

4/23/73

SPEECH BY DR ANG KOK PENG, MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS & CHAIRMAN OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND AT THE OPENING OF THE PEOPLE'S SCHOLARSHIP FAIR ON SATURDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER, 1973 AT 2.30 P.M. AT THE PEOPLE'S PARK COMPLEX

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I would like, first of all, to thank the group of fine persons from the 3 organisations -- the Management of the People's Park Complex, the Dale Carnegie (Lion Chapter) and the People's Association Youth Group -- who have so splendidly organised this Fair in aid of the People's Scholarship Fund. They have given much of their time and energy to ensure that this undertaking will be a success.

2 As you may recall, the People's Scholarship Fund was established only less than a year ago, and was publicly launched on the 4th of January this year at a Press Conference at Hotel Royal by Mr Yong Nyuk Lin, Minister for Communications, who is Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Fund.

3 The object of the Fund is to help the bright young citizens of Singapore, especially those from poor families, to continue their education at the Pre-University and University levels. To-date 90 bright young Singaporean have received awards from the Fund.

4 Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Project Committee, ably headed by Mr Lim Guen Hoo, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Home Affairs, the Fund has met with unprecedented success and has surpassed the \$2 million mark. This great achievement is a good reflection on the generosity of the Singaporean and on the public awareness that young talents are our greatest asset on which our future progress and prosperity

must depend. These young talents are to be encouraged through financial assistance to develop their potentiality to the full so that they can give of their best to society.

5 My colleague, Mr Lim Guan Hoo, should have been here to-day instead of me as he was, until very recently, the Chairman of the Management Committee of the People's Scholarship Fund. On his transfer from the Ministry of Communications to the Ministry of Home Affairs, he felt that he was not able to devote as much time as he would like to, to the Management Committee because of the great demands of his new duties on his time and energy. He accordingly decided to give up the Chairmanship of the Management Committee but in response to a request by the Management Committee, he agreed to continue to give to the Committee the benefits of his experience by becoming the Vice-Chairman with our energetic Mr Lee Wai Kok as the First Assistant Vice-Chairman.

6 It is not possible for me to mention the many generous supporters of the Fund -- there are so many of them. However, in connection with this project of the People's Scholarship Fair, I would like to thank especially Mr Ho Kok Cheong, Mr Koh Seng Leong, Mr Kau Swee Yan and Mr Neo Boon Lye for their generous donations. I would also like to thank the many companies that are taking part in this Fair for their kind donations of goods.

7 I am sure the Fair will help to further publicise the PSF and to get as many people from all walks of life as possible to participate in this worthy cause.

In conclusion, I wish the Fair a great success.