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STATEMENT ISSUED BY MR TEH CHEANG WAN, MINISTER FOR
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON SUNDAY, 12 JULY 1981

From 3 August 1981, the following two conditions for the application of HDB Home Ownership flats will apply:-

- (1) The income eligibility ceiling will be raised from \$2,500 to \$3,500;
- (2) The income bracket constraint for the purchase of 4-room, 5-room and Executive Apartments will be removed.

Currently, applicants with household incomes of between \$1,501 and \$2,000 per month can only apply for either a 5-room flat or an Executive Apartment. Applicants with household incomes of between \$2,001 and \$2,500 can only apply for Executive Apartments. These restrictions will now be removed. Applicants with household incomes of between \$1,501 and \$3,500 per month will be eligible to apply for 4-room, 5-room or Executive Apartments. Applications for 3-room flats will still be restricted, as at present, to applicants with household incomes not exceeding \$1,500 per month.

These new conditions will affect three groups of applicants as given below:-

- Group I - HDB applicants on the waiting list.
- Group II - HUDC applicants on the HUDC waiting list where at the time of application the applicant's household income is less than \$3,500.

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Group III - New applicants who now come within the raised income eligibility ceiling.

Group I

HDB applicants will be allowed to transfer their applications to smaller flats without loss of priority. However, applicants with household incomes at the time of application exceeding \$1,500 will be allowed to transfer their applications to the 3-room flat register.

Group II

HUDC applicants on the waiting list as at today's date will be allowed to opt for HDB flats in accordance with the new HDB rules. HUDC applicants who have withdrawn their applications following the announcement of changes in HUDC rules on 28 Feb 81 will also be similarly eligible and be considered as if they have not left the HUDC waiting list.

All HUDC applicants opting for HDB flats must have satisfied all HDB conditions of eligibility with their incomes being \$3,500 or less at the time of registration with the HUDC. They must also satisfy all HDB conditions of eligibility at the time of transfer except for the income ceiling. They will be given new HDB registration numbers and priority over new applicants provided they call at HUDC on or before 31 Jul 81 to complete the appropriate forms to effect the transfer.

The \$18,000 initial deposit plus the \$200 registration fee paid by HUDC applicants will be transferred to the HDB. Applicants will not be required to top up even if this amount is less than the HDB's current required initial deposit for the type of flats opted for. However, applicants opting for smaller flats where the HDB's current initial deposit is less than \$18,200 will be refunded the difference by the HUDC.

Group III

All new applicants who are now eligible to register for HDB flats under the raised income ceiling can register with the HDB from 3 Aug 81 onwards.