

Singapore Government **PRESS RELEASE**

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SPEECH BY MR. CHOR YEOK ENG, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY (ENVIRONMENT) AND MP FOR BUKIT TIMAH, AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF CLEMENTI INTERCHANGE AND THE INAUGURATION OF SERVICE 78 ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1980, AT 8 A.M.

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I am very happy this morning to be given the honour of performing the pleasant duties for the residents of Clementi Town area - first to launch a new Service 78 for Clementi Town and secondly, to declare the Clementi Interchange officially open as from today.

This interchange has been built by SBS at the cost of \$650,000. It is heartening to note that despite the constraints facing SBS, the management has given priority to its facilities development programme which includes the building of bus interchange for the benefit of bus commuters. The Clementi Interchange is the fourth to be completed by SBS so far. Together with the three other interchanges at Jurong, Bedok and Bukit Merah, SBS has spent a total of \$5 million on the construction of bus interchanges.

The interchange occupies a total ground area of 10,000 square metres and during each peak hour, I am told that some 200 buses can pass through this interchange to pick up and discharge commuters at the six boarding and alighting berths. The passenger concourse of the interchange can accommodate a few hundred passengers at one time.

As the SBS management has so kindly taken the trouble to build us this interchange for public convenience, I would like to urge all residents to cooperate and give their support by observing basic courtesies such as queuing up for buses. In fact, even this has been made easier for us through the easily understood colour-coded queuing system for the various services and the provision of railings which will no doubt encourage proper queuing. For those who are not sure of the services available, there are route information boards which you can easily refer to. I also note with satisfaction that the covered berths in the interchange will now mean that commuters need no longer have to wait outside the interchange in the sun or rain for buses.

Since I2/-

Since I last met the SBS management in July 1979 at the inauguration of services 74, 185 and 284 and following several subsequent meetings, I am pleased to note that SBS has improved substantially its level of service for Clementi Town.

With the implementation of Service 78 today, we now have seven trunk services and two feeder services originating from the Town Centre. There are also 14 passing through trunk services. Since July 1979, a total of 59 buses have been added to the Clementi services. The bus frequencies have also improved - from 157 buses per peak hour in July 1979 to 191 buses per peak hour today.

I have also been given the assurance by SBS that the level of service for Clementi Town will be further improved as regular surveys are carried out by its staff to assess the demand and to check on the adequacy of its services.

I now have pleasure in declaring this Interchange open.
