

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY, PENANG

3 RD SITTING OF THE
THIRD SESSION THURSDAY
14 TH DECEMBER, 1961

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14TH DECEMBER, 1961

The Assembly resumes at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:

The Hon'ble Mr. Speaker (Tuan Haji Sulaiman bin Haji Ahmad, P.J.K.)
 " the Chief Minister (Dato Wong Pow Nee, P.M.N.)
 " the Legal Adviser (Enche Wan Suleiman bin Pawan Teh)
 " the Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik, A.M.N.)
 " the Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin)
 " the Member for Butterworth (Dr. M. P. L. Yegappan, J.P.)
 " the Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche C. D. Ismail, A.M.N.)
 " the Member for Tasek Glugor (Enche Hashim bin Awang, J.P.)
 " the Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim, J.P.)
 " the Member for Kapala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah, A.M.N.)
 " the Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff)
 " the Member for Nibong Tebal (Tuan Haji Sahid bin Hassan)
 " the Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang)
 " the Member for Tanjong Tengah (Mr. Wong Choong Woh)
 " the Member for Tanjong Utara (Mr. Yuen Fook Cheong)
 " the Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Tan Chong Bee)
 " the Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan, J.P.)
 " the Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. C. Y. Choy)
 " the Member for Kelawei (Mr. Tan Khim Hoe)
 " the Member for Ayer Itam (Mr. Chor Sin Kheng, J.P.)
 " the Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew)
 " the Member for Balik Pulau (Tuan Haji Mohamed Hassan bin Haji Kassim)
 " the Member for Bayan Lepas (Tuan Haji Rifaie bin Haji Salleh)
 " the Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik)

ABSENT :

The Hon'ble the Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim, J.P.)

Mr. Speaker: Ahli2 Yang Berhormat, kita sekarang berada di-dalam Chadangan B.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable the Chief Minister, in moving his Motion seeking approval of this Assembly to expend the sums of \$16,255,165 and \$650,000 shown in columns (6) and (7) of the Development Estimates, 1962, tabled as Legislative Assembly, Penang, Paper No. 17 of 1961, gave a lengthy explanation as to why Government is spending so much money for its rural development programme. He said that the State Government is in a healthy financial position, and is able to continue with its development schemes.

If I start accusing the Government of a 'cooked-up' account, I would be called 'irresponsible' by the Chief Minister again; hence I am going to refrain from using this word. But I would certainly like some clarification from the Chief Minister regarding these figures. In the Third Supplementary Development Estimates, 1961, tabled as Legislative Assembly, Penang, Paper No. 16 of 1961, approved by the Assembly at yesterday's meeting, it is shown that the State Government has an actual balance on 1.1.1961 of \$7,875,521 in the State Development Fund. Contributions from Revenue through the Penang State Supply Bill, 1961 is \$3,848,610, and on the Penang State First Supplementary Supply Enactment, 1961, is \$1,535,854, thereby giving an estimated income totalling \$18,259,985. Out of this estimated income for 1961, the total estimated expenditure through approval of Development Estimates, 1961, Revotes of unspent balances of 1960, and the three approved Supplementary Estimates for 1961 is \$18,081,442. The estimated balance of the State Development Fund as at

31.12.61 — if all the estimated expenditure is incurred — will be \$178,543. Yet in Legislative Assembly, Penang, Paper No. 17 of 1961, which is the draft Development Estimates for 1962, the State Government shows an estimated balance on 1.1.1962 of \$6,130,378. It is difficult to comprehend the big difference of \$5,951,838 between \$178,543 on 31.12.61 and \$6,130,378 on 1.1.1962 — the closing balance and the opening balance.

I am not going to say that I do not know how this big difference comes about because, as I have always explained at past budget meeting, Government has failed to carry on its projects planned for the year. If the difference is just a few thousand dollars we may assume that it is difficult to estimate correctly. But when we find that \$5,951,838 has to be rovoted for 1962 out of a development expenditure of \$18,081,442, thereby showing that in actual fact only \$12,088,630 was spent in development schemes for 1961 then we have a clearer picture of rural development carried out by the State Government. The State Government has failed to implement one-third of its development schemes for 1961. When this is taken into account, the real provision of development expenditure for 1962 is \$16,905,165 less \$5,951,838, which is \$10,953,327. This is not a record figure as the Chief Minister would like to paint. And of this it is common knowledge, following past experience, that less than 80% of the development will be carried out during the year. This, then, is the true picture of rural development in the State of Penang, and not, as the Chief Minister said, over \$16 million.

I hope that the Chief Minister will take note of my criticism, and in the preparation of Development Estimates for 1963 he would state, in detail, what sums

of money are revotes from previous years. This will give the Assembly a clearer picture, and less chance of juggling figures.

I am happy to hear that in the rural development five-year plan the State Government intends to build roads in the rural areas, and extend water and electricity supplies to them. However, I hope that in building new roads in the rural areas the State Government will build new roads to where there are people, and not just to open up land for profits of big land-owners. It is a common complaint by the rural folks that such is the case. I shall be pleased to have the Chief Minister's clarification.

Turning to electricity, I have visited places in the rural districts where within a hundred yards there are the 'haves' and 'have-nots' of electricity supply. I hope there is no discrimination because of political beliefs, and that the State Government will see to it that every householder has his electricity supply. This is also true in so far as water supply in the rural areas is concerned.

For the fishermen at Telok Kumbar the State Government has undertaken the building of a long jetty costing about \$200,000. I hope fishermen in other places like Pulau Betong, Pantai Acheh, Kuala Sungei Pinang, where the silting of the rivers is causing them hardships, are not ignored by the State Government. They are not asking for any grandiose jetty. Just help them in the desilting to make the rivers navigable, and thereby remove their hardship. This can be the short-term policy of the Government, while jetties can be the long-term policy of the State Government. Even the fishermen at Kuala Jalan Bahru, Telok Bahang, Tan-

jong Bungah and Tanjong Tokong require assistance. Therefore I appeal to the State Government to take such measures which are likely to raise the standard of living of these fishermen. This is the challenge to a democratic country — not the glamour schemes of multi-storied Government offices.

Provision was made last year for equipment of a fire station at Balik Pulau. This was not spent. This year we again see such provision. I hope that the State Government will not shirk its responsibility of equipping the Penang Island Rural District Council with an adequate fire service.

I would like to conclude by reminding the Chief Minister that he always talks of a realistic this and a realistic that. I hope his realism is not covered by half-truths, as I have pointed earlier in my speech. I also hope that my suggestions will be accepted by him, and that in 1963 Development Estimates we shall have a clear statement of what we have and how we want to spend. The State Development Fund Estimates for 1962 show we have no balance, and that the excess amount to be spent is appropriated by a Supply Enactment. Let us not see a lot of capital projects undone again by the end of next year, thereby giving the State Government a big balance in the State Development Fund.

Thank you.

The Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the saying that the grapes are sour applies here.

The rural development which the Penang State Government is doing is a big project. Therefore if there are any revotes I am

sure the Honourable Member for Jelutong will have some thought that all money could not be spent in a day.

Now I shall try to explain the expenditure provisions under Heads 107 and 108. I shall first deal with the heaviest expenditure, that is under the Public Works Department. It is envisaged that this Department will expend a total of \$10,180,059 during 1962. During 1961 a heavy construction programme was carried out, and in addition planning, surveys and land acquisition were also carried out in order to fulfil the commitments of a bigger construction programme in 1962. It may be of interest to note that the P.W.D. completed surveys for the acquisition of land in respect of 170 miles of road this year. A lot of the constructional work is now under way, and the tangible results of our development programme will become more and more evident in 1962.

I will now touch on the important Subheads to make clear for the Member for Jelutong the importance of them.

The provision of \$826,486 under Head 107/7 is the balance to complete the New Government Offices. It is expected that the building will be ready for occupation before the middle of 1962. Now, the completion of this building will fulfil a long-felt need both from the public point of view and that of the Administration. Wherever possible Government Departments should be centrally located so as to cause the minimum inconvenience to the public. This building will enhance the skyline and indeed give our City a new look.

I touched now on Head 107/19 — Penang Hill Road: Survey of the Penang Hill Road and preli-

minary works connected with the survey have been completed. Government has now decided on the line of the road up the Hill, and it is proposed to acquire all the land necessary for this road. Gazette Notifications to acquire land will be published very soon. The actual construction of the road may not begin some time yet. As said earlier by the Honourable the Chief Minister, the construction of this road must give way in the order of priority to rural roads and other development of more immediate importance.

Now, touching on Head 107/25 — Housing: The cost of the whole scheme has been reduced because in future loans to local authorities for housing, other than legally defined low-cost housing for which provision is entered at Head 101, Subhead 11, will be financed from Head 101, Subhead 24 — Housing Scheme. The provision under Subhead 25 is therefore only for Government housing, that is for the construction of new Government quarters, etc.

Head 107/26 — State Roads: The provision of \$3,299,663 is for the construction and improvement of State roads. The cost and financial provision for 1962 cover:

- (1) Schemes intended to be carried out with State funds;
- (2) Schemes originally intended to be carried out with State funds which the Federal Government has subsequently agreed to take over on reimbursement basis;
- (3) Schemes planned to be carried out with Federal funds in the first instance.

These are only included after specific agreement of the Federal Government has been obtained. In short, State roads is a joint

Federal and State programme. The total cost of (2) and (3) is \$4,614,000. The instalment for 1962 by the Federal Government is \$1,500,000. I can assure the Honourable Member for Jelutong that roads constructed to any rural areas are not for the benefit of the capitalists.

Coming to Head 107/28 — Reconstruction of landing stages at Bagan Dalam and Prai. The landing stage at Bagan Dalam has been completed. The provision for 1962 is for the reconstruction of a landing stage at Prai. It will be recalled that at the last Legislative Assembly meeting held on 11th October, 1961, approval was given for the construction of this landing stage under section 4 (a) of the Foreshores Ordinance. As it is not possible to carry out the work in 1961 it is necessary to make provision in the 1962 Estimates. Tenders have been called and work will begin early next year.

Head 107/31 — Additions and Improvements to Labourers' Lines: Unfortunately there are sub-standard labourers' lines still in existence in the State, and a programme of work is being carried out to provide labourers with adequate housing in keeping with modern standards. Construction of new labourers' quarters for Bukit Tengah P.W.D. Workshop is envisaged in next years' programme, besides making additions and improvements to labourers' quarters controlled by District Offices, Agriculture, Gardens and Public Works Department. 18 sub-standard units at Sungei Pinang were demolished and were replaced by 18 new units of modern design at Trengganu Road. The balance of 1961 provision is being expended on the construction of 4 Class 'H' quarters at Bukit Panchor Filtration Plant, and 8 Class 'H' quarters at Penanti

Quarry. The original provision of \$660,000 has been revised upwards to \$1,000,000 in order to provide the lower paid officers of Government with adequate housing in keeping with modern standards.

Under Head 107/32 — Street Lights, I am to point out that the City Council has the powers to provide lighting in streets and other places within City limits under Section 65 of the Electricity Ordinance, 1959, which Ordinance has been extended to the City Council. In fact this Subhead entered in 1961 would not have been necessary if the City Council had installed street lights in the roads which were lit by the State Government — these roads such as Sepoy Lines Road and Tull Road. Although they may not come within the meaning of public streets as defined under the Municipal Ordinance, I feel that the right given by law to the City Council to light streets or such other areas as it deems fit for lighting is not properly exercised if the City Council restricts such rights to streets and land owned by the City Council only, since it is clearly the intention of the legislature that the City Council should exercise these rights for the benefit of those people who use roads within the City limits. Further, in having lit certain private streets the City Council recognizes its rights and duty to provide lighting at public expense, though it is obvious that the claim of a public thoroughfare to be lighted should have a greater priority than that of private streets even though the thoroughfare is not controlled by the City Council. The underlying principle of this duty of the City Council is that the inhabitants of the City have the right to have streets commonly used by them to be lighted by the authority responsible for the provision of such lighting.

Last year, the Hon'ble Members for Jelutong and Sungei Pinang pointed out that it would be ultra vires the Municipal Ordinance to light streets, such as Sepoy Line Road and Tull Road, because they were regarded as private properties. The Hon'ble Member for Sungei Pinang in fact said that it is not that the City Council will not light the streets but they cannot light the streets. It is perhaps because they did not realise that the Electricity Ordinance applies to the City Council. The State Government has lighted some of the streets, but it is hoped that in future the City Council will light such streets.

Now touching on Head 107/36 — Improvements and Modifications to State Government Buildings. When the State Government departments move into the New Government Offices Building the building which they vacate will have to be repaired, adapted and modified for other uses, for example, when the P.W.D. moves into the New Government Offices Building the present building will be renovated and modified for use as a Youth and Civics Centre, George Town. I would also like to take the opportunity to mention that the Old Magistrate's Court building and the former Hutchings School have been very kindly handed over by the Federal Government to the State Government. It is proposed to convert the Old Magistrate's Court building into the new Legislative Assembly Chamber. I am sure Hon'ble Members in this Assembly will appreciate that the present Legislative Assembly Chamber is rather inadequate. The former Hutchings School will be converted into a Museum and Art Gallery for the State of Penang. The conversion of the Hutchings School will provide a much needed cultural amenity for the people of George Town and the State. All plans for

work under this provision will be subject to further consideration at the appropriate time.

Head 107/37 — Workshop Improvements: To facilitate the Rural Development Programme it has been found essential to expand the workshop in Province Wellesley to cope with the increased plant and equipment required for the development programme. The workshop in Bukit Mertajam is being shifted to Bukit Tengah. This scheme which will involve the demolition of the workshop at Bukit Mertajam, will improve this town. The Federal Government is providing funds to the extent of \$80,000 for the erection of new buildings at Bukit Tengah and a further \$60,000 is being provided by the Federal Government for new equipment. The State Government is providing \$50,000 in 1962 to move the existing good buildings in the Bukit Mertajam workshop area to Bukit Tengah. It is also to be mentioned that most of the sub-standard labourers' lines in the Bukit Mertajam workshop area will be demolished and in their places 13 new artisans' quarters will be built at the Bukit Tengah workshop site by the Federal Government.

I will now briefly explain sub-heads under Head 105 — Government Toddy Shops. As for Head 105/6 — Bicycle Sheds for Toddy Shops, provision has been entered to provide bicycle sheds for toddy shops, as well as to provide more amenities for customers attending toddy shops. It is proposed to build bicycle sheds in the compounds of the toddy shops in Penang Island, Kampong Bahru, Jelutong Road, Cantonment Road, Telok Bahang, Balik Pulau, and in Province Wellesley as follows: Butterworth, Kepala Batas, Bukit Mertajam, Prai, Bukit Tengah, Simpang Ampat, Sungei Bakap and Nibong Tebal. It is proposed to have sheds

for 40 bicycles at the larger shops and sheds for 20 bicycles at a smaller one. These sheds have been requested by the customers of several shops and it is considered that this reasonable request should be acceded to. The sheds will protect bicycles and leave the shops and compounds free for use by the customers.

The programme of work planned for 1962 is indeed a heavy one but with the modest increase in technical staff and the devotion of our staff to the work assigned to them we are able to look forward confidently to the materialisation of our programme, and if the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong has any doubt of such programme I can assure you, if he will make a tour of the Island and the Mainland, by next year he will be more convinced to accept that our development estimates are realistic indeed.

The Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, notwithstanding what was said about the multi-storey building and the 'Ugly American', I still say that the new State Building is an imposing structure and a beautiful landmark to our Island. I only hope that Butterworth, Bukit Mertajam, Nibong Tebal and Balik Pulau in time to come will have such imposing buildings, not so big but imposing, so that the people will enjoy the benefits of the centralisation of the Government Departments. I also hope that in time to come Ayer Itam, which will be a big town, will also have a R.D.C. Building and also dependent departments.

Thank you.

The Member for Butterworth (Dr. M. P. L. Yegappan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I like to explain the subheads under Heads 109 and 112.

As regards subhead 2 under Head 109 — Improvement of new

livestock, like pigs, the provision is to finance the scheme to improve pigs and infuse them with the hybrid breeders. Over the years, local pigs have been over imbred and have been degenerating. Under this scheme good breeds of pigs from overseas are purchased for crossing with local pigs. The results during the year have been most encouraging.

Under Head 109/3 — Improvement of Livestock (Cattle and Goats), the scheme is to increase the livestock population in the State, especially in the kampongs. Female animals are purchased and loaned to the kampong folks under the 'bagi pawah' system. The female animal remains the property of the State until a female progeny is returned to the State in payment. The progeny returned is then loaned out again to another person and so on with this being carried out as planned.

Head 109/4 — Improvement of Livestock (Poultry): This scheme is to improve the quality of the kampong fowls so that our rural folk will obtain better returns for their time and labour expended on poultry rearing. Cockerels of imported breeds, for example, Rhoades Island Reds and Hampshire will be made available to poultry rearers in exchange for the local breeds. The scheme will gradually improve the quality and size of not only the local birds but also the eggs. The scheme is proceeding according to schedule.

Head 109/5 — Travelling Dispensary Van: Under this scheme, a van has been purchased. It is now bringing much veterinary aid and advice to the rural areas.

Head 109/6 — Pig Rearing and Multiplication Centre: This scheme is not unlike that being carried out with the funds in

Head 109/2, but with the difference that all expenditures from this vote is reimbursable by the Federal Government. The scheme is complementary to the one at Subhead 2, resulting in an acceleration in the process of improving the quality of our pigs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, now Head 112 — Fire Brigade. Under the Municipal Ordinance the provision and maintenance of a Fire Service is a local government responsibility, but under this Head we are providing the funds for the purchase of equipment as well as building of fire stations in various parts of our State. The explanation for this is that though all of our local authorities are paying for the maintenance of fire services in their areas, none of them, with the exception of the City Council, is in a financial position to incur heavy expenditure on buildings and equipment. It is for this reason that the State Government is providing the capital expenditure we see under Head 112, which could be described as an ex-gratia subsidy towards the provision of fire services in the rural areas.

There is a provision of \$111,000 against Subhead 1 to assist the Rural District Council, Penang Island, to establish a Fire Station in Balik Pulau.

With regard to Subhead 2 — Fire Station and Equipment, Kepala Batas, this Fire Station will serve the area which was formerly the Rural District Council North, Province Wellesley, which measures about 84 square miles and has a population of about 65,000. At present fire services are provided from Butterworth, a distance of about 10 miles from Kepala Batas. Villages on the Kedah/Province Wellesley boundary are about 16 miles from Butterworth. The fast-developing rural area

demands the provision of a Fire Station at Kepala Batas to cover the whole rural area, extending from Kuala Muda, Pinang Tunggal, Tassek Glugor and Bagan Ajam. Land is being acquired for the Fire Station. The estimated cost of the project has been increased because the cost of the fire engine to be purchased has been ascertained to be higher than at first estimated.

Coming to Subhead 3 — Firemen's Quarters, Butterworth, owing to shortage of quarters, four firemen are living out of barracks. To maintain maximum efficiency all fire personnel must reside within the Station compound. Work on construction of these quarters has started.

Subhead 4 — Garage for Fire Station, Butterworth, is already completed.

There has been some delay in carrying out the work provided for in Subhead 5 because the site originally chosen for the Fire Station and quarters in Nibong Tebal has had to be abandoned for various reasons. The District Officer is presently looking for an alternative site which will meet with the approval of the local authority and the State Government.

No part of the expenditure from provisions under this Head of the Development Estimates will be recovered from the local authority.

When all the development projects are completed the State will be covered by efficient and adequate fire services.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I resume my seat, I would like to point out to the Honourable Members certain things which if I do not do I will be failing in

my duty. The provisions for establishing of the Fire Station at Kepala Batas as well as at Balik Pulau have been shown in the Development Estimates, and copies of these have been supplied to all the Honourable Members of this House. Kepala Batas was under Rural District Council North previously. Of course now it has come under one Council administration known as Province Wellesley North District Council. No doubt Kepala Batas practically and literally, as a rural area is in the District Council area at the moment; yet the Station when provided will serve the areas.

Yesterday when I spoke I mentioned that there is already provision for a Fire Station at Balik Pulau; and also the fire service in the State is quite adequate. With all these things, there has been a barrage of questions asking whether there have been provisions for fire services in rural areas. I am not just making an attack to bring any discredit to the honourable Opposition side, but only pointing out to them the fact that it is an undeniable fact in which a question has been asked for the sake of asking. It is not, as I said in the first instance, bringing any discredit, but only a gentle coax from the so-called sleeping beauty to the ambitious heroes just to open their eyes from their roaring slumber.

The Member for Tassek Glugor (Enche Hashim bin Awang): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun untuk menegur sedikit sebanyak di-atas perkhakapan daripada Yang Berhormat Ahli Jelutong yang telah dengan panjang lebar-nya mengatakan adalah dia sangat tidak puas hati atas perkara2 berkenaan ayer, tali ayer, jalan2 dan sebagai-nya yang telah ber-

laku oleh Kerajaan Pulau Pinang pada ketika ini tetapi di-dalam ucapan-nya dia chuma menyentoh kawasan2 di-dalam Pulau Pinang sahaja tetapi di-dalam kawasan Seberang Perai dalam agak saya dia ta'tahu langsung. Maka saya sebagai saorang daripada Seberang Perai suka menyatakan di-sini adalah kami di-Seberang Perai sangat-lah puas hati di-atas perkara2 seperti mana jalan, ayer, lektrik dan sebagai-nya yang telah di-buat dan telah di-selenggarakan oleh Kerajaan pada ketika ini.

Dan lagi dia ada menyebutkan ia-itu di-atas perkara jalan. Dia kata adalah jalan yang di-buat di-tanah itu sangat2 besar, yang tidak di-kenendaki oleh penduduk2 di-sana. Saya bertanya kepada Ahli Jelutong adakah di-kehendaki oleh Ahli itu jalan2 yang kecil, jalan yang bechak, bagi orang di-luar bandar seperti orang di-dalam Seberang Perai sana. Saya ingat itu sangat ta-patut, kerana jika-lau orang2 bandar boleh mengadkan jalan yang elok, maka kami juga menentut supaya jalan2 yang baik, jalan seperti mana yang ada sekarang ini yang ranchangan luar bandar di-selenggarakan itu, itu-lah sehabis2 elok, jalan yang patut di-bagikan kepada ahli2 peladang yang mana boleh membawakan hasil dari-nada kampung2 mereka itu dengan senang. Saya suka bagi tahu sedikit sebanyak kepada Ahli Kawasan Jelutong yang mengatakan adalah jalan2 ini di-bena untuk capitalists atau orang2 yang ada wang. Barangkali boleh jadi jalan yang di-sebutkan itu adalah jalan2 di-dalam Pulau Pinang tetapi di-dalam Seberang Perai saya suka bagi tahu kepada Ahli Jelutong adalah kami di-sana tidak ada capitalists. Kesemua-nya kami adalah orang peladang dan orang miskin yang ber-kehendaki sangat2 kepada

jalan sebagai itu, bukan jalan2 bechak seperti mana sepuluh tahun dahulu.

Dan lagi di-atas perkara bekalan lektrik, saya suka bagi tahu kepada Ahli Jelutong kampung yang terpenchil, saya mengatakan di-sini kampung saya sendiri, Tassek Gelugor, tidak ada satu cable daripada Butterworth yang boleh menyampaikan di-sana tetapi oleh sebab ada-nya cable itu pergi kepada Bukit Toh Allang dan dari Bukit Toh Allang ka-Tassek Gelugor ada satu jalan sahaja yang boleh membawa cable itu dengan memakai jalan kereta api, maka kami chari jalan supaya cable daripada filtration plant atau daripada kolam ayer itu membawa melalui jalan kereta api, kerana Kerajaan Pulau Pinang telah berikhtiar bersung-goh2 hendak membawa cable itu. Sunggoh pun tidak ada tempat? atau jalan yang lebih murah tetapi kami rasa jalan kereta api itu-lah satu jalan yang boleh membawa cable sebagai itu dan kami buat peruntukan sebagai itu untuk membawakan juga kepada kampung yang tidak akan merasai bekalan lektrik kalau tidak ada dengan bersung-goh2 di-kehendaki lektrik pada kampung itu.

Di-atas hal ayer pula. Tuan Speaker, saya suka bagi tahu kepada Ahli Jelutong.....[Interrupted].

Mr. Speaker: Saya suka menarek perhatian tuan bukan Ahli Jelutong sahaja yang berchakap tadi berkenaan dengan ayer dan jalan. Jadi jikalau tuan hendak menyemak perkara itu, menemak kepada orang lain sama, bukan kepada Ahli Jelutong sahaja.

The Member for Tassek Glugor (Enche Hashim bin Awang): Dia ada berchakap [Interrupted].

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, minta maaf. Saya faham daripada ucapan daripada Ahli Jelutong itu dia ada berkata atas lektrik harap Kerajaan janganlah ambil pandangan atas politik sahaja. Kalau begitu, jawapan Yang Berhormat Ahli daripada Tassek Gelugor, keterangan yang di-beri kepada Majlis ini, saya perchaya bukan bersangkutan dengan politik sebab kawasan Tassek Gelugor itu.....[Interrupted].

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker — is it correct for anyone to stand up to clarify somebody else, or argue with the Speaker on this matter?

Chief Minister: I did not stand up to argue with the Speaker but to clarify the point when Mr. Speaker mentioned that there was no mention about electricity. I would point out that there is mention of electricity because the Member for Jelutong expects the Government to carry out this project with no bearing on political issue and, as such, the Member for Tassek Glugor is trying to explain that, being the member of a political party in Tassek Glugor where there is no electricity, the installation should be made by resolution of the citizens there. It is not based on political issue.

The Member for Tassek Glugor (Enche Hashim bin Awang): Terima kasih, Tuan Pengerusi. Saya suka menyebutkan juga di-atas hal ehwal ayer yang mana di-sebutkan ia-itu ada tempat2 kata-nya yang ada persungutan tidak puas hati di-atas ayer. Tentu-lah ada begitu: kita ta'kan membawa ayer kepada cherok2 yang sehabis2 jauh tetapi saya suka bagi tahu seperti Kampong Padang Chembedak tidak kurang sa-batu masuk di-dalam kampung mengikut satu jalan yang bechak, satu jalan

yang kechil, dan juga Kampong Permatang Kuang yang mana kena bawa lebeh kurang satu batu paip ayer di-dalam bendang. Jadi yang Ahli Jelutong mengatakan adalah saya ta'puas hati adalah ayer itu adalah tempat2 yang orang bersungut kata ta'puas hati jadi tentulah ada tempat bagitu tetapi ada juga tempat yang mana barangkali harus ta' dapat ayer langsung tetapi pada ketika ini Kerajaan telah berusaha bersungoh2 kerana hendak bagikan ayer itu kepada orang2 sebagai itu.

Lagi atas jalan2 tadi, Yang Berhormat Ahli Jelutong mengatakan tidak di-kehendaki jalan yang besar kerana harus dia kata kalau jalan itu adalah untuk faedah kepada orang2 yang ada wang, capitalists, tetapi di-dalam Seberang Perai, utama sekali sebelah Utara Seberang Perai, jalan2 yang ada pada ketika ini telah menjadi satu untong besar kepada penanam2 padi kerana dengan jalan itu beberapa ribu ringgit telah dapat keuntungan sebab boleh membawakan padi2 itu dengan perbelanjaan yang murah, boleh membawa dengan jalan lorri dan sebagainya. Jadi di-sini-lah saya suka bagi faham kepada Ahli2 Yang Berhormat di-dalam Rumah ini yang barangkali dapat keliruan mengatakan Kerajaan Pulau Pinang ta'buat apa2 di-atas perkara ini hanya untuk hendak bagi propaganda di-dalam politik. Itu sangat2 silap: kita tidak ambil perkara yang sebegini bahkan adalah kita hendak bagi perelok ta'peduli atas politik atau pun sebagai-nya tetapi kepada kema'amoran negeri kita dan kepada kebajikan'am. Sekalian penduduk2 negeri ini ta'peduli mana2 party sekali pun.

Sekian-lah.

The Member for Kapala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua,

saya dari kelmarin lagi, hingga pukul lima, tidak berchakap. Chuma saya memperhatikan dan saya dengar chakapan2, tegoran2 — ini ta'chukup, itu ta'chukup; ini ta'puas, itu ta'puas — ialah chakapan2 itu di-sampai-kan sahaja kalau main umum sahaja tak boleh saya rasa di-dalam Seberang Perai Utara kami sendiri tidak ada sungutan apa2 bahkan setengah2 menolak pula apa2 yang kami buat. Jadi kalau macham itu mana boleh tetapi ada di-dalam Majlis ini mengatakan sungutan2 agak-nya mereka mendengar dari jauh sahaja. Saya tidak mendengar ini semua.

Ini sahaja, saya ta'berchakap banyak.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make comments on certain sections of the Development Estimates, as well as refer to the comments made by the Honourable the Chief Minister and some of the other speakers from the Government benches.

The Chief Minister made a very elaborate and detailed speech in presenting his budget, but of course we all know that figures can be made to do anything that we want them to appear to do. But by and large I gain the impression that the Chief Minister has benefitted from the remarks made by the Opposition in former debates on the budget, because I notice that he even referred to a word we used in describing a former budget, as 'pedestrian'; and I think in this budget the Government has certainly shown some imagination, and on that score they are to be complimented. Also, another general impression which we have gained is, though I am not quite sure about it because I do not know all the details of development in rural areas but the general im-

pression we have gained is, that much more work is being done in the rural projects, and that is something all to the good.

I am not well versed in the explanation of figures but my colleague from Jelutong has raised the question: of a deficit budget; he has great experience in these matters as probably Honourable Members will remember he was formerly connected with the Audit Department. (Laughter). He has said that we are, in fact, having a deficit and I am very interested to hear the reply from the Chief Minister on that point; but, by and large, I can say this is about the best Budget that Government has presented so far. (Applause.) But I would however request the members on the other side not to be premature with their applause. There are certain points upon which I may criticise them.

I refer to Head 105. Government Toddy Shops. This is a question about which I have spoken before. Now, I am not satisfied that sufficient amenities are being provided for the users of these places when we consider the fact that yesterday we passed the Estimates of Revenue, and for the year 1962 the estimated income from toddy shops is \$1,359,000 and, as far as I can see, the only amenity now we are providing for them in 1962 is: bicycle sheds. Perhaps a little more imagination in this respect would be welcome: make the place attractive. I am not one of those who say all toddy drinking is bad because it has been established that, probably with the very poor food consumed by the average toddy drinker, he gets his supply of Vitamin B from the toddy. (Laughter.) How far that is true I do not know but that is the general version. But what I do say is this: Since we have got the largest item of income

for the State Government from this source, we ought to do much more to make these places as pleasant and attractive as possible. Make them as good as coffee shops, and I should say all reasonable people will agree. That, I think, will be a fair return for the fair income we derive from these people.

