DEPARTMENT OF QUANTITY SURVEYING
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PERAK

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TOWARDS CONSTRUCTION LABOUR PERFORMANCE IN BUILDING PROJECTS

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ABSTRACT

In developing countries where the majority of construction work is still on a manual basis, labour efficiency is particularly important. Poor productivity of construction workers is one of the reasons why construction projects' cost and time span are overridden. Therefore, since construction is a labour intensive industry, this paper focuses on the labour performance. The aim of this study is to determine the contributing factors that affect the construction labour performance in building projects. To align with the aim, thus the objectives of this research are to identify the factors that affect construction labour performance and to suggest the solutions in improving construction labour performance in building projects. To achieve these objectives, a total of 43 respondents who are professionals from contractor's background such as Project Manager, Site Supervisor, Site Engineer, Quantity Surveyor, Architect and others were received in this survey. Using a selected 10 factors, a questionnaire survey was developed as the method to collect the data from the companies. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25.0 was used to compute the mean score for each factor. These factors were then ranked according to the mean score value. The results of the analysis revealed factors that can influence labour performance are level of skill and experience of labourers, shortage of materials, and communication problems. In addition, this research also seeks to make simple and comprehensive suggestions so that construction managers can implement them to manage construction workers effectively. It involves a meeting at the beginning of each workday to review the work and assign the right people to do the job. The overall obtained results can be used in building projects by the professionals to improve labour performance.

Keywords: Labour, Performance, Factors, Improvement

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF CONTENTS **PAGE**

DECLARATION

ABSTRACT.....i

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....ii

LIST OF CONTENTS.....iii

LIST OF FIGURES.....vi

LIST OF TABLES.....vii

CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background.....1

1.2 Research Problem.....2

1.3 Research Aim.....5

1.4 Research Objectives.....5

1.5 Research Questions.....5

1.6 Scope of Research.....6

1.7 Research Methodology.....6

1.8 Summary of Chapter.....9

CHAPTER 2 – LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction.....11

2.2 Definition of Construction Labour.....12

2.3 Contributing Factors towards Construction Labour Performance.....14

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Construction is the major and toughest industry in the world. Construction labour may be classified as local labour or foreign labour in Malaysia. It can also be a skilled or unskilled labour. Human resources therefore play a significant part in improving any organization's performance. The performance of labour is the major element in construction industry performance and the key to any organization, industry or nation's survival (Durdyev & Mbachu, 2011).

Since the construction industry is one of the most labour intensive industries, construction costs on its own contribute to 30-50 per cent to a certain construction projects (Raja Gopal & Murali, 2016). Construction labour costs therefore constitute a fairly decent aspect of the project in total. Enhancing construction labour performance should be a main concern to meet the project goals, since construction labours represent a major part of the cost of construction and the amount of the labourers' hours in carrying out a construction task is more vulnerable than materials or capital to management. Construction labours' performance plays a vital role in the timely completion and success of a construction project. Therefore, this research intends to identify the factors that would negatively affect labour performance in building projects.