

~~275~~
~~43/79~~

UCAPAN Y.A.B. TINDALAN PERDANA MENTERI,
DATUK HUSSEIN ONI DALAM MAJLIS JANJUAN
MAKAN MALAM DI HOTEL EQUATORIAL, KUALA
LUMPUR PADA HARI SABTU 7HB SEPTEMBER
1974 JAN 8.30 MALAM.

Pertubuhan

Encik Hisham Albakri,
Presiden ~~Persatuan~~ Arkitek Malaysia,
Dhif-Dhif kehormat,
Tuan-Tuan dan Puan-Puan sekalian.

Saya mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi terima kasih atas jemputan dan kehormatan yang diberi oleh P.A.M. kepada kami berdua untuk hadir dalam Majlis Makan Malam ini. Saya sangat sukacita kerana dapat peluang bertemu dan beramah mesra dengan kumpulan professional yang terpenting dalam negara kita ini khasnya tuan-tuan sekalian dalam bidang architecture. Bagi pihak Kerajaan, saya ingin mengucapkan terima kasih diatas sokongan dan sumbangan yang telah diberikan oleh Persatuan ini serta ahli-ahlinya kepada

Kerajaan Barisan Nasional yang telah memerintah negara ini. Dengan pembentukan Kabinet baru di Malaysia dibawah pimpinan Y.A.B. Tun Abdul Razak, saya yakin kita bersama-sama akan dapat bergerak dan berusaha menuju kearah zaman gemilang demi mewujudkan negara Malaysia yang bersatu, adil dan makmur.

Tuan-Tuan sekalian.

2. Saya telah mendengar akan ucapan Presiden P.A.M. tadi dan sesungguhnya merasa bangga dengan kemajuan yang telah dicapai oleh Persatuan Arkitek ini, khasnya, dalam menggembeling tenaga ahli-ahlinya bagi memberi sumbangan yang lebih positif dan bermakna kepada negara kita. Saya harap ikrar yang dibuat oleh ahli-ahli P.A.M. ini akan dapat dilaksanakan. Demikian juga, ahli-ahlinya akan terus berusaha dalam beberapa

bidang untuk menghasilkan tujuan kita khasnya pada menjadikan negara ini maju dan membawa kebahagiaan kepada semua rakyatnya.

3. Ramai pelawat-pelawat yang datang ke negara kita ini merasa ^{kagum} dengan kemajuan yang telah kita capai semenjak merdeka, terutama bila melihat bangunan baru, yang tinggi, besar dan menjulang langit. Kemajuan dalam bentuk bangunan ini sudah tentu adalah sebahagian dari hasil ciptaan para arkitek sekalian. Saya sesungguhnya merasa bangga dengan kemajuan ini dan pujian yang tinggi patutlah diberikan kepada para arkitek diatas sumbangan mereka yang besar itu.

Tuan-Tuan sekalian.

4. Ucapan Presiden tadi telah menyentuh mengenai kekurangan bahan-bahan binaan khasnya batang besi dan simen yang merupakan bahan penting dalam perusahaan pembinaan. Kekurangan bahan-bahan ini bukanlah berlaku dalam negara Malaysia sahaja bahkan diseluruh dunia. Perhatian berat dari P.A.M. mengenai masalah ini sangatlah wajar. Akan tetapi kerajaan telah berusaha dengan beberapa cara bagi mengatasi kesulitan ini. Mengikut anggaran, sejajar dengan rancangan pembangunan negara sekarang, kita mengalami kekurangan 100,000 tan simen dan lebih kurang 50,000 tan batang besi setahun. Sungguhpun Kerajaan telah mengkaji semula rancangan pembangunan, menurut priority tertentu, namun kita tetap menghadapi kekurangan.

Perdagangan

Pada pandangan Kementerian/Dalam Negeri, moleklah kalau penggunaan bahan-bahan penting ini dijalankan dengan cermat dan untuk tujuan ini, tuan-tuan sebagai arkitek boleh memainkan peranan tertentu.

5. Tugas arkitek adalah untuk merangka bentuk bangunan dan memanglah menjadi kesukaan manusia menikmati bentuk yang indah. Didalam keadaan yang serba berkurangan ini, adalah penting sifat semula jadi merika bentuk indah dan sophisticated itu diketepikan dan digantikan pula sifat-sifat yang lebih praktikel. Saya cadangkan agar P.A.N. menjualkan idea ini kepada ahli mereka supaya mengurangkan sedikit sophistication didalam bentuk rekaan. Cara ini akan mengurangkan lagi perbelanjaan terhadap binaan.

6. Selain dari itu, Kerajaan dalam usahanya menggalakkan perkembangan perusahaan sentiasa menggalakkan penggunaan bahan yang dikeluarkan oleh pengusaha tempatan. Ahli-ahli P.A.M. patutlah menitikberatkan penggunaan barang-barang keluaran tempatan didalam rekaan pembentukan binaan mereka. Barang-barang binaan keluaran tempatan dikeluarkan mengikut mutu dan specification tertentu dan adalah menjadi tugas Persatuan Arkitek Malaysia ini supaya ahli-ahli mereka membuat rekaan mengikut mutu dan specification itu. Dengan cara ini, mereka akan menggalakkan perkembangan industri binaan tempatan dan juga membanyakkan lagi pasaran untuk perusahaan itu. Ini juga bermakna ahli-ahli Persatuan ini akan membimbing pengusaha tempatan bagi menambahkan lagi dayausaha meluaskan lagi pengeluaran mereka.

