

Speech by Inche Othman Wok, Minister for Social Affairs, President, Singapore Olympic & Sports Council on the occasion of the announcement of Singapore Olympic & Sports Council Mammoth Donation Draw in aid of Commonwealth and Asian Games Funds on 18th February, 1970.

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As announced recently, Singapore will participate extensively in the Commonwealth Games in July and in the Asian Games in December this year. The Commonwealth Games had attracted the interest of the whole of the Commonwealth and Edinburgh had made a successful bid to hold these Games. The past record of Commonwealth Games had shown the extreme care taken in the organisation of this series. Singapore had taken an active part in the previous Commonwealth Games held in Jamaica and now intends to send another delegation to Edinburgh. Singapore has always supported the Commonwealth Games ever since the inception of the series and the Singapore Olympic & Sports Council is of the firm belief that our interest and participation in the Commonwealth Games will forge ever stronger ties with other Commonwealth Countries. It is therefore very important that we muster a very strong contingent for the Edinburgh Games.

While we strengthen our ties with the rest of the Commonwealth, we do not forget that we are part of Asia and that this Republic must also do all it can to build up an Asian pride and solidarity through games in Asia. We believe that the Asian Games fulfil a most excellent purpose in forging the strongest Asian hegemony and Singapore looks upon it as her duty to support the Asian Games to the best of her ability.

Needless to say, these two major international sports meetings will also raise the prestige of Singapore sports. To achieve our participation, we need very extensive funds. This is in the minds of the strong Organising Committee set up for fund-raising for the two Games. The major and most important fund-raising effort of the Organising Committee is the Mammoth Donation Draw and it is my privilege to announce the holding of this Mammoth Donation Draw today to make possible Singapore's participation in the 1970 Commonwealth and Asian Games. This Draw is organised by the Singapore Olympic & Sports Council. I wish to thank the civic-minded members of the Organising Committee for their dedicated work. They have a tremendous task before them, steering the Mammoth Donation Draw to its success. The Organising Committee consists of men of influence in Singapore's public life and are men of much proven experience and I have no hesitation in paying public accord to their ability and diligence. Already I have been impressed by their enthusiastic planning, but all their work will be of no avail unless they have the support of the

public of Singapore. We have printed tickets to the value of \$300,000 and we hope to raise at least \$250,000. This tremendous sale should be feasible with the very large range of most attractive prizes. Thus, the first five prizes will be motor-cars, donated by the Lee Foundation, Tan Sri Runme Shaw, Dato Dr. Aw Cheng Chye, M/s. Cycle & Carriage and M/s. Wearne Brothers. There are also more than one hundred other valuable and attractive prizes.

I would like to appeal to all members of the public to support this worthy project. In particular, I call upon those who have the interest of sports in Singapore to help in buying tickets. If each sportsman or sportswoman and each member of the sports body affiliated to the Singapore Olympic & Sports Council or every supporter of a Singapore sport were to buy one or two tickets each, all the tickets for this Mammoth Donation Draw will be readily sold out.

The public is aware of the great success Singapore had already achieved at the last SEAP Games in Rangoon in December 1969. The achievements of our large Contingent were due to the care taken by the National Sports Control Board to select only those worthy of selection to represent Singapore. The public is assured that similar care will be taken in respect of the 1970 Games.

In order that the affiliated bodies of the Singapore Olympic & Sports Council might benefit directly from the Mammoth Donation Draw, I have agreed with the Organising Committee that for every one dollar ticket sold by our affiliated sports body, 40 cents will be given to the affiliated sports body concerned. This effort is therefore an effort to help national sports as well to help the individual sports affiliated bodies. I do hope all the affiliates of the Council would recognise this gesture and implement it generously.