Going on to Head 107 — Penang Hill Road, I will speak later on that; but I notice that the revised estimates for 1962 is \$1,000,000. I remember last year we provided \$500,000 and at the end of the year we had spent exactly \$12,000, which represents a little less than 2½%. Now in 1962 I notice we are providing \$1,000,000. I suppose from logic, which sometimes I see in Government benches, I suppose at the end of next year we will spend \$6,000 (six thousand dollars). Anyway, that is a matter upon which I shall touch later.

I was interested to note that under Head 107, item 31, that the Estimates provided for better housing for labourers: this is indeed most welcome because many of the pre-war labourers' quarters are really very, very poor in the standards that they maintained and it is indeed high time that these are improved.

Continuing with Head 107, on item 32, Street Lights, I must point out that there seems to have been an attempt to misinterpret the Municipal Ordinance. An attempt was made by the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Bakap to make it appear as if the City Council had been lacking in its duties and responsibilities in not providing street lights for places like Tull Road and certain other areas like Sepoy Lines Road. Now this is a matter of which I have some knowledge, having had to deal with it at administrative

level at that time, and the point was made very clear to us from our legal advisers that the City Council had no right to put lights on such streets which were private streets and, that being so, it would have been highly improper for the City Council to have gone to put street lights in streets which had not been declared 'public streets'. I therefore submit, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that the action of the City Council in not providing street lights in that area was entirely proper, legal, and within the framework of the Municipal Ordinance. If, however, the State Government feels that all streets, private and public, should be lighted, then it is up to the State Government to give the Municipality the power to do so because, otherwise, I know that, if the Municipality exceeds even one little bit of the Ordinance the power given to it under the Ordinance, then I am sure the State Government will clamp down on it; and that is why I submit that it is quite unfair on the part of the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Bakap even to insinuate that the City Council has not been doing its duty.

The Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know if he is speaking as a City Councillor [Interrupted].

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a reference was made in the Assembly to the City Council and I now speak as an Assemblyman to refute this wrong statement. I am sure all members in this Assembly are interested in the truth and, therefore, to see that whatever we say here is the truth. That is why I make this clarification.

The Member for Butterworth (Dr. M. P. L. Yegappan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Member

referred to the legal advisers as "our advisers". May I know if the State Legal Adviser was consulted?

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): I withdraw the word "our" and substitute the words "the City Council's legal advisers", and I thank the Hon'ble Member for Butterworth for drawing my attention to it. If I may be permitted to go on I make this refutation because I felt that a wrong charge was being levelled at the City Council.

Under the same Head 107, item 36, I notice that at long last Penang is going to have a museum and art gallery. This, again, is very welcome because some years ago, when I was first standing as a candidate for election, I mentioned that it was very desirable to have an art gallery and museum; and everybody on the opposite side shouted contemptuously, "Oh, culture for the masses," and tried to laugh the idea off. Now I notice that the Government has come to the point where they are willing to see that a museum and an art gallery is established so that we can have some culture for the general public.

Under Head 109, it was interesting to note that hybrids are being introduced to produce vigour in our livestock. But why vigour? That is the phrase used. I only hope that the learned and medical Member who introduced this will also take note that at present with all this radiation fall-out mutations are likely to occur, and we may have pigs with five legs!

I refer now to Head 110 where there is a section 'State Planning and Development'. What this is precisely we do not know. And in any case, if it is supposed to do the work which I presume it has been intended to do, the sum of \$15,000 for the entire

State Planning and Development does not seem adequate. Perhaps the Honourable the Chief Minister will give us some explanation.

I refer now to Head 112 — Fire Brigade. It is certainly good that Balik Pulau is at long last going to have its own Fire Station. But here again I must make another reference to the speech of the Honourable Member for Butterworth. The fire services in the rural areas are certainly not the responsibility of the City Council.

And the Honourable Member also said that Government was making an ex-gratia payment. But if I am correct the City Council has been for a long time bearing the burden of supplying the fire services for the rural areas, for which they got a return but the return was entirely inadequate. The services cost somewhere in the region of \$70,000 or \$80,000 — I speak merely from memory — and the return they got was I think \$20,000. I make these remarks subject to correction. But anyway the City Council has been bearing the burden of supplying fire services for the rural areas; and at one time the City Council considered seriously withdrawing the services, but it was decided that as a responsible body it cannot very well do that till the State Government awoke to its sense of responsibility and provided the fire services. Anyway it is good now that at long last this is being done.

In the same connection, I cannot understand the reference made by the Honourable Member for Butterworth to sleeping beauty and questions, and so forth, because the questions about the fire services were asked by the Opposition in connection with the discussion on Estimates of Revenue and Ordinary Expenditure. It was when we were discussing

them that these questions were asked. It is useless to tell us that the answer is provided in the Development Estimates because if we had referred to the Development Estimates at that time you, Mr. Speaker, would have been the first to rule us out of order because that was not the item under discussion. Therefore for him now to say that we were wrong to ask these questions is I think completely wrong.

I will finally conclude by saying that, in reference to the Honourable Senator who talked of Government buildings for Ayer Itam and other places, there is certainly no reason why there should not be centralized Government buildings. And if we [Interrupted].

The Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Senator has been referred to. Is it not that he is referring to the Honourable Member for Tanjong Bungah?

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I withdraw the reference and say, 'the Honourable Member for Tanjong Bungah.'

I say that the more centralized Government buildings we have the better. The question of glamour does not come into it except perhaps in the fittings. And even there I suppose the best of fittings often turn out in the long run to be the cheapest. Therefore I say that we agree with the Senator — I am sorry; the Member for Tanjong Bungah — that it is desirable to have centralized and respectable edifices as our Government Offices where people could go and do all their Government business in comfort and speed.

Thank you.

The Member for Butterworth (Dr. M. P. L. Yegappan): On a point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, Sir [Interrupted].

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): You have spoken.

The Member for Butterworth (Dr. M. P. L. Yegappan): This is a point of clarification.

My reference to ex-gratia subsidy was to local authorities, and not to the City Council. And again, as regards the Fire Brigade questions, I have already informed Honourable Members of the Opposition that there was provision for a Fire Station at Balik Pulau; and the question was asked after the announcement.

Again, these Development Estimates, copies of which were supplied to Honourable Members of the Opposition, were in the hands of Honourable Members of the Opposition. The question was meant to get certain information. And naturally it is improper to ask questions on which they have got knowledge.

Legal Adviser: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a matter of clarification on a matter of law, may I refer firstly to the point brought up by the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang about the duties of the City Council vis-a-vis the provision of electrical lighting in private roads. That duty comes primarily from the Electricity Ordinance. Under the Electricity Ordinance the City Council has the powers to go into private roads, private premises, with the purpose of providing lighting where it deems that such lighting is necessary. For instance, I believe it is under Section 65 of the Electricity Ordinance — I do not have the Ordinance here — the City Council can go into a private lane, and if there is a wall the City Council can knock

a hole, put brackets and provide lights. It therefore appears that the City Council is not restricted in its rights to provide electricity wherever it deems fit, even though the land were State Government land or private property. Of course, from that will flow the remarks made by the Honourable Member for Butterworth that there appears to be a duty in the case of the City Council to provide lighting in private places, in private roads in particular, where a road is used by members of the public. It happens that certain roads on State Government property cannot be regarded as public streets according to the definition of that term in the Municipal Ordinance; but the argument is that since there is a right to interfere with even private buildings, or to set up, shall we say, lamp-posts in private roads, there is also a duty imposed on the City Council where such private roads are used by the public to provide adequate lighting because that is a service which one expects a City authority with the right to provide such services to provide.

Another matter of law, Mr. Speaker, Sir, concerns the provision of fire services and the Fire Brigade. Yesterday the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat spoke on the matter, and today it has been raised again. The provision of Fire Brigade and fire services stems from the provision of Section 271 of the Municipal Ordinance in its applicability to the Rural District Councils. The State authority or the State Government, may by a special Order under Section 399 of the Municipal Ordinance make all or such powers under Section 271 as deemed fit applicable to the Rural District Councils. This has been done in the case of all Rural District Councils; but in practically all the cases only part of the duties imposed on local

authorities under Section 271 of the Municipal Ordinance has been imposed upon such Rural District Councils. However, the whole of it can be made applicable. Perhaps misconception arises in that you cannot compel the City Council to provide services for a Rural District Council. You can by private arrangement do so; but you cannot compel the City Council to do it. The City Council can only be compelled to provide fire services within the City limits.

The Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche C. D. Ismail): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun sekarang hendak menerangkan berkenaan dengan Tajok 110 dan 111.

Mengenai Tajok 110, tajok kecil 1, ia-itu Peranchangan Negeri dan Pembangunan, tuan2 dapat melihat bahawa peruntukan tidak di-adakan di-dalam tahun 1962. Kerajaan Persekutuan adalah sedang membuat ranchangan2 bagi seluroh negeri dan dengan sebab itu-lah maka ranchangan ini tidak lagi mustahak di-adakan pada peringkat negeri. Dengan hal yang demikian, maka wang tersebut telah menjadi satu wang keselamatan kepada perbelanjaan Kerajaan Negeri.

Sekarang saya suka pula menyen-entuhkan tajok2 kecil di-bawah Tajok 111. Tetapi sebelum saya buat demikian, saya ingin menyatakan ia-itu semasa rangka Belanjawan Biasa di-pertimbangkan, peruntukan bagi Kebajikan 'Am telah di-tambahkan daripada \$30,000 menjadi \$45,000 bagi tahun 1962. Dalam perkara belanjawan tersebut, wang ini juga hendak di-belanjakan di-dalam Belanjawan Pembangunan, Tajok 111, Kebajikan Masharakat.

Tajok kecil 1 — Balai Pemuda Pemudi dalam George Town. Peruntukan ini telah di-tukar daripada "Balai Pemuda Pemudi George Town" menjadi "Balai

Pemuda Pemudi dan Masharakat George Town". Wang peruntukan telah pun di-tambah daripada \$1,000 menjadi \$10,000 untuk membeli perkakas2 dan kelengkapan2 untuk balai pemuda pemudi dan juga untuk balai bagi mengadakan kursus2 tata ra'ayat. Ahli2 Yang Berhormat tentu-lah sedar bahawa adalah perlu di-adakan sa-buah balai yang demikian untuk membolehkan pemuda pemudi di-negeri kita berhimpun berkenal-kenalan dan bertukar2 fikiran dari satu masa ka-satu masa. Sa-buah tempat tumpangan ada juga di-dalam ranchangan ini dan ia-nya akan di-adakan di-tempat tersebut. Ranchangan ini di-sediakan kerana pihak Kerajaan berharap pada masa yang akan datang kita akan menerima pemuda2 daripada luar negeri untuk bertemu dengan pemuda2 di-tempat kita dan juga di-sediakan tempat ketinggalan atau pun tempat persinggahan untuk mereka. Ranchangan dan tempat yang sedang saya katakan itu akan di-laksanakan apabila Jabatan Kerja Raya meninggalkan tempat yang ada sekarang dan berpindah ka-Bangunan Kerajaan yang baru.

Tajok kecil 2—Bantuan kepada Rumah2 Masharakat. Kerana beberapa sebab beberapa orang2 tua yang menderita adalah lebih suka tinggal di-kampung2 mereka sendiri daripada memasoki diri mereka ka-rumah2 yang di-sediakan oleh Kerajaan. Dengan hal yang demikian, Kerajaan telah pun berusaha dengan seberapa daya upaya-nya bagi membena pondok2 atau rumah2 kecil bagi orang2 yang menderita ini di-dalam kampung mereka sendiri dan pihak Kerajaan juga, sebagaimana yang saya telah menguchap semalam, suka mengulorkan ucapan terima kaseh ter-utama sekali kepada orang2 ramai dalam negeri ini dan juga hartawan2 yang telah sentiasa dengan murah hati-nya menghulurkan derma2;

bagitu-lah juga pada hari ini saya suka mengelorkan ucapan terima kasih kepada orang2 di dalam kampong2 di-sana yang sedia pula mengorbankan masa bagi membantu orang2 yang menderita yang diam di-dalam kampong masing2 dengan memberi sama ada wang sekadar mana yang boleh dan juga benda2 makanan.

Itu sahaja, Tuan Pengerusi.

The Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Sungei Pinang was commenting on Head 105 — Government Toddy Shops. He has nothing to say about the revenue, but he was not happy about the expenditure for 1962 which the Government has provided for the provision of bicycle sheds at Toddy Shops. He wants more amenities for Toddy Shops.

I wish to point out to the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang that all other amenities for Toddy Shops have already been provided. The Toddy Shops within the State of Penang today are as good as Coffee Shops, if not better. They have got ceiling fans, tables, chairs.....[Interrupted].

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is merely a matter of opinion.

The Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): They have ceiling fans, tables, chairs; and their premises — the walls have been painted with different colours. And they have.....

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Air-conditioning.

The Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Modern sanitation

I am sure the Government will provide more amenities when the necessity arises.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have listened to members on the other side of the House yesterday afternoon and this morning speaking on the Development Estimates. I must say that one point struck me, that is, that so many on the other side have been speaking so much about so little and I must confess that it is a bit pathetic, although it is the duty of their part to speak on development in this State and they have tried valiantly against, what I must say, very great odds. Why should I make this remark but for the fact that we must recognise, once and for all, that the development of our State — however much we included the details of the State in the Development Estimates — the development in this State is governed, is designed, is shaped by the Federal Government. You can flick through the pages of these Development Estimates and you can find quite openly the fact that Federal Government participation is intensely heavy. On closer scrutiny, you may find that the Federal Government has given hidden subsidies to the State. Now, once we have acknowledged this, that our sphere in developing this State is restricted by Federal Government powers and Federal Government finances, then what would the problem be like in the future?

I would suggest that it is more positive on the part of the State Government to look closely at the State List, study it and see where we can develop those items on which the Federal Government has no power to touch at all. I suggest an item which I think the Federal Government is not interested in, will have no power

over, but it is indeed of great interest to the State and, I am sure, to all inhabitants of the State. I speak with regard to List II — State List, No. 12, with regard to turtles. I think 'turtle' is a very important item in the State. That is why it has given exclusive powers to the State to deal with turtle fishing. Now, we are a tourist State. May I suggest, in future, that we set aside a fund or try to create an industry in turtles? We have lots of rivers in this State, either in Province Wellesley or in Penang, and I am sure that with some imagination we can increase or even bring about a turtle industry not only in the rivers but we shall try to bring it along the shores in the State. We have lots of tourist shops in the State and I am sure that, with the flourishing of the turtle industry — small turtles, medium-sized turtles and big-sized turtles — we have created an industry beyond comparison and which need not depend on the Federal Government.

Chief Minister: Turtle eggs?

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): Turtle eggs, too, if you want; turtle flippers, turtle soup.

Any debate on Development Estimates really is restrictive because we have really to criticise the Federal Government's policy for State roads built and on other things I feel a bit constrained, out of order, to speak on the Development Estimates as designed by the State Government, as in our case replanting is forced on us. I do not know, but in other States the schemes for replanting are going, or have been going, — but this is beside the point. That is all I have to say on the point of restriction in development.

