

The Prime Minister: Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like, on your behalf, and on behalf of all the Members of this House, to express our heartfelt thanks to His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Singapore, for his enlightening and graceful address.

We wish to assure you, Excellency, that we have great admiration for the lofty ideals and noble ideals which you stand for. The depth of your humanity and your personal journey is a living example of the triumph of perseverance, courage and compassion.

Your distinguished presence in this Assembly today and your insightful speech bear testimony to the excellent spirit of cooperation and understanding that have always characterised the relations between our two countries.

Mauritius and Singapore are moving forward on the same trajectory; although we are at different levels of socioeconomic development, we face similar challenges in many respects. We must, therefore, continue to work together in order to further reinforce our bilateral relations. Your visit, Excellency, is a milestone in the relations of our two countries, and it will no doubt give a new impetus to our endeavours for closer economic and diplomatic ties.

Excellency,

It is my privilege on behalf of Mr Speaker, of all the Members of the National Assembly on both sides of the House, and the Clerk of the National Assembly, to thank you once again for the distinct honour that you have bestowed upon us by addressing our National Assembly with your thought provoking and inspiring address.

This is the day that we shall always remember and treasure.

Thank you.

(Applause)

At 11.50 a.m. the Assembly rose and stood adjourned, as already resolved, to Tuesday 14 June 2011 at 11.30 a.m.