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TEXT OF SPEECH BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD, MR. HON SUI SEN, AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF LIGHT INDUSTRIES SERVICE UNIT, SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC, ON SUNDAY, MAY 17, AT 5 P.M.

Today marks a very important phase in the Economic Development Board's role in the industrialisation programme of the State. It begins the Board's new service for some 2,000 small industries in Singapore. This is a service that has been set up jointly by the United Nations Special Fund and our Board to help Singapore's small industries to modernise and expand in every way possible.

In order that our entire industrial complex can succeed we must have a fully integrated industrial structure comprising both big and small industries. Irrespective of size in terms of capital investment or work personnel, these industries must be equipped technically, managerially and organisationally to overcome their day to day problems in production and marketing.

The Light Industries Services will be working hand in hand with the Industrial Research Unit. They are dedicated not only to serve the existing small industries, but also to help small investors in establishing new ones.

I would like to urge those of you who represent the small industries in Singapore to make the best use of this new service created to serve you. It is only in your use of it that the existence of the Light Industries Services will be justified.

I should like to express here on behalf of the Board, our grateful thanks to the United Nations which, through its Executing Agency, the I.L.O. has given us all the necessary help in establishing this service. It is especially gratifying to note that we have here today such a large distinguished gathering of small manufacturers and their workers - the first of its kind ever held in Singapore.

You may rest assured that all LIS Staff will do all they can to serve you.

It now gives me great pleasure to call on our Minister for Finance, Dr. Goh Keng Swee, to address you before he performs the official inauguration ceremony.

MAY 16, 1964.

(Time issued: 1930 hours)

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