

SPEECH BY YAB DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH
AT THE NAMING AND LAUNCHING OF 'PERNAS ARANG'
AT NKK TSU SHIPYARD, JAPAN, ON TUESDAY
30TH. NOVEMBER, 1982, AT 11.00 A.M.

I would like to thank PERNAS and PNSL for inviting me to officiate this naming and launching ceremony of 'PERNAS ARANG'¹. May I also thank the NKK Shipyard for the gracious reception.

2. The establishment of PNSL is in line with the Malaysian Government's policy of making Malaysia a maritime nation. It is hoped that more and more Malaysian vessels will ship our exports overseas, thus contributing to savings that PNSL, I am confident, can contribute positively towards this objective.

3. The development of PNSL is closely followed by our leaders, including the Rt. Honourable Prime Minister, Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad. For this historic and auspicious occasion, the Rt. Honourable Prime Minister sends you this message which I have great pleasure in reading the full text to you:

Quote:"I congratulate PERNAS for the initiative in establishing a new wholly-owned subsidiary PERBADANAN NASIONAL SHIPPING LINE (PNSL) and the official launching of the Company today. This historic occasion is doubly remarkable as it coincides with the delivery and naming ceremony of the first newly built vessel to be owned by PNSL, the m.v. PERNAS ARANG.

This speedy manner in which PNSL has gone about its tasks is very commendable and has made a

considerable impact and raised much interests among the shipping community. The Government is happy with the progress being made and we would like to see PNSL grow into an effective organization, having a pivotal role in the overall programme to spear-head Malaysia as a leading maritime nation.

This role will be obvious in the immediate years ahead especially in regard to bulk shipments for the petroleum and petroleum related industries, in the movement of palm oil and palm products, various chemicals, cement, iron and other ores, coal and steel. PNSL has also been entrusted to undertake a passenger/ferry service designed to facilitate greater mobility within Malaysia and thereby contribute to hastening the process of national integration. There may well be other services being planned particularly v/ith the view to be in a well-placed position when the world economy recovers from its present depressed state.

In line with the Government's drive for a clean, efficient and trustworthy administration, I hope the Management will ensure a high standard of staff discipline and productivity throughout the company's operation. This is the only way to remain competitive in the shipping industry. For the Government, such an effort will assist in the expansion of Malaysia's trade and reduce the large outflow of foreign exchange. It will also contribute to achieving the aims of the New Economic Policy in the broader context of equity and through the generation of more employment opportunities requiring greater skills and expertise.

On this occasion I once again take great pleasure in wishing the Board of PNSL, its management and staff every success in this new venture." Unquote.

4. Back home in Kuala Lumpur today, PNSL is also being officially launched as a Company. Although there is no glittering ceremony being arranged for this launching of the company, I hope the spirit of this particular ceremony here will be shared by the Board of PNSL, its Management and staff in Kuala Lumpur.

5. I would like once again to express my gratitude to PERNAS, PNSL and NKK Shipyard for honouring me with the opportunity to officiate this ceremony and to read out the message from the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Thank you.
