

TRANSLATION

Speech by Y.B. Inche Hussein Onn, Minister of Education, at the ceremony of the official closing of the Education Expo '72 by the Prime Minister at the Stadium Negara at 3.30 pm on 12th August, 1972

Y.A.B. Tun Perdana Menteri dan Toh Puan Raha,
Y.B. Menteri2,
Tuan2 Yang Terutama,
Y.A.B. Menteri2 Besar dan Ketua2 Menteri,
Y.B. Ahli2 Dewan Raayat dan Dewan Negara,
Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri2, Puan2 Sri, Dato2 dan Datin2,
Tuan2 dan Puan2 hadhirin sekalian.

To-day is the last day of the Education Expo '72. I wish to thank the Prime Minister for the great honour of being with us this afternoon and to officially close the Expo. I also wish to thank Toh Puan Raha for kindly agreeing to give away the prizes to the winners of the various competitions.

2. The response from the public to the Expo, the Koran Reading and Interpretation Competition at the Masjid Negara, the Schools Bands Display at the Stadium Merdeka, the Secondary Schools Drama Championship at the City Hall and the Music Festival at the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, has been extremely good and gratifying. It is estimated that about 250,000 people have so far visited the Expo. We in the Ministry of Education feel that the main objective of holding the Expo, that is to say, to let our people know and see for themselves the tremendous progress we have made in education since our country's independence, has been achieved.

3. Our education system to be of benefit to the nation must keep up with the times. We must be pragmatic in our attitudes and desires as to the type of education we want to give to our children in the light of our country's urgent need for unity and

progress. There must be objective and positive thinking and planning if we are to surmount the harsh realities that confront our country. There must be full realisation of these realities by us all and a dedication and determination to meet them. Over the years, the Ministry of Education has been aware of these and steps have and will continue to be taken to meet them. Our national education policy is being implemented vigorously, the curricula of our primary, secondary, vocational and technical schools are constantly under review and brought up to-date; the courses of studies in our colleges and universities are being coordinated to meet the manpower requirements of the country; the terms and conditions of the teaching service have been greatly improved and so have the quality and quantity of our teacher training. The Ministry of Education itself and the States Education Departments, have and will continue to be reorganised and strengthened to ensure that they are capable of shouldering their responsibilities and meeting the many challenges ahead.

4. It is now my very pleasant duty to express my great appreciation and sincere thanks to all our distinguished guests who are present here with us this afternoon and to the countless number of persons and bodies, without whose support, cooperation and hard work, this Expo and the other activities connected with it would not have been possible. I would like to mention the financial contributions made by many private associations firms and companies, especially by Esso Standard Malaya Berhad which donated over \$10,000/- in sponsoring the science competition, the Sports Toto Malaysia Sendirian Berhad which donated \$10,000/- and the Malaysian Book Publishers Association which donated \$10,000/- and have participated in this Expo. To them all I wish to express my sincere thanks.

5. Lastly, I would like to record again my appreciation to the staff and students of the Technical Teachers Training College, Cheras who will have the awful task of dismantling everything within the next two days. I would also like to express again my appreciation for all the hard work which has been put in by the Specialist Teachers Training Institute.

6. I now have great pleasure in inviting the Prime Minister to declare this Expo officially closed.



No Siri	130
No Penerimaan	130/80