But there are one or two other points which we can simply dwell upon. That is toddy shops. But I would like to know from the Government whether it is the policy to continue toddy shops in this country and restrict revenue from toddy because this matter of drinking alcoholic drinks or alcohol industry supported by the State every year — I feel it may in future be a very short-term policy and, if that is so — because I have read in other papers other political parties belonging to the Government have expressed open distaste about toddy and toddy-drinking — I would like to have some idea whether the State Government at the present moment is planning ahead. If once toddy has been removed, and the State cannot depend on the revenue from toddy, what proposals has the State Government to increase revenue or to make up the loss of revenue by the banning of toddy in the State? That is not an impossibility. In fact, it may be a likelihood in the next few years.

Another point I would like just to mention — not to stress, because I have stressed it often — is that referring to the concurrent jurisdiction which we have on social welfare, whether in the next Development Estimates, not now, but I would have hoped, or even in the Supplementary Development Estimates, I hope to see that in the development of old persons' homes a capital grant of a few hundred thousand odd to start with, would be given.

These are the two points which I have to stress, and I have nothing else to say.

The Member for Ayer Itam (Mr. Chor Sin Kheng): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have heard detailed explanations of the various heads of expenditure shown on the State

Development Estimates 1962 from the Mover of the Motion, the Hon'ble the Chief Minister and other Hon'ble Members of the Government.

With his usual cheerful and unassuming manner, the Hon'ble the Chief Minister has introduced the motion on Development Estimates, 1962 to this Assembly, and he has taken great pains to explain in details the various undertakings of the Government for next year. I really admire the sincerity of his expression and his confidence in the future progress of the State of Penang, when he said these words: "We are modest in our claims and readily admit that much remains to be done. We are only entering the Second Year of our Development Programme, and we are full of hope."

After having examined the Development Estimates, 1962 very carefully, I can say that once again much emphasis has been laid on rural development in keeping with the declared policy of the Federation Government so as to raise the standard of living of the rural people and to improve rural economy. I also noticed that industrial and urban developments of immediate social and economic importance have neither been neglected nor overlooked.

Going into the Development Estimates, 1962 under Head 101 subhead 3, a sum of \$461,070/- is being provided as subsidy for the extension of electricity supply to the rural areas. No doubt the rural villages and kampongs will be greatly benefitted by such electrification schemes. Many rural areas in Penang Island, such as Thean Teik Estate and Paya Terubong area are in urgent need of electricity supply, and I hope that the State Government will look into the sad plight. I may point out that darkness and evil always

go together hand in hand, and these two undesirable can only be eradicated by that "Saviour" called "Light."

Under the same Head subhead 11, there is a provision of \$1,600,000/- for low-cost housing schemes. We have made a good start since this Assembly approved the Loan Bill a few months ago. We are told that it is the intention of the State Government to ask for a loan of \$1,000,000/- at 2% interest from the Federation Government to complete or implement few low-cost housing schemes next year. The subsidy from the State Government will be about \$600,000/- and this amount, I understand, will be spent on the filling of the land, the construction of roads, drains, back lanes and pavements. There is no need for me to reiterate the many benefits the poor people will derive from such schemes as the Hon'ble Members of this Assembly are well informed of them by now.

Under subhead 16 — Community Centres in Rural Areas, I am glad to hear that from the provision of \$72,000/-, better and bigger Community Centres will be constructed in certain rural areas. We have been told that the cost of each Centre is estimated to be over \$14,000/-, and that the Federation Government will be contributing \$6,000/- for each Centre. Community Centres serve many good purposes for the welfare and advancement of local residents. I hope that the State Government will consider putting up such Centres in bigger rural villages in Penang Island, such as Ayer Itam, Telok Bahang, Batu Ferringhi, Tanjong Tokong, Tanjong Bungah and Balik Pulau.

Under Head 101 subhead 23, a sum of \$64,000/- is being provided for improvement to surrounding area, Lower Station,

Penang Hill Railway. I consider the existing garages an eyesore and it should be demolished as early as possible. The proposed construction of a traffic roundabout with a fountain installed should definitely be a great improvement, not only from the traffic point of view, but also we can have a clear view of the Lower Station which will then not be obstructed after the demolition of the existing garages when we approach the Station from the Penang Hill Station Road. Surely the Penang Hill Railway will prove to be a greater attraction to tourists, holiday-makers and visitors from the Mainland after all these improvements have been carried out.

Under Head 103 — Drainage and Irrigation, many of the subheads are mainly concerned with drainage and irrigation schemes that will result in some improvements in the matters of cultivation, increase in acreage for cultivation and increase in cultivation productivity. We must thank the Federal Government for its generous grant to reimburse most of the schemes.

Under Head 107 — Public Works — subheads 1—9, the amounts provided are for the widening and realignment of Paya Terubong Road to join with the Paya Terubong/Relau Road. Under subhead 5 item 1, a provision of \$300,000/- is for the construction of the Paya Terubong Road. I earnestly and sincerely hope that the scheme will continue to progress smoothly and favourably so that the rural people of Penang Island will not consider this Ayer Itam — Relau Road a mirage but a reality. The next step naturally will be to construct the Relau — Balik Pulau Road, and then if these two roads are joined up we will have the Ayer Itam — Balik Pulau Road — another dream of the rural people that may come true.

Under subhead 15 a sum of \$153,000/- is for the provision of the construction and improvement to bridges on State roads. There are many bridges in Penang Island that deserve consideration and attention, for example, bridge No. 2 — Thean Teik Road, the wooden bridge across Sungei Ayer Itam leading to the famous Kek Lok Si Temple where there is a Tortoise Pond, and the bridge in Paya Terubong Road near the Hokkien Cemetery.

Sir, I would like to wind up with the pantun calling for team spirit in our endeavour and determination to work for the good of the common people. The pantun is like this:—

Gunong tinggi sama mendaki,
Lautan dalam sama berenang;
Mari-lah kita bersatu hati,
Perkara yang susah menjadi senang.

[Applause.]

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, terima kasih.

Chief Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, terlebih dahulu saya suka memberi ucapan terima kasih kepada Yang Berhormat Ahli2 daripada Tasek Gelugor, Kepala Batas, Tanjong Bungah, Ayer Itam, Bagan Ajam dan lain2-nya yang telah memberi ucapan tahniah dan terima kasih kepada Kerajaan atas kerja2 atau chadangan2 yang telah di-jalankan dengan jaya-nya dan Kerajaan berjanji bahawa semua chadangan2 yang di-bawa oleh Ahli2 Yang Berhormat itu tetap akan di-beri timbangan.

The general point raised by the Hon'ble Members of the Opposition is the usual one, that is, revotes. Now let me ask Hon'ble Members from the Opposition, what is wrong with revotes? To me, if it is done with the sincere intention to spend the money, I think it

is quite proper to revoke any sum of money which has not been spent. I agree that the money has been revoked in this year's Development Estimates, but can we help revoting money? Now if we do not revoke money on projects which have not been started or cannot be completed, would it not be [Interrupted.]

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): A point of clarification, Sir, I didn't say that I was actually against revotes. What I merely said was that the statement of the revotes should clearly be stated so that the Assembly can have a clearer picture as to what amounts of money were actually on projects which are not completed in the previous year and transferred to this year, and what other new projects. That is my only clarification, and that is why I want the Hon'ble the Chief Minister to have it done in that way.

Chief Minister: Thank you, Sir, for the clarification; but if the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong has taken a little more interest in our Development Estimates, I think every sum that has been revoked is clearly shown in the Estimates. If it has been hidden, I am afraid he would not have noticed it.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): On the point of clarification, Sir, the Hon'ble the Chief Minister has challenged me to read it out that they are actually hidden in the Development Estimates for 1962. I am prepared to do so, Sir.

Chief Minister: Sir, I didn't say that the Hon'ble Member said they are hidden. I only said if he has taken a little more interest to study the projects, he would have noticed all the revotes pro-

vided. Again I repeat, if the revotes are hidden, he would not have noticed them. What other clearer statement does he want from the Government?

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, on the point of clarification — just to clarify. He said it is not hidden. Let us take item 15 of Head 101 — \$12,000/- direct estimate in 1962. This is a revoke which is being hidden as another expenditure for 1962. If you go into item 16 — Community Centres in rural areas, \$72,000/-, there is a hidden \$16,000/- which is a revoke from 1961, and if he likes me to continue, we can go further on.....[Interrupted.]

Mr. Speaker: I think that is enough for that clarification. You may sit down.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I ask the Honourable Member for further clarification. What does he mean by 'hidden'? In the Estimates, item 15 — Construction of and improvement to drains in villages: estimated in 1962 direct; estimated to be spent in 1961, \$12,000; 'Original or Last Revised' — \$24,000. Is it not quite clear that there is money to be spent — \$12,000 for 1961, and the revoke of \$12,000 to be spent in 1962? Where is the hidden matter there? (Pause). I seek clarification, Sir. (Pause).

Well, Sir, since clarification cannot come, I hope the Honourable Member will withdraw the remark.

Sir, I refer to Subhead 18 which[Interrupted].

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Honourable the Chief Minister were to look into the 1961 Development Estimates which has been approved by this Assembly he would have noticed

that it was mentioned in 1961 that \$24,000 would actually be spent.

Chief Minister: Sir, may I clarify that?

It is a fact that in the Estimates it was intended, estimated to be spent in 1961. Is there anything hidden?

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Out of which \$12,000 only has been spent; and \$12,000 is a revoke from 1961 to 1962, and not an expenditure for development in 1962; and that is why I say it is hidden.

Chief Minister: Sir, I am not satisfied with the explanation. I will ask one point at a time. Original estimate — \$24,000; is it correct or not?

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): It is correct.

Chief Minister: In 1961 it was estimated to spend \$24,000; correct or not?

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): That is correct.

Chief Minister: Here in the Development Estimates, 1962: estimated to spend to December 31st, 1961 — \$12,000; anything hidden?

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): The hidden one is: Out of \$24,000 it is now written in the 1962 Estimates as \$12,000 only spent. That is hidden.

Chief Minister: Sir, that is an estimate — expected to be spent. I hope the Honourable Member will understand the word "estimate." If I put there "Spent — \$24,000" in 1961, and now I come with "Estimated to spend", then I admit that there is something

wrong. But in 1961 — estimated to spend — \$24,000. For some reason or other we could not spend all the money. Again we provide here — "Estimated to spend up to 31st December, 1961 — \$12,000". It may be more; it may be less; it may be exact. I hope the Honourable Member will understand the word "estimate". So in order to fulfil our obligation we have put in expenditure for estimates in 1962 — \$12,000. I cannot see anything hidden there. It is as plain as you see it in front of you.

Well, Sir, if such is the case I expect the Honourable Member to withdraw the remark that something has been hidden. It is a challenge to the Government that we are doing something which is hidden from the people. This is serious accusation.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, I still maintain it is hidden because in the approval of the Revised Estimates of Income and Expenditure for the year 1961 it is shown that the State Government is still prepared to spend the Development Estimates for 1961 of \$14,320,682; to be added with revotes of expenditure balances of 1960 of \$219,517; first supplementary estimates, 1961, of one million.....[Interrupted].

Chief Minister: On a point of clarification.....[Interrupted].

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Saya suka bagi keputusan saya atas perkara ini. Tiap2 satu apa yang tertulis di-dalam perbelanjaan kemajuan Negeri Pulau Pinang tahun 1962 ini, itu sahaja-lah yang di-ambil untuk bahathan dalam Majlis Meshuarat pada tengah hari. Ada pun perkataan "tersembunyi" saya ta'nampak sama sekali ada perkataan yang tersembunyi atau words "hidden" because they are not in the Esti-

mates. If the Hon'ble Members of the Opposition are not satisfied with what has been written in the Estimates, they can always vote against the Estimates. And I therefore agree that the word "hidden" be withdrawn.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the ruling, may I say, instead of "hidden", "misleading"?

Mr. Speaker: Before you can say "misleading", I still maintain that the word "hidden" be withdrawn.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the word "hidden" and I will substitute "misleading".

Chief Minister: Thank you, Sir, for that clarification. Even the word "misleading" is, I think, very misleading. If the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong were to say that the Government has revoted much of the money, it is true — we admit it. We revoted very much. Ah, again the Hon'ble Member accuses the Government trying to mislead the people in the sense that we do not intend to spend all the money. Again, that is an expression of opinion. We say that those are political stunts or, shall I say, political stinks, to say that these figures, these Estimates, are misleading. I think I demand an explanation again.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Sir, can anyone demand an explanation when he is giving a full reply?

Mr. Speaker: There is no such ruling provided in the present Standing Orders. So I have to refer to Parliamentary practice. I therefore need no further explanation on this matter. [To Chief Minister]: You may continue with your reply.

Chief Minister: Now I shall proceed further to the question of revotes. As I said, if we do not revoke the money for projects where works have begun, how can we complete the projects? Would it not be sheer economic waste if money is not revoted? For example, let us take our State Government Building. Money was provided in 1958 and we expected to spend all this money in 1962. You have the project in front of you. Now, if you do not revoke the money, \$800,000, what will happen to the building? I hope Hon'ble Members from the other side will be able to answer that. Another important point of revotes is that, although money voted may not be spent in the year, a great part of it can be and is usually committed — for example, pipes that we have ordered for our water supply works. Now these pipes could not arrive in time because of the strike in Singapore. Is it wrong, or right, to revoke the money for the purchase of these pipes? These pipes are coming. What happens if these pipes arrive here and there is no money to pay the supplier. It would then be a very irresponsible Government. So I would like Hon'ble Members of the Opposition to point out specifically any revotes for project which the Government has in hand. They can do so by asking questions or, they can come to my office and find out facts — how much has been spent and how much has not been spent. As I said, these are political stinks. I always believe that revotes are necessary to our Budget because, if we have no revotes, there will be chaos and confusion. But, if revotes or provision is made in our Estimates just for political stunts, with no intention to spend, then such an action is very irresponsible and misleading. I challenge the Opposition to point out any items in the Estimates which

the Government has no intention to implement. Again, is not that action of revoting being done by our Federal Government and other Councils in our country? I would like to ask Hon'ble Members of the Opposition [Interrupted.]

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I did not say — I repeat we are not against revotes but what I say is: if they are revotes, please put in the State Development Estimates so that we can know that they are revotes, and thereby not misleading the Assembly. That is all. I am sure that in the other Councils they do so. If it is a revote, "so and so is a revote from last year", and not to say that all those are to be expended for the year. That is all. I think the English is clear.

Chief Minister: Well, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy that at last the Member for Jelutong fully realises that what we are trying to do is very sincere except the Hon'ble Member would like to see the word "revotes" appear in the Estimates. I think when I introduced these Development Estimates I did make it quite clear that certain amounts of money are revotes. I admit I did not say so for every item. If you want, I can do so but I think we are quite intelligent enough to understand. A schoolboy of Standard V or VI will be able to understand an Estimate of \$24,000 spent \$12,000, balance \$12,000 — so \$12,000 is the revote. Balance or a revote means almost the same thing. However, Government will do what we think is sensible and reasonable.

Now we come to roads and other questions raised by the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong.

My colleague, or my friend, from Tassek Glugor has explained clearly and I do hope that where roads are built to areas where there are people, as expressed by the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong, there will be no one to sow thorns in this area where Government is trying to sow good seeds. If we try to build roads where there are people, there are always difficulties and problems. I pray no one will sow thorns in these areas where Government is trying to sow good seeds.

