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**Singapore Government**

# **PRESS RELEASE**

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**SPEECH BY MR PHUA BAH LEE, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
(DEFENCE), AT THE TAMPINES KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION  
AT YOOK MIN SCHOOL, TAMPINES STREET 21  
ON SATURDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 1985 AT 4.00 PM**

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Let me congratulate your children on their graduation from the kindergarten classes. I am sure they have put in quite some effort and you, as parents, given your due encouragement to them.

Over time, the quality of the kindergarten classes has been improved by the Education Committee comprising volunteers. Now, you see a clean and bright environment with better teaching staff. This is as it should be. Parents today devote much time and care to their children's education and they expect high quality kindergarten to start them off.

With these improvements, however, operating costs of the kindergarten centres have also increased. More funds will be needed to maintain the high standard of classes and the related activities.

The centres are not subsidised by the government. The Committee depends mainly on the fees collected and at times on contributions by well-meaning friends to manage these centres. It is important, therefore, that your children should benefit from the classes conducted.

I am sure the Committee will continue to do its utmost to further improve the services and amenities of the centres to benefit more children in the future. This, however, would also mean that parents may have to be prepared to pay more for their children's education at these centres.

I hope parents will appreciate the difficult task of the Education Committee in having to balance a high quality kindergarten education with an inexpensive yet realistic fee to be charged. Please give them your understanding and support.

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