

AMIC-Department of Information-ISKI Seminar on
Satellite Technology : the Communication
Equaliser, Solo, Nov 25-30, 1984 : [address]

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DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION - ISKI - AMIC
SEMINAR ON SATELLITE :
THE COMMUNICATION EQUALISER

NOVEMBER 25 - 30, 1984
SURAKARTA - INDONESIA

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ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL JAVA PROVINCE
ON THE OPENING CEREMONY
THE SEMINAR ON SATELLITE : COMMUNICATION EQUALISER

MONUMEN PERS NASIONAL SURAKARTA, NOVEMBER 26, 1984

Honourable Minister of Information of the Republic of Indonesia;
Honourable Chairman and Member of the Asian Mass Communication
Research and Information Centre (AMIC);
Honourable Chairman of the Indonesian Communication Association;
Honourable Participants of the Seminar.

Ass. Wr. Wb.

First of all, let us pray and thank God for His grace and
mercy; especially for allowing us to meet here in the Monumen
Pers Nasional Surakarta to attend the Opening Ceremony of the
Seminar on Satellite as a Communication Equaliser.

On this occasion, I would also like to welcome the parti-
cipants, especially the member of the AMIC who had come from many
countries to Kota Bengawan Surakarta.

It is an honour for the Province of Central Java that
Surakarta has been selected for the venue of this important
Seminar. Therefore, on behalf of the Provincial Government and
the people of the Central Java I like to convey my special gra-
titude to the Minister of Information and to the Organizing Com-
mittee for the honour and confidence in us.

We have chosen to hold this important Seminar at Monumen
Pers Nasional Surakarta, because this place is historically signi-
ficant since it is closely related to the Indonesian Independence
struggle.

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Also in this place the Indonesian Journalist Association and Newspaper Publisher Association were first established as a part of the activities in mass communication.

The present development of sophisticated communication technology, is an important progress for International information to enable us to move, and even change our civilisation.

The launching of the Satellite PALAPA as the Domestic Satellite Communication System in Indonesia in 1976, has opened a new horizon in communication and information which bear a special and important meaning for the Indonesian people. The satellite has also brought several changes in the networking for our nation building. One of the positive strategic role of the PALAPA is to overcome distances and unite the races, because geographically Indonesia stretches over a vast area, consisting of thousands of islands with their own unique characteristics.

Moreover, the presence of the satellite has made it possible to create unity and ease the process of implementing new socic-cultural values of Indonesia. It has also given us invaluable assistance to develop better our information system through the Satellite PALAPA our efforts to increase mass communication through radio, television, telephone, telex, etc. have been facilitated in order to support the government in developing the country, particularly to accelerate information and communication processes in the various territories.

Those ethnic groups that had been isolated from the rest of the world, can now directly and simultaneously be reached in no time. Thus, a balanced and an adequate two-way traffic communication can be established.

As such, the government is able to understand what the aspirations of the people are while the people has direct access to information about development, minimizing thus distortions. It also accelerate government tasks and provides support for development programmes.

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Nonetheless, it is well advised to consider other effects of the hardware and software of sophisticated communication technology, so as not to reduce its strategic role and nation building. We need to avoid that this hardware and software create men who may contradict the principles and purposes of the development efforts.

Communications with its hardware and software, in the development process in the development countries including Indonesia hold important roles particularly in raising the awareness to participate positively in the development. Without doubt, the high spirit to develop the country can be accredited partly to the information messages transmitted through by mass media.

Therefore, in the GBHN (The Guidelines of State Policy) it is stated that to succeed in the national development the mass media must enhance the people's awareness of the struggle of the nation, unity the nation, increase national responsibility and discipline, introduce the national character and culture and intensify mass participations.

We realize that the existence of super modern communication technology, such as DBS (Direct Broadcasting System), produced recently, need serious politically considerations, although the system will provide a more complete equal communication.

Central Java being ^{is} apart of the Republic of Indonesia, along with other provinces ^{is} are being encouraged to execute development programme in all sectors. The size of Central Java is 34,502.60 kilometres square, comprising of 30 Kabupatens, 5 Kotamadyas and 2 Kota Administratives, with a population of about 26.5 million.

Being ^{is} apart of the Republic of Indonesia which is based on the concept of unity in politic, economy, socio-cultural aspects and security defence, Central Java represents one of the main pillars for ~~the~~ nation building. As such Central Java has developed a development strategy which we refer to "Wawasan

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identitas" within the spirit of "Wawasan Nusantara", and national resilience doctrine. This strategy is aimed at identifying and understanding the Pancasila way of life of the people of Central Java emphasising the national spirits.

These are the main basic strategies serving as starting points to approach (physically, materially and spiritually) the many aspects of development in Central Java.

The basic principle of the strategy is to provide equal information and communication access, very much needed in development, direct the people in gaining high capabilities in absorbing information and innovation without having to neglect to ethics and traditional values deep-rooted in the societies.

More over, we cannot merely depend on the powerful modern technology without giving a direct approach, follow up as demanded our paternalistic system. Therefore, Central Java and the provinces also apply other communication mode called KELOMPEN-CAPIR (a group of listeners, readers and spectators), in incorporating modern communication techniques (mass media) with face to face communication processes. KELOMPEN-CAPIR is a manifestation of a coordinated social communication effort to institutionalise mass participation; a type of non-formal education, and a formal information base, functioning as a channel for two way traffic communication to support development programmes.

Through rural broadcasting through the mass media such as radio, television, newspapers (in this case, rural newspapers), it is hoped that the people can improve their knowledge, skill and ability in rural areas, and enable them to participate more actively as motivators so as to improve living conditions and social welfare. The rural communication programme can only be successful, if there are communication and information equality, and at the end, national development as a whole can be achieved.

Through the field trip programmes to several touristic objects in Central Java and Yogyakarta, as a part of the Seminar activities, we do hope that the participants particularly those who had come from abroad can deepen their understanding of the

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most beautiful tourism potentialities in Central Java. We also hope all of you will be pleasantly impressed by Surakarta, the city that historically reminds us of the initial establishment of Press and Journalism, and as one of the cultural centres in Java. We hope also to give you a brief description of the various aspects of our culture, people and their social lives.

We sincerely hope that the Seminar will ^eh_kighten our national and international sense of belonging, assist in developing a stronger economy, and give inputs for perfecting the national identity image for the betterment of our welfare and for the creation of a peaceful words, in this era of modern communication technology.

Last but not least, we wish you a successful and satisfying Seminar and may God bless us.

Thank you.

Wass. Wr. Wb.

The Governor of the
Central Java

I S M A I L