

SPEECH BY DR ANG KOK PENG, MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH
AND MP FOR CRAWFORD AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE "KEEP
SINGAPORE ACCIDENT FREE" CAMPAIGN IN CRAWFORD CONSTITUENCY
ON SUNDAY, 6 OCTOBER 1974 AT 8 PM AT THE CRAWFORD
COMMUNITY CENTRE

"KEEP SINGAPORE ACCIDENT FREE" CAMPAIGN
6 - 31 OCTOBER 1974

To-day we begin a nation-wide campaign to keep Singapore accident free. It will last until the end of the month. By this campaign we hope to promote safety on our roads by urging road users to behave in a responsible manner through exercising care and road courtesy when driving a vehicle, riding a motor-cycle or bicycle, or walking on the road. This campaign will also help the public to become more familiar with the new traffic enforcement procedures, particularly those relating to the 'Traffic Ticketing System' and the 'Points Demerit System'.

For our constituency we have drawn up a programme, copies of which have already been distributed. Besides tonight's gathering and cinema show there will be a talk in Mandarin at the Crawford Community Centre on 27 October at 8 pm by a representative from the Traffic Police. The members of the Citizens' Consultative Committee and the Management Committees of our two Community Centres as well as other voluntary helpers and myself will tour various parts of the constituency to distribute leaflets on the measures we can take to make our roads safer and avoid the senseless sacrifice of lives and limbs resulting from road accidents. We will also acquaint the residents with the new measures the Government will take to ensure greater road safety for all.

During our visits we hope the residents will not hesitate to ask any questions they may have on this campaign or make suggestions for achieving our objective of avoiding and minimizing road traffic accidents.

The best way to prevent accidents on our roads is to observe traffic rules and regulations. If all of us do faithfully observe the traffic rules and regulations when driving a vehicle or walking on the road we can avoid traffic accidents. Those who drive vehicles must remember that any carelessness or recklessness on their part may mean serious injuries or death not only for themselves but also for other road users with untold sufferings for their victims' families. The damages they do are often irreparable. I urge them to be very careful when driving.

The pedestrians should take note that in the past few years pedestrians accounted for about half the number of persons who died in road accidents. This is tragic and an unnecessary waste of lives. Vehicular traffic is heavy on our roads except those in remote places. It is therefore necessary for pedestrians to exercise great care. Where there are overhead bridges and pedestrian crossings they should use them and not ignore these and try to cross roads with heavy and careless traffic at the risk of getting themselves killed or maimed for life.

With your co-operation we shall be able to make this campaign a success and our roads safer for everyone.

OCTOBER 6, 1974.
