

# Singapore Government **PRESS RELEASE**

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SPEECH BY MR LEE YUE BENG, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
(NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT) AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY OF  
THE GARDEN DESIGN COMPETITION AT THE SCHOOL OF ORNAMENTAL  
HORTICULTURE, BOTANIC GARDENS ON 26 SEPTEMBER 1981 AT 10.30 AM

The Singapore Government has spared no efforts in green-  
ing the city to enhance our living environment. To-date, some  
3.8 million trees and shrubs of a myriad of colours have been  
planted by the Parks and Recreation Department. Having achieved  
substantially the quantitative targets of tree planting, a major  
challenge ahead for the Department is to intensify its efforts to  
upgrade our landscape with more aesthetic and interesting features.  
The successful completion of this programme requires a large number  
of talented landscape architects and supporting staff to design and  
plan our parks and planting corners along the major pedestrian  
thoroughfares.

To ensure that we have an adequate supply of such talents  
for both the public and private sectors, we need to encourage more  
young people with an artistic bent to take up landscape architecture  
as a career, be it at the graduate or supporting technician level.  
The competition which has just ended is the first of many attempts  
to generate interest in our young men and women in landscape  
architecture. The response to the competition was fairly good,  
51 students and technicians attended the briefing sessions of the  
competition and 26 of them eventually registered for it. The  
winning designs, three from students and one from a technician,  
were selected based on a number of criteria including the artistic  
ability shown and the concept of the design.

The Parks and Recreation Department will continue to hold  
similar competitions to generate interest and spot talents.  
Another competition will be held some time in December, especially  
for 'A' level students. Winners will be awarded suitable prizes  
and encouraged to take up Government scholarships to study land-  
scape architecture in reputable overseas universities.

I congratulate ..... /2.

I congratulate the winners of this competition and would like to encourage others to look for the announcement by the Parks and Recreation Department concerning details of the next competition.

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