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**WELCOME SPEECH BY PROF YEOH LEAN WENG, PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION
OF ENGINEERS, SINGAPORE (IES) AT THE NATIONAL ENGINEERS DAY PRIZE
PRESENTATION CEREMONY AT DEVAN NAIR INSTITUTE FOR EMPLOYMENT AND
EMPLOYABILITY ON 20 JULY 2019, SATURDAY AT 2PM**

Our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Ong Ye Kung, Minister for Education;

Associate Professor Lim Tit Meng, Chief Executive, Science Centre Singapore,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Boys and Girls,

Good afternoon.

1. On behalf of IES, I would like to welcome you to the National Engineers Day 2019 Prize Presentation Ceremony. I would also like to express our appreciation to Minister Ong Ye Kung for gracing the event. Thank you, Minister Ong.

NED Achievements over past 10 years

2. This is a special year for National Engineers Day, or NED, as it marks the 10th year that we are celebrating NED. Since 2010, IES has organised NED

annually to celebrate the achievements of engineers to inspire young engineers and also to intrigue students in engineering.

3. With the support of our partners, NED has grown in scale and significance over the past decade.
4. For instance, we have brought engineering to students and the public across Singapore through NED by holding it in various locations, from co-locating with international conferences at the Suntec Convention Centre, to institute of higher learning at NUS University Town, the heartlands at the HDB Hub in Toa Payoh as well as centres for professional and continuing learning – the Devan Nair Institute for Employment and Employability. NED has also enabled students to learn about the latest technologies, listen to industry speakers' experience and take part in a myriad of exciting activities. In addition, NED has also garnered support from many more partners across the government, industry and academia.

Engineering Innovation Challenge

5. Another key achievement is the initiation of the Energy Innovation Challenge (EIC), jointly launched by IES and Science Centre Singapore in 2015. Since then, the competition has given thousands of students, local and international, the opportunity to develop solutions that address global energy issues and show case their innovative ideas.

6. Building on the success of the past years, we have actually expanded the scope of EIC this year to include engineering topics beyond energy and rebranded EIC as Engineering Innovation Challenge. A total of 93 student teams have participated in this year's competition, comprising 82 Singapore teams and 11 teams from overseas. From their projects, we can see that our youths are capable of developing innovative solutions using their knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

7. Today, we will also be presenting prizes to the winners of the 2019 IES Innovation Challenge for the Community. The Challenge seeks to nurture the spirit of community service in our youths. I would like to thank the winners and participants for applying their creativity and engineering knowledge to develop meaningful solutions that would make a difference to the lives of elderly and those with disabilities.

Conclusion

8. NED would not have come this far without the support of our sponsors, partners, EIC judges and mentors. I would like to thank you for your contributions. My appreciation also goes to the principals, teachers as well as the parents for their excellent support.

9. Moving ahead, IES hopes to continue to work with you to enable more students to discover the joy of being an engineer; and recognise engineering education as the route to diverse and rewarding career opportunities.

10. The theme for this year's NED is "Shape the Future through Engineering". Together, we can inspire our next generation to put their passion and talent in engineering and to create a better future for all of us.

Thank you.