

# **ISSUE 485**

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## **Are you Ever Ready?**

Dear Penfabricans,

When there is work to be done, are you ready for it?

Many of us would try to shy away from work, especially if it is an ad hoc, last minute, or risky kind of task. What more when it happens at an ungodly hour, like in the middle of the night! Or worst, like in the midst of a heavy thunder storm. Why do we want to be a smart alec to volunteer and endanger ourselves? Ridiculous. Nonsensical.

To be ready, ever ready means to be able to stand up to the unfairness, risk, and emergency in the nick of time. Voluntarism means willingly offering our services and capabilities in times of need, catastrophe, or when such dire circumstances come a-calling. To be ever ready means to possess the confidence to guarantee success and reverse adverse situations.

People who are ever ready are always active. So when a task comes along, they quickly understand it and work selflessly, tirelessly and earnestly to do it. They do not waste time dwelling into the nitty gritty of things. They recognize the importance of the task at hand and fully involve in it to attain success in shortest possible time. There are many examples of selfless and sacrificing people driving organizations, such as the International Red Cross Society and Buddhist Tzu Chi Merits Society, which provide charitable and social service.

The social workers at these charitable organisations are selfless and ever ready to help the less fortunate. They are ready to give a helping hand without asking or expecting rewards or paybacks. It is because they are at

ease with themselves and their surrounding, all tasks seem easy for them. The effort put in by them for the success of the task also becomes easy. So they do not have to put in a lot of effort but give their best. Thus, they easily experience success every moment in all situations. All of these are possible as they have zero expectation for returns. It is just selfless service to ease suffering, and sooth the misery and pain of others.

Dear Penfabricans, when we are ever ready and in anticipation of forthcoming task, we will feel at ease when it comes. It may even be a relief that the awaited task finally comes. Plunge into it with enthusiasm, and success is a matter of course as we have been ever ready for it. In this day and time, many of us are only willing to take. Learn to give. Giving and sharing bring us joy, contentment and satisfaction.

Have a well planned weekend. Enjoy it while mulling how we can be ever ready when the next task comes a-calling.

Be a volunteer.

Thank you.

With kind regards,  
HSTeh.