

SPEECH BY THE FIRST LADY AT THE OPENING OF THE
EXHIBITION AND SALE OF WORK OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE
DEPARTMENT HOMES AND CHILDREN'S CENTRES AT 10.00 A.M.
ON SATURDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER, 1971 IN THE VICTORIA
MEMORIAL HALL

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I am very happy to be here today to officiate at the opening ceremony of the combined Exhibition and Sale of Work of the Social Welfare Department Homes and Children's Centres. The purpose of this Exhibition and Sale of Work is to inform the public of the work that is being done by the residents in the Homes and children attending Children's Centres.

The articles and food that you see on display and for sale are the result of the co-operative endeavour of the twelve Social Welfare Homes and the eight Children's Centres. However, without the advice, encouragement and assistance given by the staff and a group of enthusiastic voluntary workers, such an Exhibition might not have been possible. I therefore, take this opportunity to congratulate these voluntary workers and staff for their dedication and service to the community. Their services are greatly appreciated by everyone, particularly by the residents of the Homes, and children attending the Children's Centres, their parents and relatives, and by the Social Welfare Department.

In order to give the needed encouragement to the residents of the Homes, and children attending the Children's Centres, I appeal to all of you to support this Sale. You will get good value for the money as the articles you buy will come in useful in your home or as gifts to friends during the coming festive season.

I understand the Social Welfare Department is making every effort to bring about a measure of self-sufficiency in these Homes and Children's Centres. Self-help is the best way for the residents in the Homes to rehabilitate themselves and become respected members of our community. To this end, the Girls' Homes have started a catering service for small parties. This catering service has met with very good response from the public. Services such as this will give the residents additional money to save up for the day when they will leave the Homes and return to society as useful citizens. I urged the public to visit the Exhibition and patronise the rich variety of stalls.

Now I have great pleasure in declaring this Exhibition and Sale of Work open.

Date: 25.11.71.