

6/12/72

EMBARGO: NOT TO BE USED BEFORE 8 P.M. ON SATURDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 1972.

SPEECH BY HON'BLE TUAN HAJI YA'ACOB MOHAMED, MINISTER OF STATE FOR P.M.O. AT THE NATIONAL DAY DINNER IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE KG. UBI SPORTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE HELD ON SATURDAY, 19TH AUGUST, 1972 AT 7.30 P.M. AT THE KG.UBI SPORTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE, JALAN PASAR BARU, SINGAPORE, 14.

Tonight the people of Kg.Ubi together with the people of Singapore celebrate our 7th National Day.

National Day is not meant for just one particular section or group of community to rejoice. It is meant for people from all walks of life, people who are truly loyal to our young Republic.

National Day Celebration is not only by holding parades, functions or dinner. It is more than that. National Day is a day for all ^{the} people to express their sense of national unity and solidarity. It is a day when all of us should review our struggle over the past years. It is also an occasion to renew our determination and to resolve to give off our services to society and the nation for the years to come.

Seven years ago we achieved independence. During these seven years the nation have made considerable progress in the political, social and economic fields. We should be grateful because during the past one year we were able not only to maintain our achievements, but also in certain fields we achieved new records. Our small Republic has now become a household word in the international world. However, we must not be satisfied with our successes. We are still in the process of our struggles which require sacrifices. Therefore, when we are struggling to reach our aims we must not allow ourselves to be influenced by the attitude of "contentment". Our slogan in the future years is to raise quality. We must raise the people's capabilities, the quality of production, and in all fields of life we must aim to raise this quality. In this way alone, can we hope to come up to the same level of the developed nations in this world.

On this happy occasion of our national day, I call up all of you to renew our determination to keep up our record of achievements and also to improve upon them in the years ahead. To do this will require the concerted efforts of all the people of Singapore. Jobs in our factories must be taken up, we should not be choosy about our jobs. To be usefully employed means to help ourselves. It also means

contribution to the interest of the nation. Let us show to the world that we are truly a rugged society.

For the people of Kg.Ubi this year's National Day Celebration has a special meaning. We can be proud that we are celebrating National Day in our own centre built by the people, from the people and for the people. In short, we are able to dedicate the Kg. Ubi Sports and Cultural Centre to the people of Kg. Ubi. The Centre costs us more than \$70,000/- Soon we shall dedicate yet another complex at Everitt Road which will cost us more than \$20,000/-. We welcome financial contributions from wellwishes and the residents of Kg. Ubi. To those who have already contributed, we say thank you. Let these two complexes be a symbol to our younger generation whom we hope will continue our good effort. I sincerely hope that this complex will become a centre of activities for our youth to indulge in sports and culture.

It gives me great pleasure to declare the Sports and Cultural Centre open.

Date: 18TH AUGUST, 1972.