The two new faces

Two new High Court judges have been appointed: Mr Lee Seiu Kin, 52, and Mr Sundaresh Menon, 44. The Sunday Times finds out more about the additions to the Bench.

Name: Sundaresh Menon
Occupation: Head of international litigation and arbitration (Asia) for Jones Day, a law firm

Background:
- Bachelor of Laws (First Class) from the National University of Singapore, 1986
- Master of Laws from Harvard University, 1991
- Legal assistant, Shook Lin & Bok, 1987 to 1989
- Partner, Shook Lin & Bok, 1990 to 1991
- Partner, Wong Partnership, 1992 to 1994
- Partner, Rajah & Tann, 1995 to 2002
- Partner, Jones Day, 2003 to present

Famous case: In 1996, Mr Menon represented the liquidators of the ill-fated Barings Futures (Singapore) in a $2 billion negligence lawsuit against its auditors.

What others say of him: “He was a brilliant advocate in the area of his speciality and I think he will bring his expertise to the Bench,” said Senior Counsel and former judge K.S. Rajah.
Name: Lee Seiu Kin

Occupation: Second Solicitor-General in the Attorney-General’s Office

Background:
- Colombo Plan scholar, Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), University of Adelaide, 1977
- Master of Science in Construction Engineering, National University of Singapore, 1982
- Master of Business Administration (Distinction), Insead, 1983
- Bachelor of Laws (Honours), National University of Singapore, 1986
- Master of Laws, Cambridge University, 1987
- Joined legal service, 1987
- Judicial Commissioner, 1997 to 2002
- Regional Panel Arbitrator, Singapore International Arbitration Centre, 2003

Famous cases: Represented the Attorney-General in the contempt of court case filed against opposition leader Chee Soon Juan last month.

Argued to have suspected double murderer Michael McCrea extradited from Australia to Singapore in November 2003.

What others say of him: “As judicial commissioner he was very patient, especially with young lawyers. There was nothing to be afraid of when one appeared before him as he had a practical mind and would even guide us through some hearings,” said Mr Michael Palmer, partner at Harry Elias Partnership.