

7 JAN 1983

PRESS RELEASE

Information Division, Ministry of Culture, City Hall, Singapore 0617 • TEL. 3378191 ext 352, 353, 354 / 3362207 / 3362271

ACC. No.	NARC
P2	0033 4

02-2/83/01/01.

SPEECH BY MR LEE KHOON CHOY, SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE (PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE) AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION EAST COAST CAMPSITE ON SATURDAY, 1ST JANUARY 1983 AT 7.00 PM

As all plans begin in the spring of each year, it is appropriate that I declare open the People's Association (PA) East Coast Campsite on the first day of 1983. PA believes that there can be no productivity without adequate relaxation. In the past, it has provided three holiday camps and 30 units of holiday flats for our people to spend their holidays near the seaside in Pasir Ris. However, these were all indoor facilities. To give our people a chance to experience outdoor living, PA has constructed this Campsite at a total cost of \$2 million. We want our people to have fun outdoors as well.

We have chosen this site because it is near the seaside, far away from the noise and pollution of the city and yet easily accessible to most people. It is a lush green park with shady trees and colourful shrubs, occupying four hectares. This Campsite is divided into nine clusters, each complete with wash and food preparation areas, and barbecue pits with cement benches around them. It can accommodate 800 campers.

With more than 70 per cent of our people living in high-rise HDB flats, many of our young people do not have a first-hand encounter with nature. Many have not experienced nature in her flourish of beauty and splendour. The majestic splendour of sunrise, the enchanting beauty of sunset, the twinkling of stars, the caress of moonlight, the murmurs of the sea, the humming of insects and other wonders of nature will have a salubrious effect on our people, young and old. What better way to learn to appreciate nature than to spend a few days in this Campsite, away from the hustle and bustle of life. This Campsite is ideal not just for friends and

families to/2.

families to camp. You can also swim, snorkel, sun bathe or be a gourmet at the barbecue.

I have emphasized that Management Committees, Youth Executive Committees, Women's Sub-Committees and other community organisations should also stretch their vision and efforts beyond the confines of the community centre when organising community activities. I am happy to note that these community organisations are promoting wholesome activities within and without the community centre. This Campsite is another ideal focal point for community activities.

On this note, I hereby officially declare open the People's Association East Coast Campsite.
