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UCAPAN Y.A.B. TIMBALAN PERDANA MENTERI,
DATUK HUSSEIN ONN, KETIKA MERASHIKAN
SEMINAR MENGENAI PERANAN UNIVERSITI
DALAM PENDIDIKAN PENGURUSAN TERHADAP
PEMBANGUNAN NEGARA DI MALAYSIA ATAU
"THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN
MANAGEMENT EDUCATION FOR NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT IN MALAYSIA" DI ABDEY
ROOM, HOTEL MERLIN, PADA HARI ISNIN,
818 OKTOBER, 1973, JAM 9.00 PAGI.

PEN. 10/73/32 (TRM)

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Thank you for inviting and giving me the honour of officially opening this morning the Workshop on "The Role of Universities in Management Education for National Development in Malaysia". I wish to congratulate the organisers of the workshop for their initiative in bringing together key government administrators, private senior executives, representatives of professional associations in both business and public administration, and university

2. Perhaps, it is not irrelevant for me to remind this assembly about our new development strategy. The over-riding objective of the strategy is NATIONAL UNITY. Our country's economic and social development has reached a stage where more and greater emphasis must be placed on social integration and more equitable distribution of income and opportunities for national unity and progress. The Second Malaysia Plan is based on this policy. It is designed to facilitate the achievement of our national objective. It marks a new phase in the economic and social development of our country. It represents an important stage in the series of

leaders in business and public administration education, to discuss management education in our ^{country} ~~society~~. Discussion on national development needs is always timely and more so with regard to managerial manpower shortages for national development. Since our country's independence, we have launched a number of five year development plans. From these plans, we have experienced, among others, our limited management capability. This has consequently created an "implementation gap". The lack of implementation capacity, even more than of finance, has been one of the main ^{factors} ~~features~~ in unfulfilled plan targets.

development plans designed to eradicate
poverty among all Malaysians, irrespective
of race, and to restructure Malaysian society
in order to correct racial economic
imbalance, in the context of an expanding
economy, leading towards the creation of
a dynamic and just society.

3. The success of our national
development plans can only be assessed
by the united, co-operative and dedicated
efforts of both the public and private
sectors. Hence the call by our Prime
Minister and other leaders to all professional
and educational institutions in the country

to come forward and contribute effectively towards the development of the country. The Government has and will continue to give dynamic political leadership. Can you the private sector and educational institutions in the country, on the other hand, provide the necessary dynamic leadership in your respective sphere of activities? That is the question and that is the challenge that I am throwing at you.

4. The object of economic planning is to develop and use the national resources in the best interests of the nation as a whole. However, if the organisation and

and machinery of administration and management are seriously imperfect, grave consequences will ensue, for even a perfect policy will break down if there is muddle or slackness in administration and management. On the other hand, we have to beware of worshipping machinery for its own sake, of falling into the error of thinking that the more organisation we build up, the more people we employ on the work, the more committees we establish, the more talking we do, the better. In the end, it is doing the right things (and sometimes refraining from doing things) that really matters. Efficient, smooth-running organisation is a vital

instrument to have at our disposal. It may help us to think correctly, it may force us to face relevant facts, but it does not of itself get things done; that requires human energy, thought, initiative, and action.

And thought and action must be continuous, for economic situations and factors change from time to time so that adaptation, changes, and even reversals of policy may well become desirable.

5. Modern national development programmes involve new factors or objectives which require managerial skill and experience in the widest sense. In the new development

strategy, both the Government and the private sector have important and complementary roles to play. Besides providing the leadership in the articulation of the new economic policy, the Government has and will continue to assume an expanded and more positive role in the economy. The private sector is expected to continue its dynamic growth and complement the Government's efforts in achieving the objectives. Modern managers must, therefore, be conversant with government policy and practice which now extends to new fields such as banking, insurance, state trading by quasi-government bodies, investment and trade promotion, and intervention and supervision

in the money, commodities and other markets.

6. As the needs of national development cannot be delayed, we have resorted to whatever local managers, trained or untrained, are available and making up the shortages by expatriates. This state of affairs, of course, cannot be allowed to continue. Thus gradually institutions for managerial and business education or training are established in the country, such as the Faculty of Economics and Administration in the University of Malaya and similar type of managerial and business courses in the Universiti Kebangsaan, Universiti Sains Malaysia,

