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**Title:**  
Opening Freedom from Hunger campaign

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OPENING FREEDOM FROM HUNGER CAMPAIGN. 17-10-75

Sir Mark Oliphant, Mr. Nicholas, distinguished guests (and I include our prize-winners among the distinguished guests) Ladies and Gentlemen :

To many people the Freedom from Hunger Campaign is a very worthy cause, but one of an increasing number of causes which seek public support. And at a time when increasing demands are being made on us by many charities concerned with assisting Australians in need, others might ask : Why worry about Freedom from Hunger?

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The answer is that Freedom from Hunger is not a charity - it is a programme by which people in areas of great and almost chronic need can start to help themselves. There are no handouts - but there is material and technical assistance designed to eliminate the need for handouts in the future.

The problems of over-population, lack of food resources and lack of agricultural aids in the hungry areas of the world must be overcome. All the countries of the world must help in that task and we must all individually make our contribution.

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The imbalance between wealthy and comfortable nations like Australia and the impoverished countries of the world must be eliminated. It will not be done this quickly, not will it be achieved easily, considering that almost 85% of the world's wealth is controlled by less than a third of the countries.

Nor will it be achieved if countries such as Australia concentrate exclusively on their own internal problems. Australia faces a difficult time, but we must not shut our eyes to the desperate needs of so many others.

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The Freedom from Hunger Appeal deserves the support of every Australian. Financially, I hope that South Australians will contribute more generously than ever, but I also hope the people of the State support the Freedom from Hunger Campaign's efforts to make each of us aware of the responsibilities of the wealthy world to the millions of starving and dying.

The South Australian Government is doing its part. I am very pleased to be able to tell you that we have increased our annual gift to Freedom from Hunger from \$3,500 to

\$5,000 and of course we always respond additionally to special appeals such as the one you conducted for relief in Bangla Desh last year.

So, I have very much pleasure in launching your appeal - I hope I will be able to take even greater pleasure from the results.

Thank You.

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