

# Singapore Government **PRESS RELEASE**

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**SPEECH BY MR CH'NG JIT KOON, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
TO THE PRIME MINISTER, AT THE "CHARITY FAIR 1983"  
OF THE TANGLIN TECHNICAL SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND  
TANGLIN ST JOHN DIVISION AT THE DBS AUDITORIUM  
ON SUNDAY, 17 JULY 1983 AT 3.00 PM**

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This is the seventh successive year the Tanglin Technical School Advisory Committee and the Tanglin St John Division have organised this annual "Charity Fair" for the senior citizens of old folks' homes in Singapore. This annual gathering of some 300 senior citizens from eight homes is a meaningful activity. I am very pleased to be here today to join in the festivities.

The school is to be congratulated for translating its moral education programme into tangible and practical activities such as this "Charity Fair". Led and supported by the Tanglin Technical School Advisory Committee which raised the necessary funds, the students and the St John cadets have worked hard to make this occasion enjoyable for their guests and also meaningful for themselves. In working for the welfare and happiness of our elders, the students and cadets are putting into practice what they have learned from the lessons on moral education.

Some people just pay lip service to the concept of respect for our elders. But I believe what the students and cadets are doing today is done not out of charity but out of genuine respect and sincere concern for our elders, who in their own days, have laboured hard and long and made their contributions, no matter how humble, to making our nation what it is today. Perhaps it is this recognition and

appreciation that is behind the desire to bring some cheer and happiness to them in their evening years.

The guests present here today live in eight old folks' homes. They have all their physical needs looked after in the homes. They have food, clothing and shelter and many would think that meeting basic needs would make for a satisfactory life. There is no doubt that life in these homes is comfortable. However, little extra comforts, some variation from normal set routine and a bit of outing and entertainment all go to make life that little bit more pleasant.

I am sure all the senior citizens look forward to this annual gathering. It provides them with an opportunity to meet and interact with their friends living in other homes and have an enjoyable time together. I am also sure they are grateful to the Tanglin Technical School Advisory Committee, students and St John cadets for having their welfare at heart.

Lastly, I wish each and every one present here a happy and enjoyable time.

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