

Gedung Sate (is / are) the popular name for the governor's office of West Java province. It (is / are) one of the landmark buildings of Bandung and has become an icon for the city. It was designed by Dutch architect J.Gerber. Work on the building was begun in 1920 and it was completed in 1922. This massive structure is still an imposing sight today. It (is / am) the centerpiece of a large complex of government buildings set on a public square. It (am / is) one of the most magnificent colonial buildings in all Indonesia.

Gedung Sate literally(means / meant) 'Satay Building'. The name (is/ are) a reference to the metal spike on the roof which reminded locals of a satay skewer. For anyone interested in architecture, it (is/ are) one of the most unmissable sights in Java. It was an innovative design in 1920 for a number of reasons. It was the first building in Indonesia to use reinforced concrete technology. Artistically, it was even more significant. It was one of the first buildings to combine Indonesian and European styles of architecture to create the 'Indo-Deutsch' style. It has a tiered, wooden roof, like a Javanese mosque. The main motif on the front of the building is a stylised Javanese temple. The extensive use of dark timber for the roofing is a conscious reference to local architectural styles. Yet the brilliant white of the main structure with its bold arches mark it out as very much a Dutch building. Gedung Sate (is/ are) impressive in both its huge scale and also in its attention to small details. The window niches and the wooden eaves both feature beautiful and intricate decoration. Any lover of architecture should not miss this building.