

PROJECTS ARE AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

WORLD EXPERTS PRAISE OUR PLAN

Speaking as early as 14th August, 1962, Tun Razak told ParliametU "not only have we made considerable progress in the implementation of our Development Plan, but we are, in fact. ahead of schedule in producing the many hundreds of economic projects" Referring to Malaysia's achievements, he recalled that world experts had stated "that we, as a nation, have managed by many means to put meal and muscle to the bones of the verbal skeleton."

You will remember. Mr Speaker, Sir. in launching our Plan. I said it was a bold and ambitious Plan for a young Nation such as ours, and the fact that the Government have to come to this House in the middle of this year asking for more money is proof that we are in no way lagging behind either in boldness or in our determination to implement it at speed; not only have we made considerable progress in its implementation, but we are in fact ahead of schedule in producing the many hundreds of economic projects included in our National Plan.

Recently, it was said by world experts who have had experience of economic planning in no less than 75 countries in the world that the drawing up of a Five-Year Plan is a comparatively easy task. but. its day to day implementation, the task of translating a plan from paper, and words, into sound economic projects is a task which requires a continual effort, a continual vigilance and a consistency of purpose which is not always easy to achieve.

Our National Plan has not remained as a mere paper Plan but again to quote the world experts, "in comparison to many national plans throughout the world it has appeared to them that we. as a nation have managed by many means to "put meat and muscle to the bones of the verbal skeleton" of our basic Plan—an achievement of which we may well be proud!

Mr Speaker, Sir. I know that as a Member of this House and as a Minister who has considerable responsibility for National Development it becomes me in standing before you. Sir, to be modest and not to over-state the case of my Government but I would hate to mislead you. Sir, and this House, by allowing my modesty to withhold from you the true facts—and the facts are that in launching our National Development Plan we got off to

a good start and I am glad to say we have been able to maintain and sustain the pressure of action which is so vital to the progress of our Nation.

To give an example of this, let me take our Rural Road Building Programme. Members will remember that in the original Plan \$90 million was allocated for the whole of the Five-Year Period.



A kampong road with a new bridge provides access to secluded kampongs in the district of Gelang Patah in Johore.

But what in fact has happened, Mr Speaker is that we have pushed ahead so far in the implementation of this Road Programme that by the end of this year, 1962, we will have almost completely committed this \$90 million and I can assure, you, Sir, from my own tours around the country, I have seen with my own eyes that this money has been put to very good use throughout the rural areas in opening up many thousand acres of land and in improving the conditions and standard of living of our Rural people.

To give another example of the tangible progress which is being made in Development, as this House already knows we have 37 land development schemes in progress being implemented by the Federal Land Development Authority. These include a total of a hundred and forty thousand acres under development and will provide land and livelihood for approximately 12,000 families. Of these schemes, 60,000 acres have been felled and cleared and about 36,000 acres have already been planted and approximately 3,700 families have already settled on the land.

Looking ahead to next year, provisional planning and work has been undertaken on a further 12 new schemes, five of which

will be planted with oil palm. These extra 12 schemes, when implemented will develop a further acreage of 50,000 and will provide a livelihood for 4,500 families. As this House is already aware, these schemes provide not only land to settlers but also all the essential amenities such as roads, water supplies, schools, medical services and all the other things necessary for a higher and better standard of living.

Similarly. Mr Speaker. Sir. I could go through our Estimates, Head by Head, and give this House a detailed review of our achievements—achievements. Sir. which could be regarded as high score even before we have reached half time in this Five-Year National Development.

I should like. Mr Speaker, the House to understand that although action in the implementation of our Plan is well under way it does not mean that action is automatic.

From day to day, although we make progress we also meet difficulties, because Envelopment in this modern world is no longer a straight-forward, simple matter and it is seldom that any one single project can be implemented merely by action of the one Department concerned. Nowadays with such technical advances in the world. Development is rather similar to the four or five dimensional film.

Many technical Departments are involved and this requires the closest co-ordination and the closest co-operation on the part of each and every technical officer concerned.

