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5 APR 1983

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SPEECH BY MR MO KAH LEONG, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
(EDUCATION) AT THE NATIONAL POLICE CADET CORPS MEDALS  
PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT RELC ON SAT, 26 MAR 83 AT 10.00 AM

First of all, I would like to congratulate all the recipients of the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) Clasp, Long Service and Service Medals. The Award of these medals is an important feature as it is a tangible recognition of the valuable service and contribution by our NPCC officers. I have no doubt that the recipients will wear their medals with pride and I hope their Awards will encourage them to greater heights of dedication and service.

From 1979 up till today, some 800 Awards have been made, 12 for the Clasp, 258 for the Long Service Medal and 500 for the Service Medal. This speaks well for the officers and belies the assumption that teachers are unwilling to serve as officers in the NPCC. This is further strengthened by the fact that last year, when the first release scheme was introduced, 50 per cent of the officers opted to remain serving in the NPCC.

The NPCC has a major contribution to make to the citizens of the nation. This responsibility is placed heavily on the shoulders of teacher-officers who in training our cadets, not only have to impart knowledge and skills of police work, but also to develop in our cadets a commitment to society. Our officers have a formidable task for it is almost impossible to define the limit of their responsibilities. They have a vantage position and should capitalise on this to influence our youths; to give them a sense of direction and vocation.

You may have known that after a recent review of the NPCC training syllabi, greater emphasis has been placed on subjects related to fostering civic-consciousness, crime prevention and greater understanding and respect for the law. Cadets are also given greater exposure to Police work through increased visits and attachments to Police establishments. The recent inclusion in the training programme of visits to courts for cadets to sit-in to observe real-life court cases is yet another step towards making membership in the NPCC more interesting and meaningful.

The NPCC Anti-Drug Abuse Proficiency Badge introduced recently is yet another important addition to the present list of Proficiency Badges which cadets are given the opportunity to vie for. The dangers of drug-abuse should be made known to everybody and cadets can play a part in the fight against drug abuse. Through interacting with their fellow-students and friends and by their own personal example, they should be able to pass on what they have learnt about the dangers and consequences of drug abuse.

All these increased activities and projects mean greater responsibilities being placed on officers who have to make sacrifice of their time. An organisation with the best facilities and the best of training programmes is not enough; what is more important is the dedication of officers. I trust that the satisfaction that officers have of making some contribution to nurturing our cadets as future law-abiding citizens, will more than compensate for the sacrifices they have to make as leaders of the Corps. I must add that the returns can never be measured in material terms. Nevertheless I am glad to announce that my Ministry has approved the recommendation by your Council that the Educational Travel Scheme for NPCC officers include India and Sri Lanka as well. I believe these educational tours have proved both to be popular and beneficial in the past and I am confident that their value and popularity will be enhanced further with the extension of the Scheme.

On this note, I wish the NPCC Council and Headquarters every success in all its endeavours. #####