Good evening!

I hope all of you have had the opportunity to enjoy the festivities at the carnival. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the finale of Run Round Singapore. Over the past two days, thousands of people have come together in support of Nanyang Technological University. To commemorate the University’s 55\textsuperscript{th} anniversary, the NTU community – students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends and well-wishers – have rallied around to make Run Round Singapore a success.
This evening, I am happy to confirm the record-breaking feat accomplished by our runners. By completing the 218-kilometre route around the island, our core runners have re-written the Singapore Book of Records. It is my pleasure to welcome our runners back to NTU’s Yunnan Garden campus, and to congratulate each and every one of you for pushing your limits of endurance. The dedication and determination which saw you through the race are the very essence of the Nantah Spirit that we hold dear.

This year, Run Round Singapore saw the participation of four new faces. For Adeline Yong, a teaching fellow at our National Institute of Education, Ng Junwei, a final-year student at NTU’s School of Computer Engineering, Chua Kok Chiow, a Physical Education teacher at Millennia Institute, and Melvin Lee, an engineer at the Defence Science & Technology Agency, it was the first time for them in an ultra-marathon race of this nature. The other five core runners, Stephen Lim Nghee Huat, Chin Kok Kai, Yong Yuen Cheng, Adrian Mok and Teng Teck Hou had taken part in the first Run Round Singapore held in 2005 to celebrate the University’s 50th anniversary. Their dedication and conviction in NTU is a strong endorsement. On behalf of the University, thank you!
The runners were joined by thousands of supporters throughout the route, who covered the distance in relay stages. All across the island, our runners held high the NTU banner. It is fitting that Run Round Singapore also serves as a meaningful platform to raise funds in support of educational advancement. I am pleased to announce that Run Round Singapore has raised a total of $218,000 which will go towards strengthening the University’s bursaries fund for future generations of NTU students who need financial help to complete their studies. I salute all our donors, who have contributed generously to this good cause.

To all our runners and supporters, thank you for making this event a success. Run Round Singapore is a signature NTU event, supported by the People’s Association’s Constituency Sports Clubs, our supporting organisations and sponsors. In particular, let me express my appreciation to the distinguished guests and Members of Parliament who kindly took time off to flag off the relay segments in their constituencies.

I would also like to thank our Guest-of-Honour, Minister Raymond Lim, and other distinguished guests and friends of NTU for joining us.
here today as we celebrate the successful conclusion of Run Round Singapore. Last but not least, I take this opportunity to thank the organising committee for their hard work in putting together this memorable event. The committee, chaired by Mr Soon Min Yam, Director of Alumni Affairs, NTU, has co-ordinated a nation-wide event which involves not only faculty, staff, students and alumni of the University, but also the wider community of which NTU is an integral part. This would not have been possible without the hard work and cooperation of the committee, supporters and participants.

The success of Run Round Singapore sends a strong signal that NTU is well prepared for its role as host to the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in August, when we welcome over 5,000 young athletes and officials from around the world to our beautiful Yunnan Garden campus.

Thank you all for helping to make Run Round Singapore, a signature event in our 55th anniversary celebration, a resounding success!