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SPEECH BY DR ANG KOK PENG, MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AT THE 5TH ANNUAL DINNER OF THE SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS HELD ON SUNDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 1973 AT 8.00 P.M. AT GALLERY ONE (4TH FLOOR), MANDARIN HOTEL

First I would like to congratulate your Institute for an impressive increase in membership during the past year. Indications are you will continue to maintain a rapid growth in the next few years.

2 The nature of work of your members is so much more specialised and sophisticated than that of your predecessors of recent past. With scientific and technological advancement you now have at your disposal sophisticated equipment including electronic computers to enable you to make a better and more comprehensive assessment in your survey. I have no doubt your Institute would keep members informed of up-to-date techniques and ideas so that the quality of your work will always be of the highest.

3 Unlike the architects, engineers and construction contractors, the contributions by members of your Institute do not bring with them as much glamour. And in certain cases your job is done even before anything physically gets off the ground. Nonetheless, it is just as rewarding when you realise that you have been fully involved in the whole process of the physical redevelopment of our city. Furthermore, the building boom in recent years has brought an exciting and financially very pleasing time to your members. While hoping to continue doing well in our economy we need now to take into account the present world

shortages of raw materials and the oil production cut-back arising from the yet unresolved conflict in the Middle-East. It is necessary for us, so dependent on imported raw materials, to conserve our resources and exercise economy in as wide a sphere of activities as possible so that we can better cope with the current international situation. We need to continue to work hard and make the necessary adjustments to meet the changing conditions of the world.

4 Your President has just dealt at length with the housing problem. I can assure you that this problem has been carefully studied by the relevant Ministry which has taken and will continue to take appropriate measures to tackle it.

5 As in any other profession, your professional standing in our society will depend on the quality and professional integrity of your members. As long as your professional conduct is beyond reproach the continued progress and increasing prestige of your profession will always be yours.

6 In conclusion, I wish you further success in the years ahead and thank you for inviting me and my wife to this function.

Date : 25 November 1973