

**SPEECH BY MR LIM PUAY TIAK, ORGANISING CHAIRMAN
AT THE LAUNCH OF THE 4TH NATIONAL DISABILITY LEAGUE 2009**

**Guest of Honour and Member of Parliament for East Coast GRC, Ms Jessica Tan,
Honourary Secretary of Singapore Disability Sports Council,
Mdm M B Karim**

Guests, ladies and gentlemen,

A very good evening to you.

People with disabilities are a competitive lot. Being a sportsman myself, it is heartening to see the 4th National Disability League expanding to feature 18 sports. A remarkable achievement since the league was introduced in 2002.

We have introduced new sports such as power-lifting, powerchair football and handcycling to keep the league fresh and alive. I am proud to say that there are more youth participation in this year's league, with a 30% increase in the number of youths compared to previous years. As such, we aim for some sports to become a month long league in the future as it encourages more schools and organisations to participate.

This could not be achieved without the support from the teachers, principals and staff of schools and voluntary welfare organizations which have been tremendous.

They have ensured the steady increase of participation in our National Disability League by building a pool of students and members to actively participate in sports.

I would also like to thank our long standing sponsors, the Singapore Sports Council and North East Community Development Council and partners Telok Blangah Community Club, Singapore Chess Federation, Bedok Community Centre and Sailability Singapore for their ardent support.

Last but definitely not the least; I give my appreciation to the staff and volunteers of the Singapore Disability Sports Council who made the 4th National Disability League 2009 possible. Let us look forward to many weeks of intense sporting rivalry and unparalleled sportsmanship.

Thank You.