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Dr Chan Ah Kow's speech at the opening of the Tennis Coaches' Course at Barrer Park at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 3 June 1972

"In Singapore today, there is a sports Renaissance involving nearly all sports. This re-birth started some years ago when a few of us conspired and contrived to place sports gradually under governmental patronage.

We voted in Inche Othman Wok, our own Minister, as President of the S.O.S.C. Sports at that time although managed by a few enthusiasts, were a touch-and-go affair defended too much on the vagaries and whims of the moment. We could not go very far. But we have come a long way from then.

For Sports in Singapore to really succeed, there must be:

1. Wide participation and great appeal;
2. Dedicated and well-informed officials ^{at} and various levels;
3. Up-to-date and adequate and frequently-planned competitions; and
4. Incentives and rewards to make their efforts worthwhile, not necessarily in terms of money.

The NSPB is fully committed now and I can visualise that Barrer Park and Kallang Park will, in the future, be equipped to turn out many young Chinese players.

But before we can produce students, we must have teachers and today marks the beginning of this idea.

This is all not possible, without the help and dedication of the NSPB and the Sports Minister, Inche Othman Wok.

I can safely predict that the future of Lawn Tennis in Singapore for the next five years or so, will depend on many of you in this room.

Having produced teachers, we hope that you all will stride out and disseminate your knowledge and interest and expertise to the four corners of Singapore. We charge you to produce tennis champions!

In my small way, I have shown that Singapore youth is not inferior to any youth in Asia or, the rest of the world and that we have in our midst champions of the highest order. Desmond Oon, one of our best qualified

coaches, holds one of the best qualifications to head our coaching course.

Dr Chan Ah Kow referred to Enche Othman Jek as the Sports Supremo of the Republic. With his leadership, Dr Chan Ah Kow said: "We cannot fail, we must not fail and we shall not fail."