

ERC/PR/2016
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MEDIA STATEMENT BY SCCCI PRESIDENT THOMAS CHUA ON THE PASSING OF SINGAPORE'S FORMER PRESIDENT S R NATHAN

We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Singapore's former president, Mr S R Nathan. Our longest serving President, Mr Nathan will always be remembered as being a principled and staunch individual with great compassion for all Singaporeans, regardless of race, language or religion. Although he held the highest office in Singapore and was a symbol of the state, he remained warm and approachable and earned the respect of the elderly, young people, children, and all who came into contact with him. His humility touched the hearts and minds of the entire community.

During his tenure as President, Mr Nathan developed strong ties with the Chinese business community. We greatly appreciated his presence as Guest of Honour at our Lunar New Year gathering in 2009. The world was then reeling from the global financial crisis. Mr Nathan reassured us in his speech that Singapore was well-poised to take on the challenges of the economic downturn. Moreover, he commended the SCCCI's leading role in rallying the business community to respond to national challenges. He believed that this partnership with the government was even more critical during unusually difficult times.

During our centennial celebrations in 2006, Mr Nathan also graced us with his presence at the Orchid Naming Ceremony, this being one of the key functions of our 100th Anniversary.

He will be sadly missed by all at the SCCCI.

<p>Samantha Lee Senior Executive Communications & External Relations, SCCCI Tel: 6337 8381 (ext 129) HP: 9383 6079 E-mail: samantha@sccci.org.sg</p>	<p>Chin Sin Yee Senior Manager Communications & External Relations, SCCCI Tel: 6337 8381 (ext 120) HP: 9109 3926 E-mail: sinyee@sccci.org.sg</p>	<p>Isabel Yeo Wai Koon Director China Affairs, Communications & External Relations, SCCCI Tel: 6337 8381 (ext 222) HP: 9151 0568 E-mail: isabel@sccci.org.sg</p>
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About Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Established in 1906, the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCCI) is an internationally renowned business chamber and the apex body of the Chinese business community in Singapore. It is the founder of the biennial World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention and the World Chinese Business Network (www.wcbn.com.sg), a global online business information portal. It plays a key and pro-active role in representing the interests of the local business community. In its continued drive for service excellence, the SCCCI has become the first business chamber in the region that has been awarded ISO 9001:2000 certification since 1995. In 2009, the Chamber successfully upgraded its ISO certification to ISO 9001:2008.

The SCCCI has a membership network comprising over 4,000 corporate members and 153 trade association members, representing over 40,000 companies including large financial and business organizations, multinational corporations, government-linked companies, and small and medium enterprises from a wide spectrum of trades and industries. Together, they provide the business community with vast resources and an influential global Chinese business network for business, culture and education.