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TEXT OF SPEECH BY THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION,  
MR. ONG PANG BOON, AT A DINNER IN HONOUR OF  
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHUA CHU KANG CITIZENS  
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, MR. ONG KOH BEE, WHO  
WAS AWARDED THE PUBLIC SERVICE STAR BY THE  
YANG DI-PERTUAN NEGARA, AT LAM SOON COMMUNITY  
CENTRE, 13TH M.S., CHUA CHU KANG ROAD, ON  
SUNDAY, JUNE 13, AT 7.30 P.M.

I am very happy to be present here with all of you in this dinner. This occasion has been arranged to celebrate the honour bestowed on Mr. Ong Koh Bee, Chairman of the Chua Chu Kang Citizens Consultative Committee. He has been bestowed with the Public Service Star. As you all know, this honour has been bestowed on him as an appreciation to all leaders who have contributed their share in the field of service to the community.

The Singapore Government places a very high premium on service expended by anyone for the benefit of society. Service and help for fellow human beings is really an honourable act which brings benefit to many people. In progressive and forward-looking countries and societies, people who voluntarily come forward to offer their services, time, and sometimes, money, are indeed praiseworthy people.

On the other hand, in some countries which persist in maintaining systems which are no longer consistent with the present-day world, only those who help to perpetuate these out-moded and reactionary systems will be given a place of honour. We know that it is such opportunistic elements who usually become the tool for the oppression of the people at large.

The Singapore Government, under the leadership of the PAP, is struggling to bring about a more just and equal society throughout Malaysia. We aim and intend to bring honour and prosperity in the lives of the people in every territory in Malaysia. Within the framework of democracy and constitutionalism we intend to bring about changes and progress in the lives of the people regardless of race and religion. We know that amongst the people who are suffering and in poverty in Malaysia there are many Malays. The type of society which is being maintained and perpetuated by the Alliance Party is clearly incompatible with the times and brings no prospect of advancement for the have-nots and the suffering masses.

That is why we struggle for a Malaysian Malaysia for all the peoples of Malaysia. This is the struggle which with every passing day will capture the imagination of the people who want changes and progress. I am convinced that the future of parties which fight for the poor and the under-privileged will achieve victory. History has shown that all groups who fight for the people because they place the people's interests above all else will achieve victory in the future.

I congratulate the Citizens Consultative Committee and its Chairman and also its Adviser, Mr. Chor Yeok Eng, for having organised this function.

JUNE 13, 1965.

(Time issued: 1600 hours)