History-making year ahead

What will this year have in store for Singapore? As Insight gazes into the crystal ball, eight events and issues loom large.

FOR the first time in the Republic's history, two elections are likely to be held within months of each other, the only question being which will come first - the general election (GE) or the presidential election?

The exact timing of both elections is a closely guarded secret, but the GE must be held by February 2012, and if there is a contest to pick a new head of state, the Constitution requires that it take place between June and August this year.

All eyes will be on the People's Action Party's new slate for a glimpse of the fourth generation leadership, if not the next prime minister. Ditto with the opposition line-up - will it throw up a charismatic leader who will seize the public imagination? Can the new crop of better-qualified candidates stop local political stalemate?

By Rachel Chong

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An 1990 between the two countries, the median COV paid in the year.

Both countries are on track to complete the long-standing dormant bilateral issue over the Pagar Railway land agreement. The Government took a series of measures to reassure Singaporeans that they came first, to address the rising public discontent.

With the region awash with liquidity and buy-and-hold economic momentum, experts see the upward trend of the property market continuing into 2011.

A YEAR ago, productivity was the national new headline, as the reliance on cheap foreign labour was discussed in the way to go for faster growth in the next stage.

This year, productivity may end up as the headliner as a new headline.

The official statistics showed that the economy continued to grow in the third quarter, with a 2.5% annual rate of expansion.

The Government has set aside to boost productivity over the next decade.

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