

Speech by Prof Yeoh Lean Weng, President, The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) at IES Spring Festival and Appreciation & Awards Night 2020 at 6.30pm on Thursday, 6 February 2020 at Civil Service Club @ Tessensohn Road

IES council members, members, staff and secretariat;

Ladies and gentlemen;

1. A very good evening and happy Chinese new year! On behalf of the IES Council, I would like to wish everyone good health and happiness in the year of the Rat. 祝大家新年快乐，身体健康，鼠年如意!
2. I was told that the Rat is the first animal in the Chinese Zodiac cycle, symbolising the beginning of a brand new chapter. Thank you for joining us tonight as we embark on a new journey together as a family of engineers as well as friends of engineers.

3. Before I start my speech proper, I would like to make a call for everyone to join efforts to raise funds by the Singapore Red Cross (or SRC) to aid communities in China affected by the coronavirus outbreak. Let us respond to SRC's public appeal as the national society of engineers in Singapore and do our part in delivering assistance to the affected communities. You can contribute by using the pledge form placed on every table, the SRC donation container at or via their website.
4. Thank you in advance for your kindness. I will now move on to give you a quick recap of key highlights of IES in the past year.
5. We made good headway towards our goal of building an inclusive engineering community, with the signing of an MoU with 20 partners on the **National Engineering Career**

Progression Pathway for Technologists and Technicians in July.

6. We also organised the **World Engineers Summit 2019** in August and the event drew some 800 engineers from around the world to share how we could harness technologies to engineer future cities.
7. We are honoured to have DPM Mr Heng Swee Keat conferred as IES Distinguished Honorary Patron and Mr Ng Chee Meng, Secretary-General of NTUC as IES Honorary Fellow at our **Annual Dinner** last October.
8. IES also continued our efforts in raising awareness and interest in engineering among the young and the public. We did this through the **National Engineers Day 2019** in July and the **IES Charles Rudd Distinguished Public Lecture 2019** in November. The Charles Rudd Lecture attracted more than 1000 participants. I would like to thank the

organising committee for putting the event together within two months.

9. All these achievements would not have been possible without the support of our volunteers, committees, partners and staff. Tonight, for the first time, in addition to celebrating our Spring Festival, we would like to take this opportunity to recognise the contributions of our volunteers, technical committees and friends of IES.

10. We will be presenting the following awards to the deserving individuals and committees:

- a. Special Recognition Award
- b. Outstanding Committee Award
- c. Best Student Chapter Award
- d. Outstanding Volunteer Award and
- e. Friends of IES Award

May I invite you at this point in time to join me in giving all of them a round of applause for their contributions? (*pause for applause*)

11. Moving forward, as we work towards **AGM** in May 2020, IES will be organising our **Away Day** in April 2020. I would like to hear from you about what we can do better to serve our members. Please feel free to share your ideas candidly with me.

12. A lot of hard work lies ahead of us to realise our goals for IES in 2020. But with your support, I am confident that we will overcome all challenges, score new successes and make it a great year for IES. Thank you and enjoy your dinner!