

**TODAY**

WE SET YOU THINKING

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download the TODAY app for the letter from Yoshi Aki Poon Hon Tung.

# Online career platform Todo Todo too messy to use

FROM **KWAN JIN YAO**

Young Singaporeans will benefit from career mentorship and guidance, especially within a global economic landscape that is becoming increasingly competitive and ambiguous (Career mentors to help youths boost job prospects; May 1).

On paper, the Todo Todo initiative — the mentorship programme that matches young jobseekers with volunteer career guides who are “young SMEs with at least five years of working experience” — should provide participants with greater career and industry knowledge.

As it stands on its website and mobile app, however, the People’s Association and the National Trades Union Congress have much to do to improve the user experience and, ultimately, make it easier to access the matching platform and network.

The website, in particular, leaves much to be desired.

The list of events appears to be a reproduction from the SkillsFuture website, and more often than not, the registration link takes the user to an external link.

The concept of such a directory is

already ubiquitous across social media sites, so duplicating these entries makes little sense.

The same can be said about the list of careers.

Also, the page itself is unwieldy and disorganised because the user cannot filter entries across criteria such as job types, industries and location.

The functionality of the mobile app is a little better, but even the jobs tab, for instance, allows entries to be filtered by industry types only.

Fundamentally, as a user navigates through the website and mobile app, the purpose of the initiative, which promises to provide youth with “more learning opportunities, networking and targeted help in their career advancement plans”, becomes convoluted.

I assume that the kinks are being worked out, and that the actual platform and network will be rolled out eventually, yet it is nonetheless still disappointing.

Greater clarity on what Todo Todo wishes to achieve in the long term, and the nature of the online and offline interactions between the jobseekers and the career guides, should be a useful starting point.

# Show compassion to animals on Vesak Day

FROM **CHIN KEE THOU**

The report “NParks, PUB teaming up to warn against releasing pets into the wild” (May 3) comes at the right time.

It reminds followers of Buddhism to show compassion to animals on Vesak Day, by not buying them from pet shops or farms and releasing them.

In ancient times, animals were hunted for food, and freeing them from traps was indeed a compassionate, noble deed. Saving lives is a virtue worth cultivating, but releasing pets into the wild is not a compatible practice in this era.

Birds are trapped in neighbouring countries, and fish and terrapins are raised in farms. If released into an unfamiliar, hostile environment, these animals would eventually perish.

In a popular story in Buddhist literature, a prince retrieved a swan that his cousin had shot down with an arrow. Both claimed possession and appeared before a mediator, who decided that the person who saved its life should keep it.

Trading in and holding animals in captivity is not a wholesome occupation, and buying them would encourage the trade. Devotees should refrain from such practices and not only save lives but also money, which can be donated to worthy causes instead. On Vesak Day, Buddhists should allow all living beings to rejoice.

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# If we all stay alert, terrorists won't stand a chance here

FROM **ACE KINDRED CHEONG**

I agree with the commentary “Why reporting every security incident matters” (April 27). It is vital that Singapore stops terrorists and lone wolves from getting it “right”.

They need to get it right only once, whereas we have to get it right every time. And they have been right more

than once in other countries, such as France and the United States.

Singapore, which is and will always be a target because the West has assets and interests here, must learn from countries that have been victims of terrorism.

I believe it is more a case of when, rather than if Singapore will be attacked one day.

That said, if everyone plays a part in being alert and is unafraid of being accused of paranoia in preventing an attack from happening, surely the terrorists and lone wolves would not stand any chance of making a victim out of Singapore.

**Busy day?**

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