

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENTMO. JUN. 11/71 (IST)

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ADDRESS BY THE FIRST LADY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, MRS. B.N. SHEARES, PATRON OF BAZAAR FOR THE OPENING OF THE 19TH INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR AT 10.00 A.M. ON SATURDAY, 12TH JUNE, 1971 AT THE VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL

As Patron of this 19th Bazaar for the Blind, I am very glad and pleasantly surprised to find this hall which was empty yesterday full with so many stalls, so well decorated and overflowing with goods. Much more so, am I grateful and happy to know that there are so many of you involved in voluntary work to help the less fortunate of our Republic.

I must congratulate each and everyone of you for all the trouble and finance it cost you besides the invaluable amount of time that you have spent to prepare for this Bazaar Day. I must thank all those who work quietly behind the scene of activity and above all the Chairman of the Bazaar, Mrs. Seow Jock Long and the Singapore Women's Association.

I know that the S.A.B. has a strong and capable Executive Committee, efficient staff, a well equipped School, Training Centre and Welfare Centre. This means that to continue helping the 1,417 Blind in our Republic to raise their standard of self reliance and efficiency we must build enough funds to carry out such a vast programme.

For the past 19 years since the first Bazaar was started you have all been doing this - raising enough funds to continue the work of helping the Blind to help themselves.

To the organisers of the Bazaar, the Executive Committee, the staff, and of course to you the generous public and friends of the Blind I would like all of you to know that your work, support, care, concern, finance and help are much appreciated by my husband, the President, and by me.

Now it gives me the great pleasure to declare the 19th Bazaar open.

DATE: 12TH JUNE, 1971.