

ROUND-UP
OF VIEWSMOTION SENSORS AND
JUTE BAGS NOT PRACTICAL

I REFER to the commentary, "Three ways to save Earth" (*my paper*, Jan 22).

The writer suggested that motion sensors be installed with lights to save energy.

Besides the cost of installing them, lamp life would be cut by the constant activation and deactivation of the lights.

Also, high-intensity discharge lamps, which are used for street lighting, need a short period of time to light up.

This makes them impractical for use, as roads should be well-lit at all times.

As for using jute bags when grocery shopping, imagine the number of bags one would have to take to the supermarket to hold one week's worth of shopping.

MR CHARLEY WONG

TAXIS STILL MORE EFFICIENT
THAN PRIVATE CARS

I REFER to the letter, "More taxis, less road efficiency" (*my paper*, Jan 25).

The efficiency of a transport system is measured by the speed and volume of people being moved from one place to another in comfort and with convenience.

I would rank the MRT system as the most efficient mode of transport.

In the letter mentioned above, the writer said that taxis are less efficient than private cars as they stay on the road for at least 16 hours a day.

I disagree. Taxis are more efficient because they run 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

They carry more people from one place to another than private cars.

MR BERNARD SIM

ENSURE STATION NAMES
IN TRAIN ARE CORRECT

RECENTLY, I boarded a train on the North-South Line at Raffles Place Station and alighted at Braddell.

The electronic panels showed the wrong name at some stations.

For example, it showed "EW21 Buona Vista" when the train reached Novena and "EW19 Queenstown" when it reached Braddell.

I hope SMRT would check the display panels before the start of each train's journey and ensure that the station names shown are correct.

MR CHIN KEE THOU

Six tips for secure,
memorable password

I REFER to the article, "123456: Despite Internet security breaches, this is world's most popular password" (*my paper*, Jan 22).

People use simple online passwords despite security scares mainly because they have too many things to remember, but also because they find it hard to create a **password** that is easy to remember and hard for hackers to guess.

I would like to share a few tips on creating a **memorable**, strong password.

The password should be one that:

◆ Has at least eight alphanumeric characters.

A longer password exponentially increases possible combinations, thus lowering the **risk** of one's account being hacked into.

◆ Does not contain all or part of one's name.

Having one's name in part or in whole makes the password an easy guess.

◆ Has a mix of upper- and lower-case characters, e.g. A2dC5h.

◆ Does not have repeated numbers or characters side by side, e.g. 11aa33.

◆ Is not common, e.g. iloveyou

◆ Does not have characters that appear side by side on the keyboard, e.g. qwerty.

A password that has a combination of the **criteria** above is one that would close the doors on hackers.

MS ONG CHEN MIN

HELPDESK 我的字典

Password: 密码 mǐ mǎ

Memorable: 难忘的
nán wàng de

Risk: 风险 fēng xiǎn

Criteria: 准则 zhǔn zé

Give fired
casino staff
2nd chance

I READ with disbelief in the press that some casino staff have been fired even before the casinos opened at the two integrated resorts.

A report said that staff at Resorts World Sentosa had committed offences such as selling pirated DVDs and shoplifting when they were aged 14.

Youths at that age may not have had the wisdom or guidance to know right from wrong.

As Resorts World is a family-oriented destination, it should also be community-oriented and give these former offenders another chance.

MR YONG KONG PENG

Leadership from United
Nations sorely lacking

I REFER to the commentary, "Wars less deadly now: Report" (*my paper*, Jan 22).

Statistically, while fewer lives have been lost, there is still a place for the United Nations on the global stage.

However, putting aside the genocides in Rwanda and Bosnia in the previous decades, the UN has been marginalised and ineffective over the past years.

Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, as the figurehead and representative of the organisation, has been ineffectual.

While no momentous mistakes

have been committed, the global leadership needed to deal with the many disasters and crises in the world – from the international financial meltdown to climate change – is sorely lacking.

There have been calls over the years for the UN to reform its bureaucratic structure and approach.

While such overhauls might prove difficult because of inherent weaknesses and a largely partisan international community, the UN must carry out its commitments and recognise the imperative to maintain its relevance.

MR KWAN JIN YAO

Harvesting of shark's fins
upsets ocean's ecosystem

WE ARE hitting the peak season for the multi-billion-dollar shark's-fin industry.

Sharks prey on fishes that feed on phytoplankton, hence controlling the population of plankton feeders.

With the decline of the shark population, we can expect a sharp, steady decline in phytoplankton, which absorbs carbon dioxide and turns it into oxygen in the water.

We rely on the ocean for food but are causing serious damage to it.

Singapore is the world's third-largest market for shark's fins. This means that we have control over the situation and have the option of saying no and reducing the demand for shark's fins.

It is questionable why we are paying so much for a "delicacy" which we cannot even taste.

The fins are tasteless. What we enjoy when we drink shark's-fin soup is the stock, which imparts its flavour to the other ingredients in the dish.

If you are eating shark's fins this Chinese New Year, think twice, for the sake of future generations.

MS JENNIFER LEE

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Type "zap" and SMS it to 73300. For pre-paid users, SMS to 9741 9401. Or open internet browser and type in zapcode.sg

To: 73300
ZAP

Trigger ColorCam in your Menu

Shoot the Code

GPRS Data charges apply. Call 6221 5741 or email support@colorzip.com.sg for assistance.

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