SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT

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SPEECH BY PUAN NOOR AISHAH ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION & SALE OF WORK BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HOMES AT 10.00 A.M. ON SATURDAY, 11.12.65 AT THE VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL.



I am very happy to be invited to the Opening Ceremony of yet another Exhibition and Sale of Work of the Social Welfare Department Homes.

The young and old people who stay in our 12 Social Welfare Department Homes have been working very hard for this Exhibition and Sale of Work. The staff of these Homes and voluntary helpers have also been working very hard. All this hard work and enthusiasm deserve our congratulations and admiration.

I am sure all of us would like to encourage such good work. The best way to give this encouragement is to buy the many useful articles we will find at this Sale. The profits from this Sale will go into the Social Welfare Department Homes Fund which is used for various welfare, training and entertainment purposes for the children and old folks of these Homes.

I would also like to emphasize another important thing on this occasion. This function should remind all of us that, however prosperous our citizens may be, there are, and always will be, some of our fellow citizens who are less fortunate. Many of these less fortunate ones have to stay in our welfare homes. It is a sad thing that we often forget about these children and old people once they are put into the Welfare Homes. They still need love and help from their more fortunate fellow citizens. This is especially so with the young ones who are mostly orphans. More people should become interested in these children and give them that friendship which will become an anchor of security to them and help to keep their faith in society.

From the response in past years, I am confident that this Sale of Work will be a great success. But, more important, I pray and hope that it will also be just as successful in winning the hearts of the people of Singapore for the young and old people in our Welfare Homes. With God's help, may this function lead good-hearted people to know, understand and help in the needs of the young and old in our Welfare Homes.

I now have pleasure in declaring open this Exhibition and Sale of Work.