

**SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT**

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**TEXT OF SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. LEE KUAN  
YEW, AT THE CLOSING SESSION OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF  
THE MALAYSIA SOLIDARITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1962, AT 10. A.M.**

Mr. Chairman, Hon. Delegates,

This last meeting of the Malaysia Solidarity Consultative Committee has been a gruelling one. However, no one need make any apologies for having made the others sweat it out to find the answers to questions important and unimportant, points big and small and sometimes even when the points have been agreed to, it was not easy to find a form of words which would satisfy all of us.

For after all, this is an important document. It marks the end of our labours to give form and definition to the concept of Malaysia. There may have been no departures from the trend of thinking and argument that started in Jesselton and progressed in Kuching and Kuala Lumpur. But to put it into one

document to which every member present expresses his support and agreement is a remarkable achievement of reasonableness, tolerance and a desire to accommodate one another's difficulties.

With the conclusion of the task of documentation, a new phase opens. It is the duty of each and every one of us in our respective Legislative Chambers to marshal support and mobilise the large reservoir of nationalist solidarity now diffused over the communities in our five territories.

That is the new task we together and separately must accomplish. We all know that Malaysia is historically inevitable and that it will come about in any case. But if we do our task well, then it will come about with the maximum of understanding of the true objectives of Malaysia and the maximum of goodwill for the many difficulties that had been resolved only by reasonable compromise and the taking of the middle road between two separate and contending points of view, on the many details of how Malaysia is to be brought about.

Our work can make the day Malaysia is established an event to be awaited with eager expectations of a new and pleasant journey on the road to survival in unity and prosperity in strength. We must do everything to dispel the evil slurs and aspersions on the concept of Malaysia.

I thank all of you having chosen Singapore as the venue of the most important meeting of this Solidarity Committee. We have all been privileged to give substance and to bring one important step forward towards the realisation of Malaysia. Jesselton saw the idea germinating and sprouting, Kuching saw it weather a storm of suspicion and doubts, Kuala Lumpur saw some sturdy growth, but to Singapore was reserved the privilege of bring it to final fruition. We have every reason to be satisfied with out labours.

I hope that amidst your labours, you have managed to find some leisure, some occasional respite from your constant excitement as one delegation after another, and sometimes one person after another in the same delegation began to argue and quibble over the meaning of a word and over the forms of words. All that is over. We have succeeded and in complete unanimity. Finally, I hope you have enjoyed your stay in Singapore

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February 3, 1962.