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SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
TO RIDA STUDENTS AT THE OPENING OF  
TWO EXTENSION WINGS TO DEWAN LATIHAN  
RIDA AT PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR ON  
5TH JULY, 1962

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am extremely pleased to be here this morning to open the two new extension wings to the Dewan Latihan and I am glad to see that the invited guests have graced us with their presence so early in the morning.

There has been considerable expansion in the Dewan Latihan during the past year. Last year we had forty-five students and now we have no less than 160 students studying a variety of business management subjects. We consider this programme as it exists now is only the nucleus of a much larger programme to train people for Malayan industries.

As you know our National Development Programme most probably moves hand in hand with our Rural Development Programme and this school is evidence of the tie between the two. The over-all purpose of this programme is to raise the standard of living of the Rural people and to enable them to contribute more to the National wealth of the Country.

In implementing this programme there are two parts. The Government has provided the basic framework for Development and has provided roads, bridges, land development, schools and many other facilities.

It is the Government Policy to encourage private enterprise and private industry as much as possible in the Rural Areas.

The functions of this school is to bridge the gap between the facilities which the Government has provided and the private enterprise which the Government wishes to set up. It is recognised that the resource which is in the shortest supply—the resource which is limiting the establishment of private enterprise—is personnel trained in management skills, who are interested in taking advantage of the opportunities which exist.

There are a great number of products which could be manufactured in Malaya, there are many raw materials which could be processed and there are many services which could be supplied to our people.

The development of our Country, one might say, is a trust which is shown between the Government and you as individual the Government can plan and undertake a limited number of projects, but the real development of the Nation automatically rests with young people like yourselves in the skills which you can give and in the effort which you put forward to take advantage of these opportunities.

The Government is providing you an opportunity here for training if you have the determination to take advantage of this opportunity you will be able to make an important contribution to the development of our Country. Should you view this opportunity merely as a right to a better job you will misunderstand the purpose of this school. When you finish your schooling, you will be better able to take advantage of the many/industrial undertakings that exist in this Country.

Should you grasp this opportunity with energy and determination the industrial development programme of our country will go forward. Should you accept the training programme as giving you a right to a better job rather than as an opportunity to be greater service to your Country, you will do yourself and our Country a disservice.