Driving Asian leadership

The newly opened Human Capital Leadership Institute (HCLI) is set to play a pivotal role in positioning Singapore as a “talent hub” for Asian leaders.

Manpower Minister Gan Kim Yong says more global organisations are now setting up businesses in this region, building up their knowledge of Asia and extending their business networks into expanding markets.

Correspondingly, individuals with the right cultural and business knowledge will be highly sought after. And the minister expects companies will move to places where such talent is readily available. “Singapore must seize this window of opportunity to position ourselves as a ‘Home for Talent’ to drive business innovation and demand,” he told the launch of the HCLI last month.

According to Gan, Singapore will need a “vibrant talent ecosystem” in place. HCLI will play a key role in this area. A partnership between the Ministry of Manpower and the Singapore Management University, the institute aims to become the premier global talent and leadership hub in Asia. It will provide knowledge and advice on emerging talent management and leadership development issues for global companies that want to set up shop in the region. Asian companies too, will be able to tap on its resources to compete on the global stage.

“As an institution centred on thought leadership and talent development, HCLI will generate innovative talent management ideas, practices, and strategies out of Singapore – to be contextualised for Asia,” Gan said.

Located at the Singapore Leadership Initiative for Building Networks and Knowledge (LINK), a new HR hub at Nepal Hill, the HCLI will work with academia, companies and consulting firms to drive research and develop cases studies on HR challenges in Asia.

The institute’s governing council is headed by leading Asian entrepreneur Sunny Verghese.