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TEXT OF SPEECH BY THE SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE (FOREIGN AFFAIRS), MR. A. RAHIM ISHAK, AT THE SIGLAP YOUTH GROUP ART EXHIBITION ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1977 AT 3 P.M.

I am pleased to join the Siglap Youth Group this afternoon to enjoy the works of our young artists submitted for the art exhibition in conjunction with our National Day. It speaks well for our young people's creative talents to see so many entries. That they are engaging in such a creative activity as art is a good thing. It is part of our goal to improve the quality of life in our Republic to have our citizens take an active interest in cultural and artistic pursuits.

It is useful to realise the wider relevance that such creativity has for Singapore's economic and social development. Singapore has to be creative in more than art in order to be what it is today, a thriving state, a clean and green city. The success of our economy is due in no small measure to the creative spirit of our business community as well as the hard work of our workers, whose creative talents and skills contribute to our national productivity. We have created a modern city out of practically nothing, but with raw materials from elsewhere.

We have created wealth with our hands and brains, just as Japan has created the second biggest economy in the non-communist world despite the lack of natural resources. Countries with plenty of natural resources need not create wealth. They can just extract it from the earth. But we have to work to create it. We should not take for granted the wealth that has been created and the prosperity that we enjoy. We must continue to be creative and innovative in our work and economic activities to ensure that we maintain our living standards.

Prosperity is not a natural feature of Singapore, but we can and should make creativity our second nature. We do not wish to

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create history but we can do our part to
make a creative contribution to the history of our country
in this corner of the world. With those thoughts, I wish
(SIA) you success, and have pleasure in declaring this exhibition
open.

TEXT OF SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE (SIA)
(SIA) AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION OF THE
ARTS AND CRAFTS OF SINGAPORE, AUGUST 27, 1977.

I am pleased to join the Singapore Youth Council in
enjoy the work of our artists submitted for the art exhibit-
tion in conjunction with our National Day. It speaks well for our
young people's creative talents to see so many entries. That
they are working in such a creative activity as art is a good
thing. It is part of our goal to improve the quality of life
in our Republic to have our citizens take an active interest
in cultural and artistic pursuits.
It is useful to realize the wider relevance that such
creativity has for Singapore's economic and social development.
Singapore has to be creative in more than one way in order to be what
it is today, a thriving state, a clean and green city. The success
of our economy is due in no small measure to the creative spirit
of our business community as well as the hard work of our workers,
whose creative talents and skills contribute to our national
productivity. We have created a modern city out of practically
nothing, but with raw materials from elsewhere.
We have created wealth with our hands and brains, but we
cannot avoid the second biggest economy in the non-communist
world despite the lack of natural resources. Countries with plenty
of natural resources need not create wealth. They can just extract
it from the earth. But we have to work to create it. We should
not take for granted the wealth that has been created and the
prosperity that we enjoy. We must continue to be creative and
innovative in our work and economic activities to ensure that we
maintain our living standards.
Prosperity is not a natural right of Singapore, but we can
and should take creativity as a good nature. We do not wish to
take a short-cut.