To benefit the rich — I would say if it is done with the purpose or with the intention to serve only the rich, it would be wrong. But may I ask the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong if it is his policy or his advice that, if there is a capitalist in this area, or that area, nothing should be done? Government's responsibility, as I said earlier, is to give happiness to many, wherever possible. Well, you know, rich and poor, do sometimes live in the same area. So how can you have a clearcut line — do not build a road because there is a rich man. I think it is difficult to accept such an advice.

Provision for fire service for Balik Pulau. I cannot understand what is meant by the Hon'ble Member for Jelutong's statement that he expects Government will not shirk its responsibility. It has been clarified by the Legal Adviser that according to the Municipal Ordinance, it is the responsibility of the local authorities. I wish to make it quite clear it is not the intention of the Government of Penang to insist that the City Council should provide fire services to the rural area in the Penang Island. We have never done so. Provision made in the Development Estimates is to assist local authorities

which are financially incapable of providing capital works for such a service. That is why we made provision in the Estimates. The fire service for Balik Pulau is not a new proposal: it appeared last year. Why the money has not been spent? Because we are waiting — in fact, we have made the offer to the Rural District Council, Penang Island, and they have not yet made up their minds whether to accept it or not. I think the same question was also raised by the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Pinang with regard to such vote. It is not because Government is not keen to give the money but because there is no occasion to spend the money. The request must come from the Rural District Council, Penang Island, for this money. It is a grant, with no repayment. So I hope the Rural District Council, Penang Island, will take advantage of this offer.

I mentioned earlier about our Government building: and I do not understand what the Honourable Member for Jelutong meant when he said "not to build grandiose buildings like the State Building." Well, that is again an expression of opinion, whether that building is grandiose or not. But I am sure the Mayor of George Town is happy to see such a building in this area. He will be proud to see such a landmark. As said by the Member for Tanjong Bungah, the people of Penang will be proud of this building. Do we wish to have a ramshackle building to house the Government Offices? It is a big sum of money — 3.2 million. But do you think that is a waste? It is not only a credit to our country, but also a convenience not only for the public but also the workers who are housed in that building; and also a landmark in our City, and an added attraction to tourism.

Government is always anxious to provide amenities or facilities to our fishermen. We shall certainly do our best within our means to provide more jetties. Again, the Member for Jelutong mentioned not to have such grandiose ones. Does he consider the jetty at Telok Kumbar a grandiose one? It is not a grandiose one. It is a solid one, a strong one that will be for the benefits of the fishermen in the area.

Better amenities for toddy shops, from our Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang: That has always received the attention of the Government. But I may say that definitely Government will not provide an air-conditioned toddy shop. It is bad for toddy drinkers.

Penang Hill Road: Well, we have voted one million dollars. As the Honourable Member for Jelutong has said, we have spent just about a few thousand dollars. We admit that. This money is required.....[Interrupted.]

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of information, I did not say anything about the Penang Hill Road, and therefore the Honourable the Chief Minister is wrong. I would like him to withdraw that.

Chief Minister: I was touching on the remarks made by the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang when you went out just now. After Toddy Shops I am coming to Penang Hill Road. That question was raised by the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang — not from the Member for Jelutong.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I distinctly heard 'Member for Jelutong'.

Chief Minister: I repeat, I was touching on the remarks on the Penang Hill Road — that is, from the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang, not from you.

This money is required this year because Government has already decided on the line of the proposed Penang Hill Road, and Gazette Notifications for those areas to be acquired will soon appear before the end of this year in the Government Gazette. Therefore this money is required.

With regard to the power of the City Council to light private streets, this has been clarified by the Legal Adviser. I do not want to go further into this, but to mention again we received an assurance and clarification from the City Secretary stating the power of the City Council to light these streets. I am surprised that the Member from the opposite side is not aware of this power.

The Honourable Member for Kota made a very wrong statement, saying that our Development Estimates were designed by the Federal Government. If he had said these Development Estimates had been designed by the Alliance Council, I accept that; or the Alliance Party, it is true. Here I have the plan of the Alliance Government — Federal plan, State plan (shows these plans).

Now, for the benefit of our Members of Opposition who may not have the opportunity to see this (shows Alliance Manifesto), with your permission, Sir, may I touch on some of the points which have been done in our Development Estimates. This is the Manifesto of the Alliance Party, Penang and Province Wellesley. "Legislative Assembly Elections 1959....."[Interrupted.]

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): This? (holds up a copy of the Alliance Manifesto).

Chief Minister: Thank you. You have got one.

I hope you treasure that, and consult that before you make any irresponsible statement.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): I am not making any irresponsible statement.

Chief Minister: You are. I consider it so because you said that the Development Estimates were designed by the Federal Government. Then what are we for? Are we stooges?

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): It is up to you to interpret it.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Is not the Federal Government an Alliance Government?

Chief Minister: I said earlier, if you said it is designed by the Alliance Government, it is true. We are the Alliance Party here. But again, if you say that this is designed with the close co-operation between State and Federal Governments you are quite sincere. But to say that it is designed by the Federal Government it is very inaccurate.

Now I have got your permission, Sir, to read some of these points which have been implemented or are to be implemented by the State Alliance Government. We have here, for example — I will only touch on some of the matters which concern our State.

Mr. Speaker: Not for political propaganda.

Chief Minister: No, Sir. It was said that the budget was designed by the Federal Government. It was designed by the Alliance Party.

"Administration: The Alliance stands for good, honest, stable and efficient Government."

We here say we have done our best. It is left to the Opposition to say what they like. Well, I shall touch on—

"Agriculture and Fisheries:

1. To promote and encourage food self-sufficiency.
2. To give every possible assistance and encouragement to agriculturists, farmers and fishermen.
3. To encourage farmers to open up waste lands and to improve methods of cultivation by training farmers particularly in the use and adoption of efficient and up-to-date equipment and methods as adopted and practised by the most advanced countries."

Are we not doing it?

- "4. To train farmers for better farming and animal husbandry."

The Estimates will show you what we have done.

- '5. To continue to give subsidies to padi planters in relation to their economic needs and well-being in respect of new areas."

The Estimates will show you what we have done.

- "6. To continue improving and expanding the existing system of irrigation."

Again the Estimates will tell you.

- "7. To foster the rapid growth of community development with a view to making the rural people better educated and efficient in running their own affairs."

- "8. To encourage the co-operative movement and assist the formation of co-operative societies in rural areas, particularly in the marketing of farm produce and fish."

Now, Commerce and Industry is a Federal matter. However, for information of our Member I just quote one — "To improve the growth of industries." — Our industrial trading estate in Butterworth.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, when the Opposition Members touch on Federal matters we are considered out of order; and I am wondering whether the Honourable the Chief Minister in touching on a Federal matter is not out of order.

Mr. Speaker: If it is touching on a Federal matter for decision it is out of order; but for reference I do not think it is out of order.

Chief Minister: Sir, I mentioned quite clearly that this is a Federal matter. I am not going to touch on it except to mention that we have established an industrial trading estate. Is it not a fact?

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Chief Minister touched on 'Economics, Commerce and Industry', and said that in the Manifesto of the Alliance Party there is an item 'To improve the growth of industries.' May I inform the Chief Minister that in the Manifesto of the Socialist Front Party there is a definite statement 'To set up an industrial estate.'

Chief Minister: Thank you for your information, but I am not interested in your Manifesto.

Mr. Speaker: I have mentioned earlier when you brought out the Manifesto that it is not for political propaganda. I will have no such thing in this House.

Chief Minister: No, Sir, not for political propaganda, but to refute the accusation made by the Honourable Member for Kota saying that our Development Estimates were designed by the Federal Government. Now, may I proceed further, Sir?

Education again is a Federal matter, but Penang is concerned in giving assistance to Muslim and other religious schools.

The Member for Jelutong (Mr. Ooi Thiam Siew): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order: Has that any reference to the Development Estimates, 1962?

Chief Minister: It has, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Will the Honourable Member be a little bit patient and wait until the Chief Minister finishes his sentence.

Chief Minister: Well, Sir, they are trying to interrupt my train of thought.

However, Sir, Housing.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): Ha! that is a point.

Chief Minister: To provide by alienation low-cost housing for the lower income group. Have we not done it?

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): What is alienation?

Chief Minister: Well, Sir, the Honourable Member for Kota is a legal man. I think he knows better than I, Sir.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): Providing land only; not to build houses.

Chief Minister: Well, Sir, it is up to him to interpret the word "alienation."

Again—

"Housing: To encourage home ownership."

Our Estimates will tell you what we have done.

Labour: Again, Sir, this is a Federal matter, but the State has done something with regard to improving the housing conditions of workers and their families in both urban and rural areas. I shall not touch on the Federal point, Sir.

"Land: To encourage land development in suitable areas, in particular for the landless, and to encourage holdings of economic sizes amongst farmers."

That, I must admit is rather difficult in our State because of shortage of land. But we are trying our best to encourage better uses of the land. What I would like to say, Sir, under Land is No. 2 — "To strive for the co-operation — the word 'co-operation' is the correct word; not 'design' — with the Federal Government and other States to seek new lands in the Federation of Malaya for land development for the needy people of the State." We have done that, Sir. And very kind of this Assembly to have approved money to assist in the travelling expenses of these people to settle somewhere else.

Local Government. Well, there is not much to say. We have done it. Since our Honourable Member from the opposite side has a copy I would like him to make a careful study of that.

"Roads: To build more roads, bridges and bridle paths in the rural areas.

To provide improved communications between kampongs.

To consider ways and means for the early building of Penang Hill Road....."

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): On a point of correction, Mr. Speaker, Sir: On Roads it says, "To build more roads, bridges and bridal paths"; B-R-I-D-A-L — for brides.

Chief Minister: Well, Sir, it may be the intention to build these paths for the brides to move along when they have their marriage ceremony. It may be a typing error.

We are not discussing about this document, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: You are not because you are reading nearly 30%. 70% of it is for political propaganda.

Chief Minister: Thank you, Sir. However, I am just..... [Interrupted.]

The Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Tan Chong Bee): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the political propaganda has gone far enough.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): I think we will bring our Manifesto the next time.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have only one comment to make on the excellent performance of the Chief Minister. It did remind me of a song which appeared in the films some time ago — "What you can do we can do better."

Chief Minister: Thank you, Sir.

I am just trying to clarify the wrong statement made by the

Honourable Member for Kota saying that our Development Estimates were designed by the Federal Government. I hope that is clear. Not for propaganda, but to clarify this wrong impression.

The question of Toddy Shop: What is the State policy for the future? The present policy is to continue to run the Toddy Shop. The future has got to be considered.

Old Age Home: As I said earlier, Sir, during the Ordinary Estimates debate, the State Government has already taken a decision to agree in principle to the suggestion put up by the Subcommittee upon Vagrancy in the State. We went even further to commit our Government to meet 45% of the annually recurrent expenditure. And we expect the Ministry of Social Welfare to come to our assistance. And also the general public will assist in this matter. There will be no difficulties with regard to capital expenditure because it has been the policy of the Lotteries Board to finance such a project. The difficulty is to provide money for the yearly expenditure. So I think that is quite clear to our people — the stand of the Government with regard to this Committee's Report about the establishing of another Old Age Home.

Sir, I am sorry to have taken such a long time to go into all these things because I think so many matters have got to be clarified; and I hope that my explanation will be quite clear not only to this House but to our people in the State.

Thank you, Sir.

Question put and agreed to.

(C) Motion by the Hon'ble the Chief Minister.

Chief Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menchadangkan—

"Bahawa Dewan ini membuat ketetapan bahawa hendaklah diadakan bagi maksud2 di-dalam Sekshen 26 Undang Peratoran Kewangan, 1957, satu Kumpulan Wang yang di-panggil Kumpulan Wang Pembresehan Tanah Perkhuburan Orang2 yang Papa dan membayarkan daripada Kumpulan Wang tersebut perbelanjaan2 membersehan Tanah Perkhuburan Orang2 yang Papa di-Kampung Bharu, Pulau Pinang, sebagaimana yang di-shorkan oleh Jawatan Kuasa Kira2 Awam."

Sir, the motion standing in my name which is—

"That this Assembly resolves that there shall be specified for the purposes of section 26 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, a Fund called the Clearance of Pauper Burial Ground Fund and that to the said Fund shall be charged the cost of clearing the Pauper Burial Ground at Kampong Bahru, Penang Island, as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee."

Sir, there still remains outstanding to-day in the accounts of the State a sum of \$72,358.50 which was advanced in 1957 by the then Settlement Government for the clearance of the Pauper Burial Ground at Kampong Bahru. The Government of the day considered that the cost of clearance should be shared between the Rural District Council, Penang Island, and the City Council but, as the matter was urgent because of the building development which was soon to be started in that area, decided to advance from a Below-the-Line or Advance Account the funds required and

to negotiate with the City Council and the Rural District Council, Penang Island, for the repayment of the advance. Recovery of the advance has been delayed for various reasons. It is not my intention to explain these reasons or to express an opinion whether the Government of that day should have advanced the money in the first place. I shall confine myself to an explanation of why the Resolution standing in my name is being moved to-day.

The Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, which came into force on 1st January, 1958, makes no provision for a Below-the-Line Account or Advance Account. On 1st January, 1958 the Clearance of Pauper Burial Ground Advance Account had to be closed. To do this, it was necessary to do one of these three things:—

- (1) To charge the outstanding balance to an expenditure vote; or
- (2) To recover the shares due from the local authorities; or
- (3) To charge the outstanding balance to a Trust Account where it would remain outstanding until either step (1) or (2) should be taken.

It was decided to take step (3) and accordingly the debit was transferred to a Trust Account considered most appropriate, namely, the Inter-Administration Current Account.

The Senior Auditor however maintained that the charge does not come within the purpose of this account and, therefore, it is an unauthorised charge against it. His opinion has been accepted by the Public Accounts Committee whose comments I will quote:—

"We are informed that the recovery of the cost of clearing

the Pauper Burial Ground is going to be a protracted matter, and we recommend that a Trust Fund should be created without delay as recommended in our last Report."

Honourable Members will note that under Head 20 of the Estimates of Ordinary Expenditure a sum of \$72,360 has been provided for contribution to the Clearance of Pauper Burial Ground Fund. This sum will be paid to a Trust Account to be established for the clearance of Pauper Burial Ground Fund and the amount that at present stands charged against the Inter-Administration Current Account will then be transferred to the Clearance of Pauper Burial Ground Fund Account. The Resolution standing in my name not only moves the creation of the Fund but also specifies the purpose of its creation, thereby making the charge an authorised charge.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I formally move the Resolution standing in my name.

The Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong.

Question put and agreed to.

(D) Motion by the Hon'ble Mr. D. S. Ramanathan.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name which reads as follows:

"Resolved that this Assembly deplores the vacillating attitude of the State Government towards the proposed Penang Hill Road and its inept handling of the whole project since it was first mooted some years ago; further

it calls upon the Government to submit a full Report to this Assembly on this project not later than the next Session of this Assembly in 1962."

Before I start to elaborate on this Resolution, may I, with your permission, read from this famous document (the Alliance Manifesto of 1959) just one short reference.

Mr. Speaker: Is that connected with the Motion?

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Yes; it goes under Section (N) Roads and is No. 3 — To consider ways and means for the early building of the Penang Hill Road to attract tourists. The operative words which I want Members of this Assembly to note, Sir, are the words "early building."

