

# Singapore Government **PRESS RELEASE**

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SPEECH BY PRESIDENT SHEARES AT THE PRESENTATION  
CEREMONY OF THE 1980 PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIPS AWARD  
AT ISTANA ON TUESDAY, 1 JULY 1980

This year, five boys and one girl are awarded the President's Scholarships.

These scholars have excelled in their academic and extra-curricular performances and have shown good character and leadership qualities. All are bilingual.

Except for Vivian Balakrishnan who will be reading medicine at the University of Singapore, all the scholars will be going to Oxbridge for their studies.

Of these scholars, Benny Goh Heng Heng and Yeap Soon Leong have been provisionally nominated for the Singapore Armed Forces Scholarships. Yeap Soon Leong is at present in Sandhurst, United Kingdom, undergoing military training and will join Oxford in October 1981. Seow Woon Kwong, Chan Shih Peng and Bernadette Foong Li Ting have been provisionally nominated for the Overseas Merit Scholarships. Chan Shih Peng and Bernadette Foong have decided to make their careers in the education service.

The costs of training our scholars at Oxbridge are becoming extremely high. It is my hope that these scholars will diligently seek out every opportunity at the universities to educate and better themselves. On their graduation they should not only strive to achieve prominence in their careers but also come forth without hesitation to serve their community and country.

Today is Colombo Plan Day. I take this opportunity to thank donor countries for providing our Republic with experts,

equipment and training opportunities. Singapore has derived considerable benefits from the technical assistance received. In appreciation of what we have received, we have extended technical cooperation to other developing countries by providing training awards under the Colombo Plan and Asean Scholarships and Fellowships schemes.

I am also grateful to local organisations, donor foundations and philanthropists for their contributions to our training resources.

I congratulate the six President's Scholars and wish them success.

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