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Acc. No. 29 AUG 1983
NARC
83/056/100

SPEECH BY DR TAN ENG LIANG, CHAIRMAN, SINGAPORE SPORTS COUNCIL AT THE CHEQUE PRESENTATION OF THE CITIZEN SPORTS FOR SINGAPORE CITIZENS AT THE NATIONAL STADIUM VIP LOUNGE ON 27 AUGUST 1983 AT 12.30 PM

The Sport For All policy is ten years old and its continued growth has been made possible through the generous support of several commercial/industrial firms and business. It is such support that has given the public opportunities to participate in certain sporting events of their choice. To all of these enlightened supporters of sports and recreational activities, I want to express my sincere appreciation and thanks.

This afternoon's Cheque Presentation of the Citizen Sports for Singapore Citizens Scheme once again underlines the important role that the commercial sector is playing in the furtherance of sports. This scheme represents one of the most outstanding commercial support for our sports promotion efforts in the implementation of the Sport For All policy. The sponsors, Citizen Watches of Hong Kong, and its agent, Gilman Singapore Pte Ltd, have taken a positive action in demonstrating their belief in sport for health, physical fitness, and community recreation by generously supporting our sports programmes. Sport is one of the main keys to health. A nation's health in turn is related to its productivity. Thus, contribution to sport benefits both the people and the Republic.

Todate, the scheme supports nine projects.

Among these are some 2,500 participants in Taijiquan programmes at 16 community centres; 250 trainees of the Water-Polo Training Scheme; 1,699 participants in Rhythmic Exercise programmes; and thousands in Intra Constituency sports events. The main benefactors are the citizens of Singapore, young and old, men and women, in the recreational and competitive sports. We hope to continue in this partnership with Citizen in this fine community sports service.

Besides continuing the promotion of sports at grassroot level, our concern would also include sports excellence. We realise that accomplished sportsmen and sportswomen serve as very powerful stimulants to encourage the general population to take part in sports. Therefore, just like the quality that goes into a Citizen watch, we, too, would strive for quality among our sportsmen. In this regard, I am glad to report that Citizen has also contributed towards the Sports Aid Fund.

On behalf of the Singapore Sports Council, I would like to thank Mr Sakai, the Managing Director of Citizen Watches of Hong Kong Ltd, and Dr Samson Sun, represented by Madam Virginia Yeung today, and Mr Tan Kiat Khoon of Gilman Singapore Pte Ltd for their generous donation of \$203,962 towards sports promotion in Singapore for the third year.