

## SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

The Prime Minister, in accordance with Article 49(3) of the Constitution, has advised the President to dissolve Parliament as from the 16th August, 1972.

The President has accordingly issued Writs of Election naming Wednesday, 23rd August, 1972 as Nomination Day.

The principal mandate on which the PAP was elected to office on 13th April, 1968, was to see Singapore through the problems brought about as a result of the rundown of the British military bases. This task has been successfully completed.

The present government has therefore decided to seek a new mandate. For the next five years the government's main aim is to raise standards of skills and technical competence, and to improve professional, management and technological expertise. Only higher standards can enable Singapore achieve more sophistication in her industrial, commercial and servicing sectors, and enlarge her role as an international banking and financial centre, providing a home for the Asian Dollar.

These new objectives require a change in policy emphasis, with the accent on quality.

-----

Date: 16th August, 1972

Time released: 1850 hours

National Archives of Singapore