RICE



About last Wednesday...

We had a flurry of comments after posting our coverage from the Workers' Party's anticipated press conference on Wednesday, 19 July.

The entire debacle—from two shocking resignations by PAP ministers to video footage of WP's own getting cozy, both of whom have also tendered their notice—was a whirlwind. And it's hit a nerve with Singaporeans.

Of course, it follows recent events that we've already covered in this newsletter. It's crazy to think so much has happened since we were last in your inbox.

Our reporter Kimberly had two questions ready. She could only ask one. We got the brunt of readers who felt her choice wasn't the best one—it was supposedly "shallow" and "asking the obvious".

To that, we'd like to ask: when something appears obvious, but isn't addressed directly by those in power, wouldn't it be easy for it to be brushed off as "assumptions" later on? We'll leave you to draw to your own conclusions.

*P.S. We've also learnt some of you found your way here through your friends. If you haven't already, **subscribe** to our weekly newsletter today!*

*If you like our content and our vibes, consider being a **RICE Media patron** to support the work we do.*

Sorry State of our Lion City



Some of you are still struggling to wrap your head around what's going on in Singaporean politics.

It's indeed knotted in so much baggage and opaqueness that it becomes frustrating. Our writer attempts to summarise just what's been going on.

**The Ides of July and the
Embarrassing State of Singapore
Politics Right Now**

The Conference



Our news lead Kimberly was on hand at the WP press conference, and she indeed got to ask a question that struck a chord across the country. Here's her dispatch from that day.

Uncanny Coincidences and Things Left Unsaid at the Workers' Party Media Conference

The Sotong Strategy



Certainly, with WP at a crossroads, it looked like Pritam Singh steadily guided the party through choppy waters with one press conference.

As always, any political press conference in Singapore will leave most people with more unanswered questions. For Pritam, it was clear his public-facing strategy is one we're all very familiar with.

**Mr Pritam Singh and The
Political Art of Act Blur Live
Longer**

A Dollar for Your Appetite



A snack run at a supermarket will, more often than not, make you choose quickly. We're sure many of you have seen the Meadows brand on shelves, and with a consistently-surprising price tag: \$1.

How are they doing it in *this* economy?

**How the Hell Does
Meadows Survive With
\$1 Truffle Potato Chips?**

Whoever Wins, We Also Win



This week, two mega blockbusters descend upon our shores. In many parts of the world, people are eager to watch both in a day, despite the two being very different films.

This is Barbenheimer, this summer's biggest event at the movies.

**Barbenheimer,
or Why You Should Go Out
to the Cinema this Weekend**

Short Grains, or *piping-hot topics by the spoonful.*

- Despite recent hair-raising news, the F1 race will go on as planned in September. (*via Mothership*)
- A campaign to shut down an Indonesian market trade selling dog and cat meat has apparently been successful. (*via ABC*)

- TikTok users have responded to recent political news with... [Taylor Swift edits](#). (via [Coconuts Singapore](#))
 - In the Philippines, a [Taylor Swift drag queen](#) has been collecting her flowers from massive crowds. (via [The Washington Post](#))
 - A former general counsel of 1MDB, previously on the run as a wanted fugitive, has apparently been [working on returning to her home country of Malaysia](#). (via [Channel NewsAsia](#))
-



The political topic this week was infidelity. We went out to the streets to ask: when it comes to politicians, do their personal lives matter?

Must Politicians be Morally Perfect?

We like to go out! We also hate our weather.

But as much as our team is full of contradictions, we simply can't go by our weekend without checking out some things. If you're still deciding on where to go, let us highlight some unmissable events for you:

1. Comedian legend Kumar is wrapping up [Kumar Guilty this weekend](#). Judging by the social media reception, it's a must-see.

2. The big boss of food is here: [Singapore Food Festival 2023](#) is now underway!
3. Esplanade's stellar month-long odyssey of free and paid jazz concerts, [Jazz in July](#), continues before the month officially ends.
4. Celebrity chef Gaggan Anand presents [a new menu](#) fusing Mexican and Indian cuisine. It's pricey, but it won't be around for long.
5. At Duxton Hill, a funky new bar by the name of [Cat Bite Club](#) is opening its doors.

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