

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT

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**Minister for Finance at the opening
Speech by the / of the Course "Techniques of Project
Development and Analysis" conducted jointly by Staff
Training Institute and the United Nations' Asian
Institute of Economic Development and Planning -
9 am on 24th July 1972 at Regional English Language
Centre, Orange Grove Road.**

I am pleased to have been invited to declare open this course on "Techniques of Project Development and Analysis", which will be conducted jointly by our Staff Training Institute and the United Nations' Asian Institute of Economic Development and Planning.

The Staff Training Institute was established last year, as the need was recognised for developing a core of well trained and efficient civil servants with imaginative concepts of management, if we are to maintain and even surpass the level of economic and social growth that Singapore has achieved over the last 10 years. To attain this objective, the Staff Training Institute has been running a wide range of courses for officers in different grades and different Services. The Staff Training Institute runs two types of courses :-

- (i) General courses. These give trainees a basic understanding of the environment affecting the civil service and equip them with the basic management skills to perform their jobs more effectively; and
- (ii) Specialised courses. These are for civil servants involved in specialised areas of work.

The course on "Techniques of Project Development and Analysis" falls into the 2nd category of specialised courses, and is meant for officers, who are presently involved in economic planning and development in their respective Ministries or Statutory Boards. The necessity for such a course becomes more apparent as the scale of economic development projects is increasing rapidly. Over the past 10 years, our allocation for development projects has more than trebled, from \$206 million in 1962, to more than \$750 million in this financial year. With increasing budgetary provision for development projects and greater cost of individual projects, more sophisticated techniques of project analysis have to be acquired so that proper planning and implementation of the

projects can be carried out. It is hoped that participants from both Government Ministries and Statutory Bodies will learn the skills of project analysis both from the lecturers and from the ensuing discussions during this course.

We are indeed grateful to the Asian Institute of Economic Development and Planning for consenting to run the major part of this course and making available their very experienced and able lecturers. This is not the first time that we have utilized the Institute's expertise in the area of economic development and planning - the Institute ran a similar course in Singapore in 1964/65 and we have also been sending civil servants from time to time to courses run by the Institute in their present premises in Bangkok.

The importance that Singapore places on economic development and planning is further reflected by our offer to house the Asian Institute in a building, which will cost nearly \$5 million, at Kent Ridge within the new University of Singapore's campus. It is expected that the Asian Institute can have its permanent home in Singapore by early 1974. With the establishment of the Asian Institute in Singapore, it is hoped that the Institute can better serve not only Singapore, but also the countries in the ECAFE region in general.

I wish to express my appreciation again to the Asian Institute of Economic Development and Planning for consenting to conduct the major part of this course, and it is with great pleasure that I now declare the course open.

Date: 24th July, 1972.