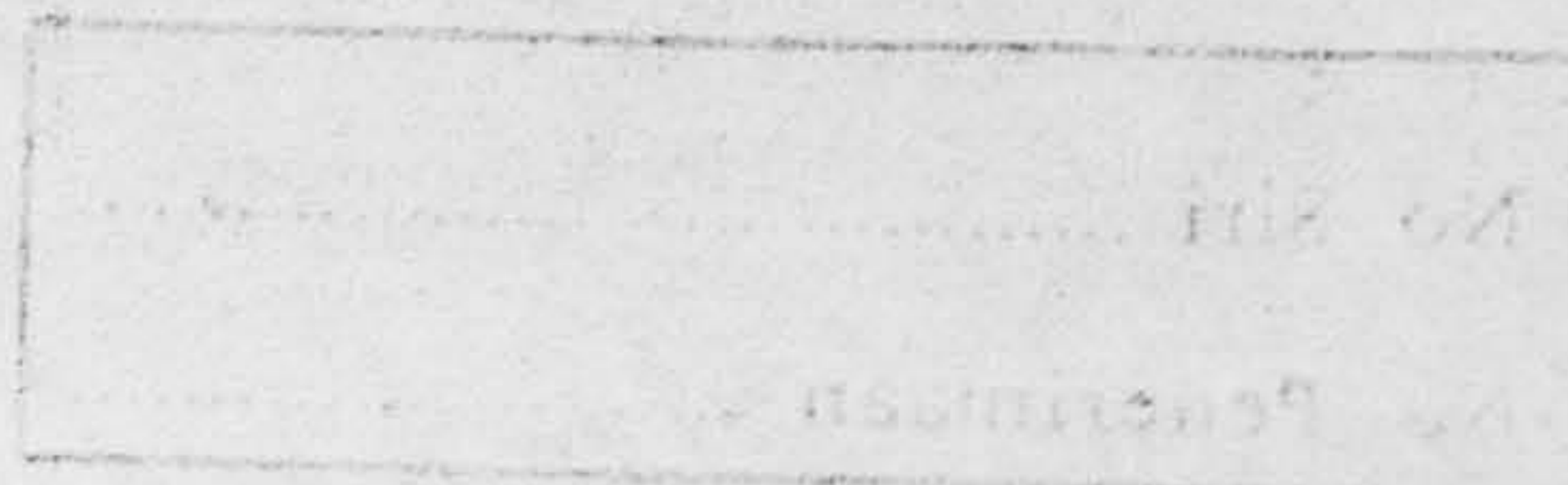
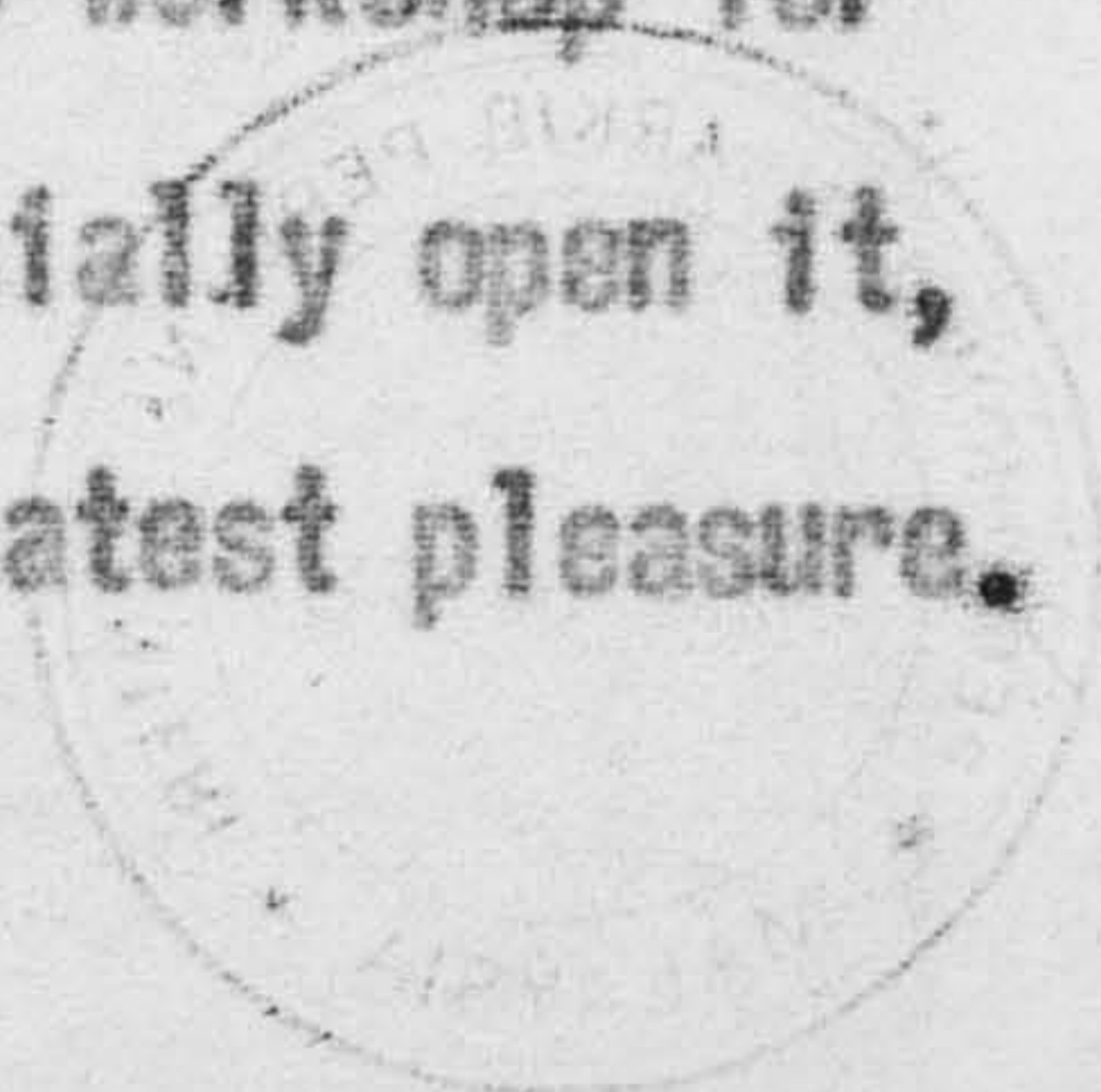
the MARA Institute of Technology, the Tunku Abdul Rahman College, the National Productivity Centre, the National Institute of Public Administration, and the Malaysian Institute of Management.

7. As you have seen, we have not done badly with regard to business and managerial education and training. The question now is: Is that good enough? The fact is that our country is facing a modern and competing world of trade, commerce and industry. Are we geared to face these challenges? Are our existing facilities sufficient and up to date? Should not a comprehensive system of formal

business and management education and training be devised? What role should our universities and other institutions play in these?

All these are for you to discuss in the next three days. You will have served the nation well if you can find some of the answers.

8. In conclusion, I wish to thank once again the organisers of the workshop for kindly inviting me to officially open it, which I now do with the greatest pleasure.





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