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SPEECH BY MR LIM KIM SAN, MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS AND CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD RECREATION CLUB ON FRIDAY, 24.10.75 AT 7.30 P.M.

When I assumed office as Chairman of the Public Utilities Board in early 1971, my attention was quickly drawn to the strong desire expressed by the staff to look for a Clubhouse. Now we have this beautiful Sports Complex which we can claim is one of the best belonging to a Government Ministry or a Statutory Body. Set amidst pleasant surroundings, it has facilities for a variety of sporting and cultural activities.

As you all know, the PUBRC Football Team won the Government Services Football League Senior Knock-out Competition in 1974. As a reward the field below was converted to a regular size football field in the hope that with our own ground to practise and groom new talents we will maintain a high standard of play and in time will build a stronger team.

I have no doubt that the strong football team will attract more interest and create loyalty to the PUBRC. However, there are other facilities which present excellent prospects for the formation of teams to represent the PUBRC in various games.

For example, the multi-purpose hall also functions as badminton courts and houses facilities for Table-Tennis. There is a Billiards Room and a rarity for a Sports Complex, a Music Room upstairs. Outside, apart from the football field, which can also be used for netball, there are two Tennis courts and a basketball court.

There is suitable space to form classes for Yoga, Tai-chi, Tae-kwon-do and other such like activities and the Club can organise teams to compete in most of the games I mentioned.

The PUBRC should not confine itself however to sports and recreation. It should organise social and cultural activities as well. It should not be a place to meet solely for a game of badminton or tennis or billiards. It is an ideal place for members of the staff and their families to get to know each other better and to relax. The Club will have a better chance to succeed if it provides amenities for the wives, husbands and children of its members. The provision of a children's playground is a first step in this direction and I hope that you will manage your financial affairs so wisely that in a time to come you will have sufficient funds to build a swimming pool, a feature which normally provides sufficient attraction for members of a family to enjoy and relax together.

As you can see there are more than sufficient facilities to cater for the different interests of the 10,000 staff of the PUB. The Board has spent \$½ million to build this Sports Complex and I would like to express on behalf of the Board our strong desire to see it fully utilised by the staff and hope that it will become the centre for social, recreational and cultural activities.

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