7. Dalam pada itu, ahli-ahli Persatuan Arkitek Malaysia mungkin menerima beberapa permohonan merangka dalam kerja harian mereka dari kontraktor baik untuk projek Kerajaan mahupun projek swasta. Berpandukan kepada permohonan daripada pihak swasta, bolehlah Persatuan ini berpandukan dengan pengalaman ahlinya, membuat jangkaan atau synopsis terhadap perkembangan dimasa hadapan sektor binaan. Ini sangatlah penting untuk makluman Kerajaan kerana dengan adanya maklumat ini dapatlah Kerajaan membuat satu rancangan tertentu. Sebagaimana yang Persatuan ini sedar, bahan-bahan binaan sekarang sangat berkurangan. Untuk merancang kehendak masa hadapan, had pengeluaran bahan binaan terpaksa ditambah lagi. Pada ketika ini, Kerajaan telah meluluskan beberapa projek simen baru. Sebagai langkah jangka pendek pula, tindakan telah diambil untuk menggalakkan

pengimpotan barang binaan ini. Maklumat daripada synopsis PAM akan dapat memberi panduan kepada Kerajaan sejauh manakah, usaha jangka panjang, menambahkan lagi had pengeluaran, berjaya gencapai jangkaan pihak swasta. Adalah dicadangkan agar Persatuan ini dapat menyampaikan tujuan ini kepada ahli-ahli mereka.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

8. Apart from various measures already taken by the Government to overcome shortage of building materials, the rising cost and related problems due to building boom in the country and world inflation, the Government has decided to include the much-awaited "Fluctuation Clause" in all contracts entered into effective from the third week of this month. This is

in respect of the cost of two items ONLY - - - cement and steel. Details of the implementation of this clause would be announced soon.

9. Turning to another aspect of building industry, I must say that although the quality of housing in Malaysia is generally of high standard, the environmental standards in some of the housing estates leave much to be desired. It may be true that legislation may be found wanting in the provision of good environmental standards, there is always the moral obligation on the part of the builder to ensure that the community which goes into a housing estate enjoys good environmental conditions such as open spaces, play areas and so on. There is no doubt that developers and builders try to maximise housing densities in a given area of land, so as to realise maximum profits from the

development and feel that the provision of amenities are the responsibility of Government. This is especially so in areas which fall outside local authority control where it is well known that developers often even fail to provide basic amenities such as adequate roads, sanitation, street lighting, let alone open spaces and play areas.

10. It is true that the new Street, Drainage and Building Act can provide more effective building control and better environmental standards can be assured, but builders and developers should always consider it their first duty to provide the public good homes in a decent environment. Architects being responsible professionals, can play a major role in ensuring good environmental standards for houses and housing estate in

this country. They should take upon themselves the duty of advising builders and developers of the need for good environmental standards as this would ensure the orderly development of our country. I need not stress that once a bad environment is created, it remains so for decades to come and the mistakes made can only be corrected at great expense to all concerned. It may be relevant to note that architects and the developers should be guided by the fact that a healthy and clean environment will make for a healthy and clean community and in turn will make for a healthy and happy Malaysian population.

12. The proposal by your President to establish a Construction Industry Council merits some consideration. There is already in existence a National Consultative Committee

on Housing whose objectives are to co-ordinate housing and building activities including the co-ordinated and improvement of the building industry. In fact, it is at this Consultative Council that representations were made on the shortage of building materials and the escalation of prices of houses. The action commenced by a sub-committee of this Council ultimately resulted in Government taking measures in easing the situation. I agree, perhaps in the wider interests of the construction industry, that is not limiting itself only to housing but including all other aspects of construction, the setting up of a Construction Industry Council may be timely and useful. I shall take note of this proposal for the views of the Ministeries and other agencies involved in construction and building.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

12. It is realised that there is a need for intensive study and research into the building industry, especially in the context of the present situation with building costs and labour costs going up. It would seem essential for the industry to seek new ways and means to change methods of work, upgrade labour and productivity, change steps and designs, conserve scarce materials and utilise cheaper subsidies without perhaps sacrificing standards.

13. The Ministry of Local Government and Housing and now the Ministry of Housing and New Villages, is in fact in the process of setting up a Research section or division so that all these aspects can be studied and implemented in time. One obvious area for

research is the mechanisation of the building industry in view of increasing labour costs and scarcity of skilled workers. Up till very recently traditional and conventional methods of building have proved to be efficient and cheap but in view of present upward trend of prices, new methods such as system building or pre-fabricated building or industrialised building should be considered as alternatives to conventional methods. This is not only a matter for research and study but one which the builders themselves in consultation with architects should on their own consider especially if mechanisation can reduce costs, increase productivity and reducing construction time.

14. I can only hope that in the course of time that the research division in the Ministry of Housing and New Villages, working together

with other Government agencies, universities and the public will be able to offer the fruits of research to the industries in the same way as Building Research Institutions in other countries. In fact, there is so much new building technologies development in other countries which can be transferred and adapted to suit our needs.

15. In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, once again I wish to thank you all for having us at this dinner and wish PAM success in all its ventures.

Thank you.



