

This two-pronged attack will succeed only by a joint effort by government on the one hand and farmers on the other. It means *one single, effective force* moving towards a more responsible agriculture, in which the farmers will be active participants in the economic life of the nation.

What is the difference between a "by-stander" and *a really active participant*?

The by-stander is passive. He waits for something to happen. The active participant makes things happen both by his own efforts and by working with others. He acts positively and makes full use of the resources available to him. He adapts himself to changing needs. He has the determination to exert himself and what is more he has the right and only spirit which I call JAYADIRI.

This spirit of JAYADIRI infused in our people and in our government officers, will be the moving force to propel us towards even greater achievements in development!

## **A NEW CONCEPT FOR SUCCESS**

### **TEAM-WORK BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND FARMERS URGED**

*Delegates attending the National Seminar on Agriculture on 15th April, 1968, in Kuala Lumpur, were told by Tun Abdul Razak that "the time has now come for the nation to move into a more intensified phase of Agricultural Development. The main points of his speech were:*

The aim of this seminar is to create a new and more dynamic orientation and deeper understanding of our national economic policies *with particular regard* to Agriculture Development. I hope that as a result of this Seminar, you, as government officers, will be better equipped both individually and as a team to implement our agricultural Development Programme with greater effectiveness and efficiency.

The infrastructure for progress in the industrial and agricultural sectors has already been soundly laid.

The evidence of what has been done in the field of development is apparent with the hundreds of miles of feeder roads, new schools, new health centres, agricultural research stations and the building programme for new agricultural colleges throughout the country'.

These and many other projects are well known to all of us. However, as you all know, development moves by phases, and having achieved the major break-through, having laid all the necessary foundations, the time has now come for the nation to move into a more intensified phase of Agricultural Development.

There has been a tendency to regard industry as the "end-all" and "be-all" of Development, and a similar tendency to regard agriculture as something which always lags behind the modern age.

One of the objects of this Seminar is to dispel this tendency and to infuse in all of you the fact that not only here in Malaysia, but throughout the world, agriculture is still the mainstay of Development.

A popular conception is that people in the world to-day must have consumer goods in all shapes and forms and that this is the output of industry.

This is so, but more important is the fact that everyone must consume food; without food the world will not survive.

Our country, Malaysia, *has a great role* to play in the production of future food, not only for our own needs, but for other markets in the world where exist a demand for the very crops we grow!

We have had a setback in the market of our main crop. Rubber. This is not a fault of ours; this is not the fault of our people, or our government. This is just a *world* fact.

Let us not be despondent about it, but rather learn a lesson from it

We can use this falling price of rubber, and battle with Synthetic, as a challenge to substitute wherever necessary the products of the fertility of our soil—one of the most abundant assets of our nation.

The aim of my Government is an ever adaptable (menyesuaikan) Agricultural sector; responsive to the demands of the world market; sensitive to world prices, and at the same time aggressive in taking advantage of domestic and world food needs!

Our national policy is very clearly defined, that we move forward on a two-pronged thrust along the path of progress—on the one hand to maximise modern industry and on the other hand to develop to its fullest extent the agricultural potential of our nation.

The vitality of our agriculture, as in industry, depends on the use of the most modern techniques.

These have been demonstrated in the case of rubber, oil palm and other plantation crops. The most modern development techniques are used both on estates and FLDA schemes.

The main task that lies immediately before us is to ensure that all these modern techniques that have contributed to the success of production in estates and FLDA schemes be extended to the individual man on his individual land.

My Government has always been aware of the importance of agricultural extension services for the small-holder and a sum of S10.6 million provided for this in our present Development Plan.

It is all very well to speak about extension, but what in fact do we have to extend? How well are we organised to work with our rural population? What new concrete recommendations do we have to offer our farmers?

No. in every case, the wearing-out of a machine is not caused by the *intensity* of the revolutions of its metal parts, failure is caused by *friction*. That is a scientific fact, which is equally applicable to the machine of a motor-car and to the machinery **of Government.**

Let us. therefore, determine to make sure that departmental friction will never slow up the revolutions of our development machine.

A lot has already been achieved in this direction, but *still* I am not satisfied that each one of you and the many other Agricultural and Land Officers throughout the country have really raised themselves above self and above department.

I remember a quotation of a famous writer which I learned during my school days: "The goal of yesterday will be the starting point of tomorrow."

These words really sum up the object of the Seminar,

Although we have achieved a considerable amount in our last 10 years of development, we must never sit back satisfied but must continuously strive to do more and more and better and better.

The goal of yesterday we have achieved; and in Agricultural Development we are coming to a new starting point.

I have stressed over the last 10 years the necessity for team-work within the framework of development and today to you as Government officers responsible for agricultural development. I want to give you a *new concept* of team-work which I would like to be emphasized in this Seminar and more **intensively** applied when you return to your respective tasks on the ground.

I would like to see an intensification of team-work between you as Government officers and the farmer on his land.

Let me explain my concept.

