

MEDIA RELEASE

BCA: PE REPORT CONCLUDES SIMILAR SUNSHADES IN TAMPINES ARE SAFE

Singapore, 4 December 2016 – The final investigation report by the Professional Engineer (PE), submitted on 21 November 2016, has concluded that the other existing sunshades at Block 201E Tampines Street 23 and the surrounding blocks are safe.

Investigations on dislodged sunshade

2 BCA had earlier directed Tampines Town Council to engage a PE to carry out a detailed investigation, following the incident on 25 September 2016. Over the last few months, the PE had carried out several tests and investigations.

3 For the affected sunshade at the incident block, the PE's investigations confirmed that the side that had dislodged had no reinforcement bars (rebars). The PE concluded that the sunshade dislodged because of the way it was constructed and not due to structural design.

Additional checks on similar sunshades in the precinct

4 BCA had also required additional checks to be conducted on the other sunshades at Block 201E and similar sunshades at the surrounding blocks.

5 These include ultrasound scanning checks, conducted by an independent accredited testing laboratory. The ultrasound checks showed that reinforcement bars were detected in all existing sunshades at Block 201E and surrounding blocks. To further verify the findings from the ultrasound checks, the PE, in the presence of BCA engineers, carried out sampling checks by removing a strip of concrete cover to expose the rebars to establish the number and size of rebars. These checks confirmed that the existing sunshades are adequately supported on the columns and are safe.

6 BCA has also conducted an independent assessment of the findings and concurs with the PE's conclusions.

About Building and Construction Authority

The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) of Singapore champions the development of an excellent built environment for Singapore. BCA's mission is to shape a safe, high quality, sustainable and friendly built environment, as these are four key elements where BCA has a significant influence. In doing so, it aims to differentiate Singapore's built environment from those of other cities and contribute to a better quality of life for everyone in Singapore. Hence, its vision is to have "a future-ready built environment for Singapore". Together with its education arm, the BCA Academy, BCA works closely with its industry partners to develop skills and expertise that help shape a future-ready built environment for Singapore. For more information, visit www.bca.gov.sg.