It will perhaps be of interest to this Assembly to recall briefly the history of this project. The Hill Road project is not one that started only recently. I remember as a schoolboy reading about it many, many years before the war. The project was mooted by the then Government of the time. But strangely enough it was opposed by the local people because the conditions that existed at that time were different from those that exist now. At that time, Honourable Members who have any knowledge of the subject will remember that no non-Europeans were allowed to have a house or residence above the Middle Station. And so I suppose the objection from the local population to the Hill Road at that time was that it would benefit only the 'whites.'

Now, since the war this question has been taken up by many interested parties, and the Government in power also thought well enough of the scheme to put it down on its policy platform for

its election. What has happened actually within recent years? The fact is that nobody knows exactly what has happened. We have since this Assembly started in 1959 asked several questions. The answers to these questions have been most perplexing. In fact one may almost say the answers were such as to make the confusion worse; and what little knowledge we had become even less. When the Chief Minister was asked for an answer, "Are you going to build the road?" — "Perhaps"; "When shall the road be built?" — "It will be built"[Interrupted.]

Chief Minister: When it is possible.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): And answers of this nature were frequent in this Assembly. But from what we have pieced together it appears that two Committees have been formed. There was one earlier Committee which — we do not know what happened to it. Then there was another Committee which had been dealing with this problem. And in the answers to the written questions which we submitted — we asked certain questions: "Has the Penang Hill Road Committee until its untimely death made any report or recommendations to the State Government? — "The Penang Hill Road Committee had submitted a Report to the State Government." The use of the past tense probably means that the Committee does not exist any longer. Second question: "If so, what are their recommendations?" — "The Report is confidential." That answer, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I submit, amounts to a most inflicting indignity on this Assembly. If it is confidential to this Assembly then to whom is it not confidential? Perhaps it is restricted to members

of the Executive Council. Perhaps even they may be too big a crowd, and it is restricted only to the Honourable the Chief Minister. Where are we really going, if in the Assembly we ask a question and we are told, "This matter is confidential." Why is it confidential? And that is one of the questions which I feel that the Assembly should consider very objectively because I cannot see how a matter of this nature, of general public interest, should be treated as confidential and known only to a few people.

We have tried by our questions to find out more. All our questions have been parried very, very neatly; but still they have been parried. In an earlier meeting of this Assembly we made certain suggestions. We suggested that the line of the road should be made public so that everybody knows where it is; and at the same time that the Government should by legislation freeze whatever State land there is on either side of the road, so that the sale of the land at a price to be fixed by the Government could go towards the cost of the Hill Road. That would have been the fairest way to meet the cost of an expensive development project like the Hill Road, because I am sure nobody denies that it will be a source of future development along the hill areas if such a road is put up. As far as I remember, the Honourable the Chief Minister did say in his reply that our suggestions will be considered. Whether they are being considered or not we do not know. In fact, in regard to this whole question of the Hill Road we are all completely lost in a mist or fog, so that nobody knows exactly what is happening.

Since then Government has apparently changed its position a little. At one time it said,

"Owing to development of rural programme we have decided to give a lower priority to the Hill Road." And yet yesterday the Honourable the Chief Minister said, "Tourism is essential to the life of the people, and therefore the Hill Road is essential." That is why I use in my Motion the phrase 'vacillating'. Has or has not the Government a decided policy on this matter? It has promised the people that it will build this road early. And here at one time it has said it is essential in the interest of tourism to build this road. At another time they said, "Oh no, we are busy with the rural development plan; therefore we shall have to give this a lower priority." Therefore I say that the policy of the Government with regard to this road is vacillating — not knowing where it is going; moving from one position to another.

There is also I submit, Mr. Speaker, Sir, a certain amount of ineptness about the whole thing. A Committee is established to give a report. Once the Committee has given its report the procedure of any Government is to study it and then publish it, table it and allow it to be discussed. In this matter that procedure has not been followed. What has been the result? There are all kinds of vague talk that speculators are the only ones that are benefitting by this mystery which surrounds the Hill Road. If the plan that the Opposition had suggested quite some time ago to declare the route or the line of the road and freeze sales of the land along both sides had been adopted all this talk would never have occurred.

Now I think the first point that Government must make up its mind on is this: Do they want this road or not? If they do

want it, why do they want it? There have been references from the Government benches about the importance of tourism and so forth. But surely the Hill Road question is of greater importance than that. Many a time have I heard the Chief Minister say, "Penang is short of land." And yet in the hill areas we have plenty of land; not perhaps flat land, but land that can be cultivated. Anyone who has visited certain parts of Indonesia and Japan knows how the people of those lands have cultivated hill areas. And therefore such a development in Penang is possible and can be encouraged by the early building of this Hill Road. Therefore it will solve two problems. It will solve the problem of land scarcity; it will also make Penang probably the greatest tourist attraction in this part of the world. We have heard from many people who come to Penang that they are struck by the natural beauties of this island. But apart from the Hill Railway, I would submit that we have not done very much to exploit the natural beauties and make this place a real tourist centre. And as far as I can see no single project can help tourism better than this particular project of developing the Hill Road.

Now, it may be argued that this project may be a very costly one, though I have not heard any official estimates of its cost. But if Government is not prepared to do it on its own there are ways in which this road can be built. There are hill roads in other parts of the world. And if Government is too busy, or if it does not want to tackle the problem by itself, or allow its P.W.D. to do it, they can always go to private developers who will be able to tender for this building of the road, and thus put up the road.

In this connection I am reminded of what happened in Perak 20 years ago. You would remember, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that there was a new bridge at Kuala Kangsar — the Iskandar Bridge. The river there had been the cause of great inconvenience to many people because there used to be a pontoon bridge there. I do not remember all the details, but I do remember that the bridge was built at heavy cost; and it was one of the few bridges in Malaya where a toll was collected. Now, what I remember about it is this: When the bridge was put up everybody said, "Oh, the toll will be collected for two, three, four or five years." I remember that within two years they had collected sufficient money from the toll to say that there will be no more toll collected on the bridge. Now, that is an indication that if the road is well built and becomes popular some similar system might be adopted here to recover the cost of the road.

Now, all these things could have been done. And yet, what has been done? As far as I can make out from our incessant prodding, Government has at last come to this stage — this is the Chief Minister's reply: "I can say now that the Government has decided on the actual line of the main route." That is why I say the policy of the Government has been vacillating and inept to a certain degree, because if it had really taken this question seriously, as it had promised to do in its Manifesto, it could have done much more, and the building of the road at least would have started by now. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move the Resolution which I have just read.

The Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Tan Chong Bee): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second.

The Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Motion by the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang accusing the Government of ineptitude on the question of the Hill Road must not go unchallenged. As the chairman of the Hill Road Committee, now dissolved, I must say that we in our deliberations took many months before we finalized our alternate routes. Today, knowing that the Government has reached a decision on the final line of the road, I feel that the time taken was not wasted, because a lot of time was spent on survey work. In a few days' time Honourable Members here and the public will know that the Government is really serious now on acquiring the land to construct.....[Interrupted.]

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, that means it was not serious up to now.

The Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim): Well, up to a month ago.

It will appear in the Press — for the acquisition of land for construction of the road.

To accuse the Government of ineptitude when there is such a huge project as the Hill Road is really sad and shows lack of appreciation of the careful and laborious work the Government is doing.

This new road when constructed will embrace all the good features of the routes recommended by my Committee, and this I am sure will be an added attraction to our island. It will also be a source of pride, and will attract tourists to this island.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Motion.

The Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Yang Berhormat Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya rasa chadangan yang di-bawa oleh Yang Berhormat Tuan Ramanathan ini adalah satu chadangan yang tidak dikehendaki oleh kerana chadangan ini bukan-nya benar2 chadangan yang bertujuan hendak menyegerakan pembenaan jalan Bukit Bendera itu bahkan ini adalah satu chubaa yang pernah di-chuba oleh pehak Pembangkang yang bertujuan hendak mengelirukan orang ramai supaya memperchayai bahawa Kerajaan Negeri yang di-kuasai oleh Perikatan ialah sa-buah Kerajaan yang lemah. Sebab pun saya katakan demikian kerana chubaa saperti ini memang pernah di-lakukan oleh pehak Pembangkang saperti mana yang menudoh Kerajaan ini sebagai 'Kerajaan Sleeping Beauty' dan sebagai-nya. Sekira-nya dengan chadangan ini tujuan pehak Pembangkang hendak mengertak Kerajaan, saya rasa ini adalah keterlaluan kerana Kerajaan, Perikatan chukup menyedari tanggung jawab-nya sebagai Kerajaan yang di-pilih oleh orang ramai kepada seluroh ra'ayat negeri ini dan kira-nya pehak Pembangkang bertujuan hendak mengelirukan orang di-luar Dewan ini, saya rasa-nya telah lewat berbuat demikian kerana ra'ayat telah sedar dan insaf serta faham permainan politik yang di-lakukan oleh Socialis Front. Ra'ayat telah nampak dengan mata kepala sendiri tidak dengan khayalan segala apa kemajuan yang telah di-buat oleh Kerajaan kepada mereka pada hari ini. Sebalok-nya, mereka harus menanti2 segala apa yang di-janjikan oleh Socialis Front—kesenangan dan lain2-nya kepada kaum2 yang di-kata Kaum Marhin itu — tetapi sebalok-nya pemimpin2 yang mengechap segala nikmat ini. Kira-nya pehak Pembangkang benar2 berkehendaki jalan

ka-Bukit Bendera ini di-segerakan, mereka harus memikir bahawa ranchangan ini tidak boleh dengan satu keputusan meshuarat sahaja kerana ranchangan yang menelan belanja berjuta2 ini patut-lah di-fikirkan berkenaan dengan kewangan-nya sama.

Dengan keperchayaan ini saya sekali lagi menegaskan kepada pehak Pembangkang bahawa Kerajaan tidak berniat hendak melewatkan sa-suatu chadangan yang telah di-janjikan kepada ra'ayat. Kerajaan tidak lemah dalam menjalankan segala ranchangan2 yang telah di-tetapkan. Kerajaan Perikatan tidak melakukan kesilapan dengan membadzirkan wang orang ramai saperti mana setengah Kerajaan Tempatan yang chuba hendak berlari sebelum dapat berjalan, akhir-nya terpaksa berhutang yang bukan2.

Satu perkara yang menarek hati dan hairan sekali, luchu pula, telah di-buat oleh pehak Pembangkang. Ini ia-lah kerana pada satu masa dahulu — kalau kita ta'silap ingatan — orang ini juga yang berkata bahawa ranchangan jalan Bukit Bendera tidak patut di-luluskan kerana jalan ini hanya menguntungkan orang2 kaya sahaja tetapi pehak Pembangkang yang selalu mendewa2kan diri mereka membela orang2 yang menderita itu telah tertarek hati pula dengan ranchangan yang berikut kata mereka menguntungkan orang2 kaya itu. Bersungguh2 hati pula membelanya. Adakah ini pehak Pembangkang telah menguba chorak mereka dari jagoh pembela Marhin kepada jagoh pembela orang2 kaya pula. Tolonglah jangan pandang kaki seluar orang lain jika kaki seluar kita sendiri ta'tentu puncha.

Saya perchaya, sekali lagi saya ingin menegaskan kepada pehak Pembangkang bahawa-nya Ke-

rajaan Perikatan yang memerentah negeri ini tidak-lah lemah. Kerajaan akan menunaikan segala apa yang di-janjikan kepada ra'ayat mengikut janji2 pilehan raya-nya. Saya perchaya pembawa usul ini telah sedar dengan jelas-nya bahawa Kerajaan bersungguh2 hati hendak meniatyakan ranchangan ini kerana perkara ini telah berkali2 di-timbul dalam Dewan ini tetapi kenapa-kah usul yang saperti ini telah di-kemukakan? Pada menjawab-nya saya rasa tuan2 semua tentu tahu kerana ta'dapat tidak ini adalah berkehendakkan kepada siaran2 diayah politik. Sebagai mithalnya, dalam Dewan ini kelmari manakala satu usul yang tidak ada kena mengena dalam Dewan ini telah di-tolak oleh Tuan Yang di-Pertua, maka berduyun-duyunlah keluar Ahli2 Pehak Pembangkang daripada Dewan ini. Pada hari ini dengan sechara besar2an semua akhbar2 tempatan telah menyiarkan berita ini; maka bermacam2-lah fikiran dan pendapat orang2 di-luar Dewan ini terhadap Kerajaan ini. Jadi saya rasa usul ini juga sama-lah dengan perbuatan mereka yang telah2 lalu hanya dengan niat semata2 hendak mengeji dan menarek perhatian orang2 di-luar Dewan ini supaya memperchayai bahawasa-nya Kerajaan Perikatan adalah sa-buah Kerajaan yang bertangan besi, lemah dan sebagai-nya.

Saya fikir lebeh2-lah baik Yang Berhormat Tuan Ramanathan menarek balek chadangan ini kerana ra'ayat tidak akan bersetuju dengan tuan turut bersama2 menudoh Kerajaan Perikatan ini lemah. Tuan menchadangkan supaya chadangan ini di-kemukakan tidak lewat pada penggal yang akan datang pada tahun 1962: itu tidak-lah payah kerana ranchangan itu tetap di-laksanakan dahulu daripada permintaan tuan itu.

Dengan ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bersama2 bersetuju dengan rakan saya, Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah, menentang usul ini.

The Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, questions on the proposed Penang Hill Road have been asked at several recent meetings of the State Assembly by Hon'ble Members of the Opposition, in particular the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Pinang and the Hon'ble Member for Kota. It seems that they are very interested in this road, and it is therefore not surprising that the Members of the Opposition, the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Pinang, has brought up this motion. Mr. Speaker, Sir,.....[Interrupted.]

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I ask for clarification of the phrase "very interested"?

The Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin): The words mean they are keen to see that the road is up as soon as possible. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Pinang.....[Interrupted.]

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I clarify because the words "very interested" may have several meanings. I would clarify that, as far as I am aware, not a single one of us has any bit of land either on the Hill or anywhere near it so that we are not interested in the pecuniary aspects of the development of the Hill road. I want that point to be very clearly understood by the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Bakap.

The Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin): I am quite aware of that. As a matter of fact, I would like to reveal

to Hon'ble Members of the Opposition that I had the privilege to walk with the State Engineer during the survey time from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. to half of the road only, clinging to the roots of creepers and trees. Therefore, through that experience, we could at least come to know that Members of the Opposition have no land except the City Council. (Laughter).

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): That (City Council land) does not belong to us.

The Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Pinang asks this Assembly to deplore the State Government for its vacillating attitude towards the proposed Penang Hill Road and for its inept handling of the Hill project. I oppose this motion vigorously as I think it is uncalled for and the terms used in the motion, "vacillating" and "inept handling," are most groundless and unjustified. The Hon'ble Member should not expect the Alliance Government to build such a gigantic project as the Penang Hill Road overnight like the magician who produces live pigeons from his hat. Let the Hon'ble Member remember that well-known proverb that "Rome was not built in a day." The Opposition Members are quite aware of the vast projects which the Alliance Government are doing in their rural development. Therefore, I plead that they have a little patience and tolerance to wait for the result of the road. This morning I just mentioned that the Gazette Notification for the acquisition of land will be out soon. Personally, I feel the State Government must be congratulated for having achieved something which has taken the

former Colonial Government some 30 years to think about and yet nothing has been done except leaving behind a few maps in the Land and Survey Offices, showing the possible places of the proposed Penang Hill Road. In so short a time we have decided on the road and have made an attempt to acquire this land. In this respect alone, I say that the Alliance State Government should be congratulated and be given the necessary bouquet rather than be accused of vacillating and whatnot.

