

GE2025: GST, tight contests - Analysts react to PAP's Fullerton rally

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The People's Action Party held the first lunchtime election rally of GE2025 at noon on April 28 at the promenade area beside UOB Plaza. The PAP's secretary-general and Singapore's Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, along with other party members, addressed Singaporeans.

The Fullerton rally, named for its venue being close to Fullerton Square, has in the past attracted thousands of office workers. The area has been a venue for political rallies since 1959, when the earliest Singapore political parties took to the podium there.

There was a lot to unpack about the Fullerton rally, so I had to call in seasoned political observers.

For this episode, I invited Dr Gillian Koh, senior research fellow from the Institute of Policy Studies, Dr Rebecca Grace Tan, a political science lecturer from the National University of Singapore, and Dr Felix Tan, an independent political observer.

The Usual Place – a podcast by The Straits Times – has moved from a weekly show to a half-hour daily live stream at noon from April 24 till May 1, the day before Cooling-off Day.

Highlights (click/tap above):

1:52:29 How the new PAP candidates fared in their speeches at the Fullerton rally

1:57:10 Was there a lack of specifics from new PAP candidates on their motivation to join politics?

2:06:52 Thoughts on PAP's opposition to the opposition parties

2:13:44 Is DPM Gan Kim Yong in danger of losing Punggol GRC?

2:16:40 Did the GST hike turbo-charge inflation in Singapore?

2:31:33 Will the PAP get a clear mandate from the ballot box on Polling Day?