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**SPEECH BY PRESIDENT ONG TENG CHEONG
AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF
THE 1994 PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
AT THE ISTANA ON FRIDAY, 26 AUGUST 1994 AT 7.30 PM**

It is my pleasure this evening to receive the 1994 President's Scholars. This year, two young men and two young ladies have been conferred the premier scholarships in Singapore.

Miss Low Tuan Yee and Miss Sim Ann have also been nominated for the Overseas Merit Scholarships. Miss Low will study Economics at the Stanford University in the United States of America (USA), and Miss Sim will pursue Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom (UK). Mr Ong Tze Ch'in has also been awarded a SAF Overseas Scholarship. He will do Engineering at Stanford University. Mr Barrie Tan Yau Boon is currently studying Medicine at the National University of Singapore.

The four scholars come from diverse backgrounds and have different aspirations and interests. It augurs well for Singapore that we have good minds sharpened on different whetstones. They have been selected on the basis of their outstanding performance in academic studies and extra-curricular activities, character and qualities of leadership. They are also effectively bilingual.

The selection criteria for the President's Scholarships are very stringent and these four scholars have distinguished themselves in meeting the high standards. Indeed, we should be proud of the high standards we set for ourselves in virtually all areas of life in Singapore. It is this commitment to excellence that has brought Singapore to where we are today.

I am confident that the four scholars will perform well in their studies and excel in their future careers. As Singaporeans who have benefited from the system, they have an obligation to render service to the nation and to help the less able. In this way, we will raise the overall level of performance of Singapore and contribute to building a more cohesive and compassionate society.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the four scholars, and also their families, principals, teachers and friends who have supported them.

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