

### **(3) TOP QUALITY ECONOMY, RESILIENT COMMUNITY**

3.1 This Budget is about how we are looking ahead to create new advantages and fresh opportunities for Singapore in a competitive world. The way we will do it is to be a top quality economy. This means *top quality people*, and *top quality enterprises*. The Budget is also about keeping all our people together as we grow and ensuring that no one is left behind.

#### ***Budget 2008 Key Thrusts***

3.2 The Budget this year is centred on four key thrusts:

- a. We will provide a *full range of education and training opportunities* for people to find and stretch their potential, in school and in their post-secondary education, as well as throughout their working years. We will enhance assistance for needy students to ensure that a top-rate tertiary education is affordable to all.
- b. We will spur the growth of *innovative enterprises*. We will significantly enhance the incentives for enterprises big and small to create new ideas and products.
- c. We will also adjust our *tax policies so that we stay competitive*, support the growth of our SMEs, encourage risk-taking as well as strengthen our role as a financial and business hub.
- d. We will continue to build a *resilient community*. We will strengthen financial security for retirement, and help the less well-off members in our society. We will also share surpluses with Singaporeans, with particular focus on the lower and middle-income groups who are more affected by rising prices.