

Headline: Students devise ways to improve HDB living

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By Alvina Soh | Posted: 31 March 2012 2057 hrs

SINGAPORE: More than 40 teams of students from various junior colleges and tertiary institutions have come up with innovative ways to improve HDB living.

Minister of State Lee Yi-Shyan said the design competition aims to stimulate creativity among students.

Imagine leaving a window open at all times and not having to worry about rain.

A five-member team from the National University of Singapore has made this possible.

A canvas will be erected whenever the window is opened.

The simple yet practical design clinched the top prize in the design competition.

Team member Yeo Zheng Hang said: "We can actually leave the window open and don't really have to worry about heavy rains coming in or rain splashing into the room, and messing up the room inside, so it actually makes our life more convenient."

The competition, organised by the Housing and Development Board and American Society of Mechanical Engineers, challenges students to solve daily problems faced by residents.

Among the innovative designs is a rotating window which improves ventilation, a cooling system that uses charcoal in place of air-conditioning and even aluminum blades which reduce noise in flats.

Mr Lee said: "It's good to allow other people outside the government sector to help brainstorm some of the ideas that can be practical and implemented in our day-to-day life. We invest so much in our tertiary education system and we ought to really create opportunities to stimulate students to come up, to challenge ideas that can test the boundaries."

HDB said the ideas may be further developed for future building projects.

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Photos

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The winning design from the five-member team from the National University of Singapore

Video



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