

Singapore Government

PRESS RELEASE

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SPEECH BY MR PHUA BAH LEE, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY (DEFENCE)
AND PRESIDENT, SAF RESERVISTS' ASSOCIATION (SAFRA)
AT THE SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SAFRA CLUBHOUSE,
LORONG 6, TOA PAYOH, ON SUNDAY, 26 AUGUST 1979 AT 4.30 PM

It is heartening to note at this Sixth Annual General Meeting that SAFRA membership has increased to 75,000. Whilst the Association endeavours to organise more and better activities for reservists each year, the time has come for SAFRA to lay a new emphasis on its future activities. Sporting activities to upgrade the physical fitness of reservists will be given prominence in the Association's annual calendar of events.

The reasons for this move are two-fold. One, physically fit reservists will constitute a more effective defence force, aimed at enhancing the security of the nation. Two, healthy reservists will be able to work harder and contribute towards the continual attainment of economic goals of the nation.

Towards this end, SAFRA will plan for more mass participation sporting activities to be held regularly. Tangible awards will be given to those who repeatedly train and excel in the sporting events. Physical fitness apparatuses will also be made available at the various SAFRA clubhouses for reservists to train. Sporting teams, moreover, will be given greater impetus to achieve all round better performances. These coupled with their annual in-camp-trainings, reservists should not find a lack of opportunity to maintain the minimum standards of physical fitness that SAF requires. We hope to encourage reservists to train and keep fit as a way of life.

Reservists had responded to the call to support the Association's activities in the past. I trust that reservists will again respond to this urge to improve their physical fitness. Let us therefore see a concerted effort made towards the achievement of this goal, and may the coming year be another successful one for the Association.

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