



Singapore Polytechnic Students' Union

9, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD,
SINGAPORE, 2.
TELEPHONE: 2221974

PUBLIC STATEMENT

The 1974 bus-fare hike has brought about much hardship to the general public in Singapore, especially the lower income group. As if this is not enough, the SBS has again announce another bus-fare hike to be implemented on the 1st of July '78. As speculated, this will result in greater hardship on the livelihood of thousands of people who depend on bus as their only means of transportation. For many of us who travel to work, we may have to pay as much as 20¢ to 40¢ more per day of \$6 to \$12 per month. For those who have to change bus it could easily add up to 60¢ per day or \$18 per month, not forgetting that the present bus-fare rate is already high enough. Students, too, have to pay an extra \$2 for their monthly season tickets.

SBS'S REASONS

We agree that bus workers should be given better pay and working conditions. But the bus company should not use this as an excuse for increasing bus-fare. A more equitable fare structure is also unnecessary, considering the hardship it will bring to the people. The important question to consider is not whether the fare structure is equitable or not for people still have to pay more for their bus-fare.

The buying of new buses will actually bring about more profits to the SBS. As such, it is extremely unfair to make the public pay for the capital infrastructure of the company. Investment as such should be put in by the company and its share holders who are entitled to the profits made, NOT the general commuting public.

An oil price increase (if any) in the near future is not going to affect the SBS alone. It will also give rise to increase in prices of other commodities. A bus-fare hike now, thus, would bring about more severe difficulties to the people in times to come.

THE UNION'S STAND

Singapore Polytechnic Students' Union views that the bus-fare increase on the 1st of July is unjustifiable and unnecessary, considering the adverse repercussion it will result on the people's livelihood, especially for the poorer on who earn a mere \$100 to \$400 per month. Bus transport is an essential service. Therefore, it should not be of a profiteering nature, in order that it can truly be a service to the people.

PROTEST AGAINST THE BUS-FARE INCREASE

The Union is now organising a campaign to protest against the bus-fare increase. A few surveys had already been carried out to understand more about the people's feelings towards the bus-fare hike. The overwhelming response from the public towards the survey has put the campaign into an encouraging stance.

On the 26th and 27th of June, the Union will organise student teams to collect signatories from the general public in a petition to the Ministry of Communication to appeal for the cancellation of the bus-fare hike.

We also urge all members of the public to attend a "Anti Bus-fare Hike" Forum to be held on the 28th of June at SPSU Union House, 6.30pm. Representatives from the Ministry of Communication and the SBS Managing Director will be invited to this public Forum.

Please give us your suggestions and opinions by contacting us at the above address and telephone number.

We look forward towards your co-operation and support.

新加坡五共學院學生會公報

SBS在1974年提高了車資後，似乎還不滿足他們的慾望，在今年的七月一日開始，又將有一項新的車資調查出現了。這次的調查將加重了大多數的巴士為主交這工資的人民的生活負擔，尤其是那些收入低微的公眾人士對於每天交上工資的人來說，少者每天將多付二角至四角或每月六元至十二元的車資了，而那些轉乘巴士的人們，每天就要多付六角或每月十八元的車資，就這出小學生也不例外，他們的月票由反來的四元漲到六元，但我們別忘了，月票的車資已經足夠高的了，往屆將會怎樣，這是可想而知的了。

GBS公司的理由

我們同意，巴士五友應該得到良好的待遇和完善的互作環境，但巴士公司却不能以此作為提高巴士車資的藉口。

大量的改善所謂車資的不平衡也是沒有必要的，這將會給人民加重負擔。所以這些車資調查，主要並不是在於解決所謂平衡與不平衡，而是為了讓人民多付車資，巴士公司賺大錢。此外巴士公司還說加價是為了新車，新車其實是使到巴士公司能賺取更多的盈利，這不是變成由公眾人士去負擔公司的投資嗎？這是多么不公平啊！如此的投資活動應由巴士公司和可以獲得盈利的人們去做，而不由這些公眾人士去負擔。巴士公司又說不人的將來油價只會漲（如果這是事實），那受到影響的不只是SBS一個，同時也造成日常用品的漲價，而這已足以影響廣大的人民。長遠的看來，現在的巴士車資加漲最終將導致人民的生活負擔加重了很多。

學生會的立場

新加坡五共學院學生會認為這次的車資起價是不合理和不公平的，它對於大人民的生活有著一定程度的打擊，特別是那些平均每月收入\$100-\$400的層人們，而且巴士是人們一項的主要交通工具，因此，它不應被利用來圖謀利潤，而應是真正做到為人民服務。

反對巴士加價

自學生會發動起一項“反巴士車資加價運動”，一些調查工作經已展開了，也聽取了許多關於公眾人士對於巴士車資加價的反應和收集他們的意見，公眾人士對於調查工作的熱烈反應很使目下這項運動受到很大的鼓舞。

在六月廿六日和廿七日，學生會將組織學生自願隊到全日各地去收集公眾人士的意見，以便呈上一份請願書至交這都請求取消這次的加價。

同時我們也希望公眾人士能踴躍出席六月廿八日在學生樓舉行的“反巴士車資加價”座談會，時間是6.30 PM，交這都代表和GBS公司董事經理將被邀請出席這個座談會。

最後，我們懇切地請公眾人士能透過上面註明的地址和電話與我們聯絡和給我們提意見。

我們希望得到你們的合作和支持！