



Mr Ganesh, who has a polytechnic diploma in electronics, computer and communications engineering, oversees a team of up to 20 staff as a manager in the Manpower Ministry's housing enforcement branch. ST PHOTO: KEVIN LIM

Poly grad on career track for degree holders

POLYTECHNIC graduate Ganesh Rengasamy, 32, never felt he needed a degree to move up in the civil service.

Said the manager in the Manpower Ministry: "A former super-

visor of mine did not have a degree and that gave me the idea I could be a manager without one."

He switched to the career track for degree holders this year, and now oversees a team of up to 20

staff in the ministry's housing enforcement branch.

Mr Ganesh joined the civil service in 2007 as a deputy team leader in the unit, under the Management Support Scheme.

Armed with a diploma in electronics, computer and communications engineering, he started his career by inspecting foreign worker dormitories and helping to do follow-up investigations. In doing so, he saw how his managers worked hard to plan the investigations so he and his teammates could be effective in their work.

"That enticed me to become a manager," he said. "At the level I was at, I could contribute, no doubt, but I wanted to contribute more."

Meanwhile, his supervisors noticed his earnestness in doing his job. They let him manage bigger and bigger teams, and guided him on certain tasks, such as writing reports.

Mr Ganesh was first promoted in 2010, and again last year.

Asked what career advice he would give his three-month-old child in the future, Mr Ganesh said he would still want his son to get a degree as he may regret not having one later.

"But if he doesn't want a degree, that's okay, it's not a must. As long as he knows what he wants to do," he added.

CHARISSA YONG