That's the objective of planned revamp of badminton squads: Teo

BY LIO XINXI

Mr TEO (left) has dismissed fears that the recent decision of the country's top badminton officials to cut the national team by 10 is aimed at dumping players from allowing them to join other federations.

The Senior Parliamentary Secretary (Community Development, Youth and Sports) said yesterday that the Singapore Badminton Association's (SBA) reason for doing so was to expand, not shrink, the nation's talent pool.

Two weeks ago, the SBA dissolved its 16-strong Team 1 squad. It resulted in five shuttlers gaining promotion to the 16-strong Team 2 squad.

Mr TEO said the move was to look at the whole process of building a pipeline: "You can't look at (the dissolution) as elimination. (The SBA's) intent to let go the rest who gave up their studies to fight for doing so was to expand, not shrink, the nation's talent pool."

Mr TEO also lauded Mr Zainudin's vision to focus on youth development and pledged to support the SBA in its efforts to build more centres and academies.

"I'm happy that windsurfing is coming back up; I wish the same for other sports as well," he said. "Every sport has a future."