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Sent by: MITA Duty Officer

To:

cc: (bcc: Bing Tang NG/MTI/SINGOV)

Subject: {EMBARGOED} SPEECH BY DR TAN CHENG BOCK, 11 APRIL 1998

TO BE EMBARGOED TILL DELIVERY

**ADDRESS BY DR TAN CHENG BOCK, CHAIRMAN OF BUKIT  
TIMAH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (CDC) AND  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR AYER RAJAH CONSTITUENCY  
AT BUKIT TIMAH CDC LOGO LAUNCHING CEREMONY ON  
SATURDAY, 11 APRIL 1998 AT 2.00 PM AT AYER RAJAH  
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

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Good afternoon

Mr Lim Boon Heng  
Minister without Portfolio  
and Member of Parliament for Bukit Timah GRC

Parliamentary Colleagues

Grassroots Leaders

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Bukit Timah Community Development Council  
(CDC),

I warmly welcome all of you to the launch of the Bukit Timah CDC Logo. We are indeed very honoured by the presence of Mr Lim Boon Heng, Minister without Portfolio and Member of Parliament for Bukit Timah as our Guest-of-Honour at this ceremony.

2           The Bukit Timah CDC was inaugurated on 13 December 1997. It is one of the nine CDCs formed by the government to care for the community and cement community bonding. With the formation of the Bukit Timah CDC, we have moved one step forward in helping to build a caring and sharing community in the Bukit Timah CDC district, which comprises the five divisions in Bukit Timah GRC, Ayer Rajah and Chua Chu Kang constituencies.

3           Since its formation, the Bukit Tmah CDC has kept to the CDC's main objectives of fostering community bonding and giving more responsibilities to the people in managing their neighborhoods. In essence, the CDC will always focus on promoting social cohesion through self-help at the community level and inducting more successful residents to help the less successful ones.

4           With the support of the various constituencies/divisions, the CDC has so far successfully organised six mega projects within the CDC district for about 10,000 residents. These projects included First Walk to Second Link, Launching of the sale of the Championship Koi Series MRT Farecard, Hong Bao Presentation for the Needy, Back-to-Work Job Fair, the setting-up of Twinkle Tots Childcare Centre in Yuhua Division and 11 Computers Clubs in Bukit Batok Division.

5           As our long-term strategy, the CDC will set up a comprehensive social care and health care delivery system. I would like to increase residents' knowledge of the many services available within the district. And we have a very comprehensive range of services: childcare, elderly care, services for the disabled and family service centres. The CDC has compiled a list of all social services and health services in the Bukit Timah CDC district. It will serve as a guide and reference so that residents know exactly where to get the help and services they need. The CDC will also set up a computer network among the community centres/clubs in the district and a CDC webpage to support the two systems and to make the information even more easily accessible. In fact, in conjunction with today's logo launching, we will also launch the CDC webpage

later on.

6 To undertake all these CDC activities, the CDC will have to raise funds from the community, for which the government will match three dollars to one. For a start, the PAP Community Foundations and the Citizens' Consultative Committees of the seven constituencies/divisions have donated a total of \$700,000 to the CDC. This is a concerted effort to realise the mission of the community bonding. But, in order to have a constant supply of funds to the CDCs from our own local community, the CDC will persuade more residents to contribute through GIRO. We plan to ride on the Bukit Timah Town Council's GIRO account to facilitate contribution from the residents.

7 CDC must not be seen or perceived as a social welfare organisation. It should try to meet the needs of all walks of life, the rich, the poor, the abled and disabled. Community bonding includes bonding all these groups together. Therefore, our programmes will be geared to meet the needs of all these people.

8 CDC has set up a number of committees to map out the direction of the CDC. They are for the youth, senior citizens, sports & recreation and social

& health.

9 I hope by the end of the year, the picture will be clearer for the residents in Bukit Timah CDC as to what CDC means to them.

10 Lastly, I want to thank my parliamentary colleagues for your strong support and CDC Council Members and all volunteers for your commitment, dedication and service to make the Bukit Timah district a cohesive and harmonious community. Together, we can do more to better serve our residents in the Bukit Timah CDC district.

11 Thank you.

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