In the field of agricultural development, as a nation, we have the choice of moving forward like a bus "*full of passengers*" or we have the choice, a more dynamic choice, of moving forward like a rowing-boat.

Still vivid in my memory is my visit to the Marudi Regatta in Sarawak which is again due to take place in the very near future.

I watched these boats competing with each other with crews of anything from 20 to 30 men. all using their paddles with the *maximum energy* they could put in to the race; and the result of this race was not dependent on *one* individual but dependent on the *combined effort* and energy of every man who was sweating out his energy to give his best towards the *speed* of the boat.

How fully *have we* thought through the problems of getting our agricultural producers to move more rapidly towards these goals which we have stated?

I ask these questions and I will continue to ask questions; we must always ask questions of ourselves and our work.

What I want to see is a much greater and stronger stimulus to our agricultural services from research to extension.

Therefore, it is vital that this Seminar provides the opportunity for a stock-taking of existing agricultural knowledge, our use of existing extension and other technical services and to determine how best to get our farmers to adopt modern recommended practices.

We must give the benefit of the best technical knowledge available to the smallholder, who, after all, plays a large role in Agricultural Development.

This can be done by developing and utilising better communication techniques in reaching our farmers.

This can be done by each and every officer concerned having a clear understanding of his role in the process of agricultural development.

What must be done is to build up and sustain a collective dedication to raise the spirit of action in agricultural development above departmental isolation.

My vision of the development machine of Government, as all of you know, is to turn Government officers, in every single department connected with development into an effective human machine, *all working together, with one heart and one mind*, focussed on *one* single purpose service to our people and loyalty to achieving our national aim of economic *stability* and progress.

This aim can and *will* be achieved provided that we dispel once and for all, petty loyalties, petty sensitivities to position, petty inter-departmental jealousies and give all our ability and energy to help our people improve their own output and standard of living, and *thus* increase the total economic production of our country.

Let us compare our development machine with any other modern mechanical machine, including your own motor-cars in

which you came here today. I am no engineer, but I have picked up the rudiments of engineering.

When you get the wheels of a machine revolving at a high speed, it is not the continuous revolutions of mechanical wheels which cause it *to wear out* and become unserviceable.

The race for Agricultural Development is exactly the same as any race at Marudi Regatta.

Every single farmer of our country must pull his weight with knowledge, confidence, self-reliance and energy in order to help speed up the race for the production of foodstuffs and agricultural products from our soil, a race in which Malaysia at this stage of our Development, is deeply involved.

This race *can* and *will* be won. I would like all of you who are concerned with land distribution and agricultural extension services, to regard yourself as *helmsmen* and *coaches* in this agricultural race—to help our farmers win!

The crew of your boat—this agricultural boat—are the farmers of our country'!

Your job is to get close to them, to gain their confidence, to impart your knowledge, to persuade and to encourage them to work together with you as a team towards this great national aim of increasing the agricultural products of our country and produce crops, not only sufficient for their own day to day needs, but over and above that, a surplus increase which will make Malaysia a country which can supply the world markets with the fruits of our soil which are so very much in demand today.

This seminar, which I open today, is only the *start* of many more in the future, with the object of *injecting* into the whole structure of Government the spirit of *service before self* -a spirit of dedication with the object, not only of increasing *your* knowledge. but also of increasing your awareness of *your* responsibility to our people.

The machinery of Development in our country to me is like the *batteries* in your motor-cars.

A battery to be efficient, has got to be *recharged* from time to time; otherwise, you will get no *spark* of electricity out of it!

This Seminar is in fact designed to *recharge* you in your responsibilities to the farmers of our country!

But as any mechanic will tell you; after you have recharged a battery, you have to test it to make sure it has been *fully* recharged!

At the end of this Seminar, we will have a get-together session to discuss these very vital subjects that I have just mentioned and I hope that I will find, when we meet again here, that you have all been *re-charged*, and have a new spark in your mind and attitude, the spark of the *real* spirit of our National Development.

A new attitude which you will take back to your *States* and *districts* and use it to the full to ignite, within the agricultural sector of our country, a *flame of determination* to get Agriculture Development *really moving* in Malaysia!

## **THE YEAR OF THE TRANSPLANT'**

### **THE NEED FOR EXCHANGING IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES**

*"Development Councils have become the main blood-stream of our development organization. . . . And so the setting up of a Regional Council is, to us, but a natural and logical sequel in the development of this Region," said Tun Abdul Razak at the official opening of the Regional Seminar on Development on 5th February, 1968, at Kuala Lumpur. The keynote of his address, given below, is the need for greater regional co-operation.*

As you all know, we in Malaysia decided to set up a Development Studies Centre and hold from time to time, both Regional and International Seminars, not with a view to attempting to teach other countries how to develop, but rather with a view to stimulating and encouraging an interchange of ideas and methods on Development, so that we can all gain from each other's experiences in the field of Development.

It may be said that 1968 is the year of the <sup>44</sup>*transplant*" in which medical science has made a break-through in being able to transplant hearts! We, here in this Seminar, are also making a bold attempt to carry out a successful *"transplant"*.