

## **Openness to talent 'helped OCBC rise'**

OCBC Bank's readiness to bring in top-calibre people with no links to the bank or its major shareholders was a key to its success, Deputy Prime Minister Tony Tan said yesterday.

'The steady influx of talent, which is continuing today, did much to ensure that OCBC kept pace with the changing needs of its customers and was able to meet increasingly fierce competition from other financial institutions in Singapore and the region,' he said.

He was speaking at the launch of a book on the bank's 68-year history called *Building Bridges, Carving Niches - An Enduring Legacy*.

Dr Tan, who himself worked many years at the bank, added: 'OCBC's growth and development is an absorbing story which has a beginning but no end.'

He said that OCBC owed its success to its passion and commitment to building the institution, and its reputation for honesty, integrity and prudent risk-taking.

He traced this virtuous circle to the bank's former chairman and managing director Tan Chin Tuan, who served it for over 50 years.

The book was written by three history lecturers from the National Institute of Education.