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SPEECH BY MR HO KAH LEONG, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
(COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION),  
AT THE JURONG CONSTITUENCY CIVIL DEFENCE VOLUNTEER COMPANY  
FLAG PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT BLOCK 111, HO CHING ROAD  
ON SATURDAY, 13 JUNE 1987 AT 4.30 PM

Four years have passed since the Civil Defence Plan was announced. During this period, a lot of work has been put in to establish a credible Civil Defence System which can protect our civilian population in the event of an emergency and ensure that services and life go on as normally as possible.

There has been strong public support for the Civil Defence programmes and activities organised at constituency level. Community leaders are coming forward to organise Civil Defence (CD) activities and providing the leadership. Residents on their part participate actively in training and exercises.

As a result of this strong support, the Civil Defence Scheme has expanded to all the constituencies. To-date, a total of 16,655 volunteers have been trained in CD basic skills. Our ultimate objective is that every able-bodied man, woman or youth who has no National Service or reserve liability should be a trained resident, CD volunteer or a CD leader. To realise this, we have extended our CD training to various sections of our civilian population - housewives, senior citizens, workers and youth including those in tertiary institutions and the school uniformed groups. Over 16,500 have completed their CD training under this supplementary programme.

To ensure that the trained volunteers work together as a team in an emergency, they are formed into Civil Defence Volunteer Units (CDVUs) in the form of a Volunteer Company in each Resident Committee Zone.

I am very pleased to note that four such Volunteer Companies have been formed in Jurong Constituency. I would like to commend the Jurong Civil Defence Co-ordinating Committee (CDCC) for its hard work in spreading the Civil Defence message and training our constituents to be volunteers.

Having established the four Zone Volunteer Companies, I would like to urge the CDCC to continue to maintain the volunteers' interest and to organise advanced training for them. I am confident that with the support of our residents, the CDCC and other grassroot organisations, we will be able to build up a credible Civil Defence capability in Jurong Constituency.

Be part of Civil Defence. Let's together make Civil Defence our way of life.

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