

16 MAR 1988

Singapore Government

PRESS RELEASE

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88 - 51 - 4

Release No.: 09/FEB
15-3/88/02/07

**SPEECH BY MR SIDEK BIN SANIFF, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
(TRADE & INDUSTRY), AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF
KOLAM AYER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE POST AT BLOCK 72,
GEYLANG BAHRU ON SUNDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 1988 AT 10.00 AM**

I am delighted to be here this morning to officiate the opening of the Kolam Ayer Neighbourhood Police Post.

The Neighbourhood Police Post (NPP) system is no longer a new concept to Singaporeans. Since it was first introduced in Toa Payoh Housing Estate in 1983, NPPs have become an integral part of our society. The basic concept in the NPP system is to reach out to the community so that we could build up a closer police-public rapport based on respect, trust and co-operation. The police must involve itself with the community and the community with the police. It is a two way process. It is only then that we can build a formidable force in fighting crimes in the constituency. The policeman cannot be everywhere. The community does. Thus this rapport must be enhanced if we are to see a less crime Kolam Ayer and make Kolam Ayer a better place to live in.

In his book "The Pursuit Of Justice", Robert Kennedy said: "Every society gets the kind of criminal it deserves." What is equally true is that every community gets the kind of law enforcement it insists on. We must strive for it. We deserve it: the protection of our lives and property, a helping hand to our elders, children, young workers who return home from their shift duties, especially the girls, etc.

Kolam Ayer NPP is manned by a permanent team of 18 Police Officers and headed by Inspector Ali Tamby. The NPP is open round the clock to facilitate lodging of police reports and to attend to incidents. In addition, it also provides a variety of services to the community such as:

- * promoting Neighbourhood Watch Groups;
- * tracing lost property;
- * giving crime prevention talks;
- * providing engraving services;
- * helping to resolve minor disputes amongst neighbours;
- * paying visits to your home when you are away;
- * change of address on NRICs;
- * receiving notifications from owners of vehicles concerning changes of address and colour of vehicles;
- * providing road directions;
- * providing application forms for Restricted Passport and Singapore International Passport; and
- * registration of death.

Officers from Kolam Ayer NPP will be visiting every household and business premises in the constituency to get to know the residents and tenants better. During the visits, the officers will brief you on matters concerning crime and crime prevention.

Our NPP officers will be working very closely with grassroot organisations in the constituency like the CCC, CCMC, CSC, RCs and Neighbour Watch Groups in order to

collate relevant information and suggestions for the benefit of the residents of this constituency. Your whole hearted support and co-operation for their continued presence will act as a good deterrence against potential criminals and would-be offenders.

I am confident that our concerted effort in promoting community policing will help us to achieve our goal in reducing the crime rate in our constituency.

On this note, it gives me great pleasure to declare the Kolam Ayer NPP officially open.

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