Another point, Mr. Speaker, Sir, — although Members of the Opposition have professed to take a great deal of interest in the proposed Hill road, to have the road up, by asking many questions, if my memory fails me not, the Opposition have so far not clarified their stand on the question of the Penang Hill road, that is, they have not so far stated categorically that they support or do not support the project of the Penang Hill road. We have just heard from the Member for Jelutong that we are building roads for capitalists. Hence I think such a categorical statement, one way or the other, would be most welcome and would avoid unnecessary allegations and accusations on the political platform that we are building roads for the capitalists.

Thank you.

Chief Minister: Sir, I am glad that my colleague from Sungei Bakap has put a sort of challenge to the Opposition side to declare their stand with regard to the Penang Hill Road.

Now, coming to this Motion moved by the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang: The words "vacillating" and "inept" appearing in the Motion are indeed very strong words. As I understand it,

"vacillating" means 'to waver'. I am wondering how the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang has come to the conclusion that the State Government has been wavering or vacillating in its decision on the Penang Hill Road. Does he expect the State Government of Penang to rush through it? To accuse the Government of being inept is an even more serious and inept criticism.

As Honourable Members of this Assembly may probably be aware, the proposal to construct the Penang Hill Road was first mooted some years before World War II. Nothing was done since then to construct this road. All that we have is a trace of the road proposed long ago. The proposal to build the Penang Hill Road was revived in recent years; and in 1958 a Committee was appointed to consider the construction of this road. The Committee completed its report in February, 1960, and made certain recommendations to the State Government. The Report has been kept confidential in the public interest. The reasons for this are obvious in that until the State Government has decided firmly on the line of the road the recommendations cannot be made public since this would lead to speculations.

The construction of the Penang Hill Road, you will all agree with me, is not a simple task. It will be a major project involving millions of dollars. Considerable time must necessarily elapse to allow for careful and detailed planning in order to ensure that public funds are wisely expended. In planning this road up the hill Government had to take into consideration the cheapest possible route, as well as to ensure that by doing so the value of the road as an attraction both to tourists and the local people will not be lost. Again, in order that the

road should be of considerable economic value Government had to take into consideration the number of sites along the road which could be developed for purposes of housing, restaurants and the like. Government had to consider several routes, and has now finally decided upon the line of the main route which in fact is a combination of the several proposed routes. As I have said here before, our Government is not one which makes recommendations or decisions in haste and repents at leisure. Soon a Gazette Notification will be published for the acquisition of land along the proposed line of the road which has been decided upon.

It may have been possible for the State Government to have come to a decision earlier had it not been for the fact that a major portion of Government's resources is now being devoted to the rural development programme as well as to other projects of more immediate economic and social importance. The State Government has accepted the national policy to place emphasis on rural development to correct the economic imbalance between the rural and urban areas. Other projects such as the establishment of the industrial estate and low-cost housing had also to take a high order of priority in the scheme of things for Penang. To have gone ahead with the Penang Hill Road project at the expense of rural development, you will all agree would have been referred to as the "most unkindest cut of all" to the rural people. Despite the low order of priority which was given to the Penang Hill Road project, I am happy to say that it has been possible for the State Government to make the necessary surveys during the year so as to enable the State Government to come to a final decision on the line of the proposed route. The final decision on the

line of the road does not necessarily indicate that the road will be built in the near future. The construction of this road must be dictated by the availability of funds. Whether the funds are to come from State or Federal sources is yet to be determined. The State Government cannot and will not curtail the rural development programme in order to build the Penang Hill Road. Only when we have achieved the objective of raising our rural economy to the desired level can we relax in our efforts in the rural development programme and divert our attention and resources more fully to projects such as the Penang Hill Road. But this does not mean to say that Government is going to remain idle with regard to this project. Government has voted about half a million dollars for 1962, and more money may be voted during the course of the year, if necessary, to complete acquisition of land. Let me also add that Government has under examination other proposals connected with construction of the road.

From what I have said, it is clear that Government has not been vacillating in its attitude towards the Penang Hill Road. All this while, since the report was presented, Government has been constantly examining the various proposals, and particularly the routes, so that when eventually the Penang Hill Road is constructed it will meet with the approval of our people. There has been no question of the State Government having been inept in handling this whole project. The State Government has been constantly working on this project, although it could not accelerate the development to the same possible tempo as was anticipated in 1960. This, as I have explained, has been due to the

high priority given to rural projects. As for the presentation of a full Report to this Assembly, it will be done as and when Government considers it desirable to do so. I therefore oppose this Motion on the grounds that the State Government has neither wavered nor has it been inept towards the Penang Hill Road project.

To clarify the problem of land for development up the hill, I regret to hear that the Honourable Member for Jelutong has said that there is plenty of land.....[Interrupted.]

Mr. Speaker: The Member for Sungei Pinang.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): He has the Honourable Member for Jelutong on his brain.

Chief Minister: I am sorry. The Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang. We are at opposite ends.

Sir, there is land up the hill, but that is reserved land for catchment purposes which will not be suitable for alienation for development.

And I wish to correct the wrong impression created by the Honourable Member for having stated that there were two Committees of this Penang Hill Road. There was only one. Now there is no such Committee.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply by the Honourable the Chief Minister confirms me in my view that this Motion is essentially correct in its assumptions that the Government has been both vacillating and inept. Of course, the Chief Minister has tried to

bring in a red herring by contrasting or rather putting it down as two alternatives — either the Hill Road or rural development. Now, this is far from the purpose of our Resolution. If in fact it becomes a question of either the Hill Road or rural development then we on this side will be the first to say, "Abandon the Hill Road". I would like to make that point very clear. We are not saying that the Hill Road should be developed at the cost of rural development. That is not our purpose at all. All that we say is that Government which has itself laid down a certain policy should be more brisk about it. And I do not think it can claim to have been brisk when the Report was presented in February, 1960, and it is now December, 1961. It is almost 2 years. And all this time we were told that there was no Report, that the Report was not finalized and so forth and now we are told it has at last been decided that the route should be along a certain way. All this goes to prove that the Government has been inept in its handling of this question.

With regard to other points raised by other speakers that this Resolution is merely a political stunt, I do not think I will bother to reply to that because I think almost everything that is being done nowadays can be referred to as a political stunt.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): Political stink.

The Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Political stink.

I do not think I need to elaborate on that.

But the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap raised another point: "What is your policy with

regard to the Hill Road?" I think the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap has not understood our position, or he is wishing to make a political stink. The thing is this: I have already mentioned that two problems will — maybe not solve but — help to solve: one, the problem of land which is scarce in Penang; and then the problem of attracting tourists to Penang. On the first point, the Chief Minister has replied that there are catchment areas. I am aware of that. I have visited many of these catchment areas myself. But surely all the hill land is not catchment area! There are still considerable portions of land which could be developed, and which will be developed if this Hill Road comes up and is done properly.

Now, the other point is this: What is our policy towards this? I confess that in advocating the early building of the Penang Hill Road I am guilty of a certain amount of local patriotism. But I wonder — as I am sure many of the Honourable Members will have done — have they considered the future of Penang? Penang Island, I mean? We were once a fishing village; and if certain tendencies which are now beginning to appear go on we may still become a fishing village. I refer specifically to the development at Port Swettenham, and the possible development which has been rumoured of the Isthmus of Kra. Now, these are the things which we as legislators and as elected leaders must think about. That is why the question of tourism is so important — because we have natural facilities, we have natural beauties in the Island which we should use to the full. And we will find that when development goes along the Hill Road thousands of more people possibly will be able to be accommodated. Probably the

tourist industry itself will provide work for many more. All these points must be considered. But I repeat, I do not want the red herring drawn by the Chief Minister to go unchallenged. If it is said that the Penang Hill Road will in any way interfere with the rural development plan then we on this side are not for it. We will definitely oppose the building of the Penang Hill Road. But all that we ask is that if this project is on the books then let us get going with it.

Question put and Motion defeated.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Chief Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menandatangani supaya Dewan ini ditangguhkan sekarang.

The Member for Ayer Itam (Mr. Chor Sin Kheng): Sir, I beg to second.

The Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the last two days we have been debating and asking about the spending of the millions of dollars next year. This is as it should be in a budget meeting. But I note that no provision has been made for the fishermen, for the vegetable gardeners and the poor people whose lands or whose houses will be taken down in the near future by house development schemes. People in Butterworth, Bukit Mertajam, as well as the people of Penang Island will face this dark future very soon.

Six years ago I pleaded with the then Government to take care of the people of Tanjong Tokong because of the housing developments going on there. Today the people of Tanjong Bungah whose position is not quite so

acute, but bad, face the same problem. I hope that when the leases of land expire in the next few years the Government will earmark these for the fishermen.

We all know that there are hundreds of vegetable gardeners in Tanjong Bungah. Now, what is the future of these poor people who toil and till the land they now live in. I hope the Government will consider also zoning up certain lands for vegetable gardening.

In Batu Ferringhi the people also face the same bleak future. I hope the Government will consider acquiring and setting up lands as settlements for the people of Batu Ferringhi. It is unrealistic to ask the fishermen of Batu Ferringhi to go to Telok Bahang because I know that Telok Bahang is also crowded with the fishing boats, and any more fishermen from other areas will create congestion and ultimately quarrels.

In the same breath that I ask the Government to consider the bleak future of the people of the North Coast, I also plead with the Government to do the same thing for the people of Butterworth, Bukit Mertajam and Nibong Tebal.

Thank you, Sir.

The Member for Kota (Mr. Lee Kok Liang): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my topic for this adjournment speech is in regard to the proposition of declaration of assets by State Assemblymen and Local Councillors. By the term 'Local Councillors' I propose to include City as well as Rural Councillors.

I came to consider the proposition after some thought. I fully realise that it is repugnant to many of us, as it is to me, to have to declare our assets and income

to other people. Our assets and income, most of us tend to feel, are private matters, and it is only with a great deal of reluctance that we share them or the knowledge of these assets in one instance with those suspicious gentlemen from the Income Tax Department. But now to ask us, as I am now asking all of us, to share the details of our assets further with other persons, and to do that voluntarily, may seem to some the height of imbecility. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, as State Assemblymen we are not, may I point out, private persons but public figures. We assume the role and status of public figures by virtue of the fact that we are politicians, and that we have been elected to this Council. And my submission is that all public figures should, like Caesar's wife, be beyond and above suspicion.

May I bring to the attention of this House that a Greek philosopher, Plato, more than 2,000 years ago conceived of his ideal State. One of his theses or his ideas with regard to the rulers of his ideal State is that these persons shall be selected and sieved out when they are still very young children, and that they will be taught and trained, have the correct education, and live very Spartan lives — high thinking and low living. But one of the essentials in their training and in their qualifications which Plato insisted upon is that they shall not touch, shall not possess gold. Plato in his wisdom realised that gold is as beautiful as it is corrupting. And Plato has a high regard for political rulers in his scheme of things. But the high regard is not always there. Unfortunately this attitude of high regard does not hold for all persons.

A modern American poet — very famous, I assure you gentle-

men — E. E. Cummings, however had a very different idea. In two short lines he wrote out his testimonial to all politicians. He says — may I quote:

"A politician is an arse upon which everyone has sat except a man."

For a moment, please do not misunderstand me. Please do not think that I wholeheartedly agree with the opinion of that poet. But what I would stress is this: both Plato and E. E. Cummings in their own way are right. The ideal politician in Plato's scheme of things is a man of moral stature and without gold. The practical politician in E. E. Cummings' world is a man with no stature but with golden means. This is in reference to American politicians, of course.

We in Penang, let us remind ourselves, which is really a little dot on the map of the world, may think that both Plato and E. E. Cummings are highly impossible. But viewed as a whole the political movements which have swept Asia, and your part of Asia, one outstanding fact leaps to the mind. Every movement is a cleansing movement. It strives to clean up corruption. Even — I may be given permission to refer — the new President in the Philippines made anti-corruption one of his most important planks in his platform. Of course, corruption may be in many forms and many ways; but however ingenious the corrupter is, the end is always the same — personal gain and private profit. We are, as politicians, in a very vulnerable position because of the very long tradition of easy-going politicians in the past. You will find examples of this in satires, in plays, in songs, even in novels. But how can we try to succeed in removing, as the Hon'ble the Chief Minister used the remarkable

term, the political stink from us. Now, one of the ways I am suggesting now is to expose ourselves, figuratively speaking. I mean we must convince the public that we are making nothing as politicians and that we do not use the power given to us, the influence we hold, and turn them to our own personal advantage or profit or that of our friends.

One of the first steps would be to make a periodical declaration of our assets. I should like to suggest at this stage to the Hon'ble the Chief Minister the formation of an *ad hoc* Committee or a Select Committee to study this problem — the manner of declaration of assets, the definition of assets, whether also assets belonging to wives (by this I mean monetary assets and landed assets) and those of nominees need be declared or not; what sort of legislation should be drawn up, say, to enforce the observance of this principle.

On the whole, I think it is a stringent measure and I think that no other State, or indeed the Federal Government, has done anything about this. But our motto is "Let Penang lead"; and I am sure if it leads in the right way, it may be a little guiding light in this dark corner of the world. So I hope that for our own good and for the good of this little State, we make a small sacrifice on our part. What is private concerning the matter of assets we are willing to let it be known and the people will also know whether we grow richer while they grow poorer.

Chief Minister: Sir, I thank the Hon'ble Member for Tanjong Bungah for his suggestions with regard to the settlement for vegetable growers, fisherfolk and poor folk in Penang and Province Wellesley. I also appreciate the dif-

ficulties of those people. Government is always trying to help the poor, such as vegetable growers, farmers, fishermen and others. One tangible way in which Government is helping those with small incomes is to provide low-cost housing. Much has been said in this Assembly with regard to low-cost schemes which the State Government is implementing, or is proposing to implement, in the course of the next few years. A low-cost housing scheme has already been established in Bera-pit, Bukit Mertajam and two others, namely in Butterworth and Kampong Herriot, are now under way. It is also proposed to construct low-cost houses at Ayer Itam and Telok Bahang next year. Other low-cost schemes are in the planning stage. This is to show that Government is not only providing for economic development but also for social improvement. I agree that demand for low-cost houses exceeds the supply but Government is doing its best to narrow the gap between demand and supply.

With regard to the low-cost housing scheme at Telok Bahang. Government is proposing to offer cheap but decent houses to fishermen in and around that area. Fishermen who eventually purchase these houses will enjoy security of tenure. As for vegetable growers, farmers and squatters who are affected by rural development schemes, Government is endeavouring, as far as practicable, to provide them with alternative sites on which they can build their houses and continue with their traditional forms of livelihood — for instance, squatters, vegetable growers and farmers who are affected by rural development schemes are being provided with alternative sites at Paya Terubong, Sungei Dua and Kampong Bahru, Bukit Mertajam. It will therefore be seen that

Government is not unsympathetic towards vegetable growers, fishermen and squatters in Penang and is doing its best to provide them, wherever possible, with land for housing sites or low-cost houses. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many private developers who have been kind enough to compensate squatters and other poor folk. However, compensation may not be the solution in all these cases and private developers may consider offering squatters, and such like people, alternative sites so that they can continue to live in the manner they have been used to.

Once again, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Member for Tanjong Bungah and I would also like to give him the assurance that Government will do its best to help vegetable growers, fishermen and poor folk in the State of Penang.

