

SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TO MARA  
COURSE, PETALING JAYA ON 9TH OCTOBER, 1965

Happy to talk to you all today. I am told that, since yesterday you all have been having a Seminar here to discuss the organization of MARA and its plans of action.

As you know when I announced the re-organization of the old RIDA, I explained that the Government proposed to have a new Authority which would be the spear-head in the implementation of its policy to assist the rural people, in particular the Bumiputera to have a greater share in the economic and business life of the country. I also explained that this new Authority will have a new image, new name, new set-up. I decided this<sup>v</sup> Authority should be divided into various Division i.e. seven Division;

- (a) Administration
- (b) Training
- (c) Transport
- (d) Commerce and Industry
- (e) Loan Finance
- (f) Account
- (g) Technical Advisory Services.

Each Division is headed by a Director who has full powers to carry out the tasks entrusted to the Division within the general policy approved by the authority. The Chairman, is the Head of A and responsible for the implementation of policies and supervision.

This proposal of mine was approved by the Congress Economic Bumiputera and Congress gave authority the name MARA.

Since Congress I had been able to select the Heads of the various Divisions except one. These Directors were specially selected by me and they are men of whom I have confidence in carrying the tasks entrusted to them.

I have explained to the Chairman and Directors that the people i.e. the Bumiputera expects a lot from MARA. It is their duties to fulfil these expectations. As far as I am concerned and the people are concerned we need results. You all Directors and officers of MARA have to produce results. How you do it is a matter for you. No matter what you do, if you do not produce the results required you are no good to MARA and no good to the people.

That is why you have to plan your work properly. That is why you have to put new life to MARA — new approach, new attitude of mind to your work. You have to work with speed and precision.

The function of MARA is simple this — to carry out or assist or facilitate economic and social development in this country particularly in the Rural areas. You have to assist the Bumiputera to have a greater share in the business and economic life of the country. To me you can do this in three ways. I know I may be over simplifying.

- (1) To train B in business management etc. so that they can get employment in firms, factories etc — matter for Dewan Latihan.
- (2) To train Malay business enterprises so that they can carry on businesses.
- (3) To undertake business enterprises in order to help B to have a full part in the business i.e. Timber Cooperative Transport etc. (1) for Dewan Latihan. (2) for Director, for Commerce & Industry and Transport.

To do business three things:

- (a) know — how — semangat — will initiate enterprise.
- (b) capital, modal.
- (c) contact.

Either train new enterprises or assist the existing one, you can forget other things. Don't be theoretical — always practical. Accept this and conditions as they exist and try to improve them. Don't look for big things. MARA is not to help Malay Towkays - they can fare for themselves. MARA is to help the small men and to help majority of people.



Tun Abdul Razak b. Hussein sedang berucap kepada pegawai-pegawai luar MARA di Maktab Bekerjasama, Petaling Jaya pada 9 Oktober, 1965.