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SPEECH BY MR HO KAH LEONG, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY (EDUCATION) AT THE
OPENING OF THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL PRINTSMaking EXHIBITION AT THE
NATIONAL MUSEUM ART GALLERY ON TUESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 1982 AT 5.30 PM

Although there are art exhibitions going on throughout the year, one rarely has the opportunity to see an exhibition of print-making, let alone one that is showing the works by local and foreign artists. In this connection, the Singapore Printsmaking Association and the National Museum are to be congratulated for taking the initiative in organising this exhibition.

Printing was invented primarily for the purpose of facilitating dissemination of knowledge and information through multiplication. Over the years, modern technology in printing has made available sophisticated and high quality printing machines which can reproduce prints with precision in the shortest time. Some machines even have additional functions such as enlarging and reducing the original size of the print. Despite scientific advancements, print-making still remains essentially a form of art which requires both artistic talent and specialised skills to produce the finest prints.

This exhibition affords us an opportunity to appreciate the works of local as well as foreign printmakers. The number of printmakers in Singapore is small. Few people realize the long and complicated process involved and the high technical and artistic skills required in printsmaking. The works on display here show both the ingenuity and the artistic tastes of the producers. It is hoped that this exhibition will serve to inspire and to generate interest among our local artists and printmakers in this area of work.

It is now my great pleasure in declaring this 1st International Printsmaking Exhibition open.
