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Speech by Mr Ho Cheng Choon, Parliamentary Secretary
(National Development) at the opening of the "PWD
Gotong Royong Project" at Jalan Parut off Chua Chu
Kang Road on 23rd November, 1975 at 9.30 a.m.

I am indeed glad to be here today to witness the start of this Gotong Royong project organised by the Public Works Department Club as part of the community service for 1975. I am also pleased to see that this Gotong Royong project is participated by members of the Chua Chu Kang CCC and the villagers as a community effort to improve their local environment. As the Government Department that plans, constructs and maintains the road system in the Republic it is commendable that PWD staff are now even giving up their free time as well to further improve roads. I must congratulate the Chairman and members of the PWD Club and the Chua Chu Kang CCC in undertaking such a worthwhile community project.

The PWD Club though essentially a Departmental sports and recreational club for the employees of the PWD, is now branching out into other areas, particularly in the service to the community. Certainly, the residents of Jalan Parut will appreciate this gesture of the PWD to improve the access to their homes. Jalan Parut will soon be 4 metres wide and 350 metres in length.

Only too often are charges levelled at professionals that they shirk their responsibility to the community. If more Associations and Clubs organise community service projects then their members would find an avenue open to them to participate and contribute to community service. Individual efforts to community service are no doubt commendable but sometimes are not as keenly appreciated as a group effort where more tangible results are seen when larger projects are embarked upon. I hope that the lead taken by the PWD Club in organising such a group effort will be an example for other similar Singapore Clubs and Organisations to follow.

I have great pleasure in declaring open this Gotong Royong project.