Singapore, 31 May 2004

NTU students going global to promote education

One hundred Nanyang Technological University (NTU) students are heading for India and Cambodia during the 2004 semester break on youth expeditions and community projects.

These students are participating in four separate projects. They are:

- **Project Srolanh** - Cambodia, 26 May to 14 June 2004
- **Pinnacle of Hope** - Bangalore, India, 31 May to 19 June 2004
- **Communicative Sports** - Kerala, India, 16 June to 5 July 2004
- **Youth Expedition to India** - Kerala, India, 25 June to 12 July 2004

All four projects are led by the students.

*Project Srolanh* is organised by the NTU Chapter of the Red Cross Humanitarian Network while *Pinnacle of Hope* and the *Youth Expedition to India* are organised by the NTU Welfare Services Club. *Communicative Sports* is organised by a group of students from Hall 6, a hall of residence on the NTU campus.

The students spent between five and eight months on average to organise their respective trips. They also had to raise the cost of air tickets and other expenses for the trip. Singapore International Foundation covered 60% of each participant’s cost and 100% of the costs for expedition leaders and facilitators.

The Student Affairs Office at NTU also supported the participants financially by providing each participant with a travel subsidy, and supporting the fund-raising efforts of each expedition.

The four projects focus on the needs of rural schools in India and Cambodia and will put the participants in touch with fellow youths in the two countries. While there, NTU students will be involved in a wide range of activities from building infrastructure to teaching.
Participants in Project Srolanh will be lending their muscles to construct a 260-metre long canal in the school compounds of Cheasim High School in Cambodia to help prevent floods. They will also build three latrines and a bathroom in Sok An 01 Ouksapheare High School and refurbish a total of 10 old classrooms in the two schools. The project will see our students holding workshops on the prevention of AIDS and other diseases, and first aid skills. The 24 participants will also help out in an orphanage for children with HIV/AIDS.

Participants in the Pinnacle of Hope expedition will construct some 60 study benches for the Godrahally Government High School in Bangalore, India, where students currently attend lessons by sitting on the bare ground. The 22 NTU students will also donate equipment for the school’s science laboratory, which is also the only science laboratory in the district. This laboratory is used by some 1,000 students. Pinnacle of Hope participants will also work on a water-harvesting project. The engineering students among the expedition team will apply their engineering know-how to device a system to collect and store water so that staff and students of the school will have enough water for their needs.

Through Communicative Sports, NTU participants will set up an IT room equipped with four computers in Noel Memorial Higher Secondary School in Kerala, India because the students in this school currently do not have IT access. The 27 expedition participants will also organise a Sports Education Programme to teach life skills, such as motivation and leadership, through fun and sports, and an English Language Programme to teach conversational English.

Participants of Youth Expedition to India will similarly set up an IT laboratory with networking facilities at MGM Higher Secondary School in Kerala, India. They will conduct IT lessons on basic computer functions, operating software such as Microsoft Windows and navigating the Internet. The 22 expedition participants will also organise an English Language camp.

Says Mr Vincent Choy, a third-year student from the Nanyang Business School and project leader of Youth Expedition to India, “By focusing on education, Youth Expedition to India hopes to break the poverty cycle faced by the villagers and empower them for a better future.”

The project leaders of the four expeditions believe they will gain immensely from their expeditions. Mr Huang Zongren, a second-year student from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and project leader of Pinnacle of Hope, says, ”Such expeditions will develop in us a keen awareness of global issues through the eyes of fellow youths elsewhere, and inspire us to be global leaders.

About Nanyang Technological University

The Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a top-tier university, ranked among the best science and technological universities in Asia.

Established in 1991, the university has since been positioning itself to be a global university of excellence and is committed to its mission in Educating Leaders and Advancing Knowledge for Singapore and Beyond. NTU has an undergraduate and graduate enrolment of about 25,000 and an international faculty of over 1,500. It
offers a broad-based curriculum, which focuses on the development of global views, entrepreneurship and adaptability, through the following schools:

1. College of Engineering, which consists of five schools:
   - Civil and Environmental Engineering
   - Computer Engineering
   - Electrical and Electronic Engineering
   - Materials Engineering
   - Mechanical and Production Engineering

2. Nanyang Business School (Accountancy and Business)
3. School of Biological Sciences
4. School of Communication and Information
5. School of Humanities and Social Sciences
6. School of Art, Design and Media (to be established by 2005)
7. School of Physical Sciences (to be established by 2005)

For more information, visit http://www.ntu.edu.sg
## Details of the 4 NTU overseas projects

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| **Project Srolanh**              | 24         | Cheasim High School and Sok An 01 Ouksaphear High School, Takeo, Cambodia | 26 May to 14 June 04 | 1. Construct 260 m long, 1 m deep drainage canal to prevent perennial flooding within school compound in Cheasim High School  
2. Construct 3 latrines and 1 bathroom in Sok An 01 Ouksaphear High School  
3. Refurbish a total of 10 old classrooms in the two schools  
4. Conduct educational workshops about HIV, health and sanitation issues and first aid skills.  
5. Help out at an orphanage for children with HIV/AIDS |
| **Pinnacle of Hope**             | 22         | Godrahally Government High School, Bangalore, India | 31 May to 19 June 04 | 1. Construct 60 benches  
2. Refurbish science labs and provide scientific equipment  
3. Organise events such as debate session and sports day  
4. Work on water-harvesting project |
| **Communicative Sports**        | 27         | Noel Memorial Higher Secondary School, Kerala, India | 16 June to 5 July 04 | 1. Set up IT room equipped with 4 computers  
2. Inculcate a Sports Education Programme to teach life skills  
3. Set up an English Education Programme |
| **Youth Expedition Project to India** | 22        | MGM Higher Secondary School, Kerala, India         | 25 June to 12 July 04 | 1. Set up of IT lab with networking capabilities  
2. Conduct IT lessons  
3. Organise an English camp |