If one Department blows its "technical trumpet" too loudly there is a slowing up of action; the closest day to day departmental co-operation is necessary.

I am glad to say that the promise which my Government gave, in paragraph 3 of our National Rural Development Directive No. 1, *the promise that* "all resources of our Government, and the entire energies of Government executive effort will be harnessed and directed towards the aim of our National Development and that the complete machinery of Government will be geared into a singularity of purpose and action to achieve it".

This. Mr Speaker. Sir. has been achieved and continues to remain a fact and I should like to take this opportunity before the House of paying tribute to the many hundreds of Government Officers throughout the whole country—technical, administrative and executive, wherever they may be—for the great part that

they have played and continue to play in helping us to build a prosperous and stable nation through the implementation of our National Development Plan.

The word stable, and thinking of Stability reminds me to make reference to the Private Sector of our Second Five-Year Plan.

It has been said many times and quite rightly that perhaps the final success of our Second Five-Year Plan depends on what happens in the Private Sector, and I think it is right. Mr Speaker, that in standing before this House. I be absolutely honest and sincere about this.

I have two points to make. The first point is that I should like to see the representatives of the Private Sector applying the same principle which we, the Government, applied to the implementation of our Plan.

In order to gear the resources of Government to get down to hard work in implementing projects we brought together into the Development Teams, the professional and administrative officers and Elected Members to form Development Teams throughout the country and to sit down and thrash out and examine problems together with a frankness and singleness of purpose and then having done this, once the Plan was decided and action under way. to give their wholehearted support and maximum effort towards *follow-through* action.

In the Private Sector I should like to see similar action being taken of all the representatives of Commerce and Industry getting down together and forgetting, for the time being their individual interests so that they may examine impersonally, and yet forcefully, the problems which face us and combine them together to produce suggestions and solutions which will give more impetus and more force to the Private Sector of our economy.

One point I wish to make. Mr Speaker, is that we could talk, and can go on talking in this House until well after mid-night, each night, on Economic Stability; and it is an accepted fad that economic stability is the foundation on which our Private Sector. Commerce and Industry, will thrive.

But. Mr Speaker. let me remind this House that the real foundation of economic stability is political stability and my Government have tried, and we are succeeding to do everything in our power to create an atmosphere of political stability and reliability which will give impetus to every aspect

of the Private Sector of our economy to go ahead with confidence and trust so that our industries will expand, so that world traders will have faith in us, and so that we will be regarded not only in Malaya, but throughout the world as a country with a political and economic structure that can be trusted and in which private enterprise is a worthwhile undertaking with the minimum of risk and the maximum results.

Every speech in this House, and outside it, is either a contribution to our political stability, or it is a detraction from such stability.

I leave it. Mr Speaker, to the Members of this House to decide whether they wish to contribute or detract from our national prosperity.

TRIBUNAL AWARD NOT REJECTED IN TOTO **GOVERNMENT FAITH IN ARBITRATION** **REAFFIRMED**

The Government's confidence in the Rational Whitley Council machinery and its faith in the principle of arbitration as a means of settling differences between Government and its employees were reaffirmed by Tun Abdul Razak in opposing a motion moved by Dr Tan Chee Khoon at the Dewan Ra'yaat

on 1st March, 1965. Extracts of the Tun's speech follow.

MR SPEAKER. SIR.

I rise to oppose the motion of the Hon'ble the Member for Batu, Dr Tan Chee Khoon.

At the outset I would like to make it quite clear that it is not correct to say that the Government has rejected in toto the award made by the Government Services Arbitration Tribunal in respect of the claim by the Union of Post Office Workers. Hon'ble members of this House may have learnt from the numerous Press reports and releases which have been published on this claim by the Union of Post Office Workers that the Union's claim was for a separate and higher salary scale for the clerks in the Postal Department and a higher rate of allowance for those clerks who are in charge of Post Offices.

The Arbitration Tribunal which considered this claim made an award which may be divided into three parts, namely, (i) Salary