My reply to the Adjournment Speech made by the Hon'ble Member for Kota is that, as far as I am aware, declaration of

assets by Assemblymen and Councillors in the local authorities is neither a legal nor a constitutional requirement. Whether or not it is desirable for Assemblymen to be obliged to make declaration of their assets periodically or otherwise is a matter, in my opinion, for this Assembly to decide. With regard to the question of Councillors in local councils or local authorities to be obliged to make such declarations — I feel that it is only proper for this matter to be considered by the Councillors concerned.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I resume my seat, may I take this opportunity to wish all Honourable Members "Selamat Tahun Bahru" and to my Christian friends "A Holy and Merry Christmas". [Hon'ble Members reciprocate.]

Mr. Speaker: Ahli2 Yang Berhormat, saya juga akan mengucapkan "Selamat Tahun Bahru" dan "Selamat bekerja".

Meshuarat di-tangguhkan.

The Assembly adjourns at 1.02 p.m.

APPENDIX A.

REGULATIONS FOR THE
ALLOCATION OF DIVISION
ONE OFFICERS' QUARTERS
IN THE DISTRICT OF PENANG.

Eligibility for Quarters.

1. (i) Any officer in Division I of the Public Service who is:—

- (a) in a pensionable office on probation, or on the permanent and pensionable establishment;
- (b) serving on agreement or contract for a period of twelve months or more

shall be eligible for a Government quarter of a class in accordance with Schedule "A" except that for the purpose of this Regulation, the basic salary of any woman officer shall be considered to be five-fourths of her actual basic salary.

(ii) For the purpose of this Regulation, an Army Officer seconded to the Government Service for a period of not less than 12 months shall be eligible for a quarter as if he were a Government officer in the salary range — \$982/- — \$1,185/- where he is a Lt. Colonel or a Major and below \$982/- where he is a Captain.

(iii) For the purpose of this Regulation, a Colombo Plan or United Nations Expert or similar officer seconded to the Government service for a period of not less than 12 months shall be eligible for a quarter as if he were a Government officer, excepting that irrespective of his salary his eligibility shall in no way be greater than if he were a Government officer on \$1,360/- basic salary p.m.

Housing Committee.

2. (i) There shall be a Housing Committee appointed by the State Secretary.

(ii) Such Committee shall consist of:

The State Engineer, Penang as Chairman and four representatives of the various Civil Service Associations and an officer nominated by the State Secretary.

(iii) The Committee shall have power to allocate any quarter other than a quarter declared by the State Secretary or the Chief Minister, Penang, in writing to be a Federal or State Institutional or Departmental quarter as the case may be.

(iv) The Committee shall frame its own rules of procedure and may, with the concurrence of the State Secretary in its discretion, amend these regulations or frame new regulations from time to time in so far as it may be necessary to suit any change in the Housing position.

(v) The Committee shall meet as often as circumstances dictate for the purpose of allocating quarters, and considering matters arising out of these regulations.

(vi) Appeal from any decision of the Committee shall lie to the State Secretary and shall be made in writing within three days of such decision being communicated to the officer concerned.

(vii) The Committee shall post on P.W.D. Notice Board a list giving such details of Waiting Lists and other matters as the Committee may consider appropriate.

Application for Quarters.

3. (i) Every application for a quarter shall be made in the form at Schedule "B".

(ii) The effective date of any application for a quarter shall be the date of receipt thereof by the

Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee or the date of arrival of the officer in Penang, whichever is the later.

Waiting Lists

4. (i) The Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee shall maintain such Waiting Lists as may be appropriate and necessary.

(ii) On receipt of an application the Chairman shall enter the officers' name on the appropriate Waiting List and shall calculate his monthly point-earning rate in accordance with the provisions of Schedule "C". He shall credit such officer with the number of points which will be earned by the end of the current month. At the beginning of each succeeding month and whilst not a Chief Tenant of a Government quarter the officers' total points shall be increased according to his full monthly rate.

(iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule "C" the Committee may, in its discretion, credit an officer with points in respect of a wife or any dependent child under 18 years of age resident in Malaya outside of Penang.

(iv) (a) An officer who does not require a quarter for the time being shall apply to have his name transferred to a Suspense List where he will continue to earn points. To revert to the Active List he shall give one month's notice in writing to the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee.

(b) No application for transfer to the Suspense List without loss of points shall be considered if in the opinion of the Committee the applicant is trying to avoid allocation/occupation of any quarter.

(v) Where an officer is eligible for an increase in points due to a change in family circumstances, or salary, such increase shall be effective from the date on which

the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee is so informed in writing.

(vi) Any officer transferred to Penang from another station, with which reciprocal arrangements have been made, may, with the approval of the Committee, be given credit for his time on the Active Waiting List during the preceding three years in previous stations, calculated as if he had spent the waiting time in Penang, provided that he was not allocated quarters after that waiting time and provided that no officer given points under this Rule shall be considered for a quarter until he has been in Penang for one month.

(vii) A single officer accommodated in a Government Mess who qualifies for a separate quarter by virtue of salary increase or marriage, may apply for his name to be placed on the Active Waiting List, and shall be credited with points from the date of his original application for a quarter during his current tour.

(viii) Any Division II officer who is promoted to Division I, shall apply to be entered on the Active Waiting List and shall be credited with points whether in occupation of a Government Quarter or not. Such application shall be effective from the date on which the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee is so informed in writing and irrespective of the date of promotion.

(ix) Any officer who occupies an Institutional or departmental quarter shall inform the Committee accordingly, and it shall be in the discretion of the Committee to decide whether or not, and the conditions upon which, he shall be permitted to remain on a Waiting List.

Mess Accommodation.

5. (i) Seniority on a Single Officers Mess Waiting List shall be by date of application. An officer

may register his name on this List whilst in occupation of a Government quarter.

(ii) Government Senior Officers unaccompanied by their wives or unmarried should not be penalised for not accepting Mess Accommodation other than to lose their place on the Waiting List i.e. they would be eligible to draw Housing Allowance as though they had never been offered accommodation.

Allocation.

6. (i) Quarters shall be allocated by the Committee in accordance with the eligibility table at Schedule "A".

Provided that where the circumstances of any particular case so warrant the Committee may, in its discretion, allocate a quarter other than in accordance with Schedule "A".

(ii) A vacant quarter shall ordinarily be allocated to that officer on the Active Waiting List who has accumulated the greatest number of points and provided he is eligible for that quarter in accordance with General Orders and the Eligibility Tables at Schedule "A".

Refusal of Quarters.

7. (i) Where an officer refuses a quarter on grounds which in the opinion of the Committee are not good and sufficient his name shall be deleted from the Active Waiting List. Where such officer is accommodated in a Chalet he may also be required to vacate his chalet. In order to be replaced on such list he shall submit a further application which shall be effective from the date of receipt thereof by the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee. In such case points shall not be credited in respect of previous waiting time.

(ii) No officer who has refused an allocation of a quarter on grounds which in the opinion of

the Committee are not good and sufficient shall have his name transferred to the Suspense List.

Exchange of Quarters.

8. (i) Any two officers entitled to the same class of quarter may arrange a mutual exchange of quarters provided that both officers have a substantial period of their current tour to serve in Penang and the approval of the Committee has been given to such exchange.

(ii) Officers who become eligible for a better Class of quarter due to change in family circumstances, promotion or etc. can apply to the Committee for a change of quarters.

(iii) Applications for exchange of quarters from officers with children who have been allocated 1st or 2nd floor flats will be favourably considered.

(iv) Applications for an exchange of quarters from one to the other of alternatives for which an officer is eligible will be favourably considered.

(v) Officers whose applications have been approved by the Committee will have their names entered on the normal Active Waiting List for quarters and they will be allocated quarters when their names reach the top of the list and quarters for which they are eligible become vacant.

Vacation of Quarters.

9. (i) Where an officer is about to vacate a quarter he shall give at least two weeks' notice in writing thereof to the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee stating the proposed date of his vacation.

(ii) It is the duty of an officer to inform the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee in writing should his wife and family cease to reside in the quarter allocated to him. Where due to

his family's departure an officer occupies quarters to which he is no longer entitled under the provisions of Schedule "A", the Committee may require him to move to other appropriate accommodation.

Retention of Quarters.

10. (i) An officer on leave may retain his quarter for a period not exceeding 3 calendar months. If the quarter is not to be occupied by members of his family for the greater part of his absence, then he should try to arrange for another Division I officer, preferably one from the same Department, to occupy the quarter during his absence.

(ii) The Committee may grant permission to an officer proceeding on Privilege Leave, in accordance with the provisions of G. O. C. 37, to retain his quarter for a period not exceeding the duration of such leave, provided that the quarter is occupied by a member of his family, or by another Division I Officer, preferably from the same Department for the duration of his absence.

(iii) The Committee may grant permission to an officer proceeding on Overseas Study Leave to retain his quarter provided that:-

- (a) his period of absence will not exceed nine months.
- (b) his Head of Department certifies that there is no intention to transfer him away from Penang for at least one year on his return from leave.
- (c) the quarter is occupied by a member or members of his family, or temporarily by another Division I Officer, preferably from the same Department.

ment, for the duration of his absence.

Where any of the conditions ceases to apply, the Committee may regain possession of the quarter by giving the officer and his family or the officer and the temporary occupant one month's notice, as relevant.

A Division I Officer occupying the quarters of another Division I Officer, while the latter is on leave, shall continue to earn housing points although he may become eligible for a quarter during this time. He will not normally have one allocated until within a month of the other officer or his family's return from leave if there is likely to be another quarters available for allocation before the other officer or his family's return from leave.

11. The Government reserves to itself the right to allot quarters in such manner as it considers most expedient in the interests of the Public Service and nothing in these regulations shall limit the power of Government so to do.

12.

Subletting forbidden.

Your attention is drawn to Cap. E. General Orders 154(ii) 9 which states:

No portion of any quarter may be sublet by the officer to whom it has been allotted; and no person other than such officer, his wife, children, dependents and servants may reside in the quarter without the sanction of Government given by the allotting authority; provided that the sanction of Government will not be required in the case of short, casual visits by friends and relatives. No quarter may be used for any purpose other than as a residence without prior sanction of the allotting authority.

SCHEDULE "A"

(See page 218)

TABLE 1

(see Table 2 for exceptions)

1	2	3	4	5
Basic Salary \$	Single Officer	Married with no children	Married with not more than 2 children	Married with 3 or more children
1,186 & over A	Flat or Mess	Flat or two bedroom house	Two bedroom house	* Two bedroom or three bedroom house.
982 to 1,185 B	Mess or Sharing a Flat.	Flat	Two bedroom house	* Two bedroom or three bedroom house.
981 and below C	Mess	Flat	Two bedroom house or * Flat	* Two bedroom or three bedroom house.

* At the discretion of the Committee depending on the age and sex of the children.

"Wherever possible officers with children will not be allocated flats other than those on the ground floor."

TABLE 2

Subdivided Houses etc.

Locality of Quarters	Penang Classification	No. of Bed-rooms.	No. of Bath-rooms.	Eligibility with respect of Cols. 2, 3, 4, 5 & Lines A, B, C of Sch. A
66A Scotland Road	C	2	2	2A, 3A, 3B, 3C
66B Scotland Road	D	1	1	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
3A Batu Gantong Rd.	C	2	2	2A, 3A, 3B, 3C
3B Batu Gantong Rd.	D	1	1	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
20A Ayer Rajah Rd.	C	2	2)	3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C
3A Rose Avenue	C	2	2)	
35 Udini Road	D	1	1	2A, 2B, 2C, 3C
35A Udini Road	C	3	2	3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C
131A Green Lane	D	2	2)	3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C
131B Green Lane	C	2	2)	
2 Sepoy Lines	C	2	2)	3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C
2A Sepoy Lines	C	2	2)	
4A Green Lane	C	3	2)	5C only
4E Green Lane	C	3	2)	

The holders of the following appointments will be given priority and the successor in office may occupy the quarters at present occupied by him provided that he is already in Penang at the time the quarters are vacated.

Heads of State Departments:	State Secretary
	Judge
	Chief Education Officer
	State Engineer
	Chief Medical & Health Officer
	Chief Police Officer
	Legal Adviser
	Collector of Land Revenue
	State Financial Officer
Heads of Federal Departments:	Fisheries
	Immigration
	Marine.

Where warranted by circumstances the Committee reserve the right to allocate a different quarters to the incoming officer, subject to Regulation II.

VII

SCHEDULE "B"

APPLICATION FORM FOR QUARTERS: DIVISION I OFFICERS.

Applicants are required to acquaint themselves with the current regulations for the allocation of Division I Officers quarters which are available from his Head of Department before completing this form.

Department Ref. No: _____

Housing Committee Ref. No: _____

Name in Full (Block Letters): _____

Department: _____

State or Federal: _____

Appointment or Status: _____

Date of appointment to Div.: _____

Permanent/Contract/Temporary: _____

Basic Salary: _____

Acting Allowance (if any): _____

Married or Single: _____

Is wife in Penang, if so state date of arrival: _____

Number of children in Penang state date of arrival: _____

Age and Sex of children: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Length of residence, other than as Chief Tenant, anywhere in the Federation or Singapore during the previous five years prior to the Officer's final arrival in Penang with dates: _____

Date of arrival in Penang: _____

Present residence: _____

Do you wish to be entered on the Single Officers Mess Waiting List? _____

Do you wish to be entered on the Family Mess Waiting List? _____

VIII

Please state:—

the post which you are going to fill: _____

Date of application: _____

I certify that the above particulars are correct in every respect.

Signed by applicant: _____

Certified by Applicant's Head of Department.

N.B. It is the duty of every officer to notify the Chairman, Senior Officers' Housing Committee when his wife and children arrive in Penang in case they have not accompanied him.

To be completed in duplicate — one copy to State Secretary, Penang.

one copy to Chairman,
Senior Officers' Housing Committee,
Penang.

SCHEDULE "C"

Points.

An Officer's monthly rate of earning points shall be the aggregate number of points earned in respect of salary, wife, children, length of service and previous waiting time, calculated in accordance with the following scales:—

- (i) **Salary:** 2 points for each \$100/- of basic salary calculated to the nearest \$100/-.
- (ii) **Wife in Station:** 5 points for one wife only.
- (iii) **Children in Station:** Points as below for each wholly dependent child under 18 years of age subject to a maximum of 5 such children.

1st child	6 points
2nd child	5 points
3rd child	4 points
4th child	3 points
5th child	2 points.

- (iv) **Previous waiting time:** Where an officer is not eligible for points for previous waiting time under Regulation 4 (vi) & (vii) 1 point for every month he was not a chief tenant of a Govt. quarter during the five years previous to the date of application spent in the Federation subject to a maximum of 10 points.

Points for waiting in previous station to count only from date of appointment to Division I. All claims in this respect to be supported by certificate from appropriate Housing Committee.

- (v) **Length of Service** Over 5 years service 2 points
- in Div. I:** Over 10 years service 3 additional points making a total of 5.

Married female Government Officers will earn points as though they were not married.

2. The officer will be given points immediately on entering the Waiting List for the fractional period of the month remaining from the effective date of application until the 1st of the following month. These points will be calculated by dividing the total monthly points to which he is entitled by 30 and multiplying by the number of days remaining in the month. Fractions of points will be ignored.

GENERAL ORDERS (CAP. E)

Appendix E2

Class of Quarters for which officers are eligible

Officers in Division I whose basic salary is		Class	
\$1,490/- p.m. and over.	I	A	
over \$1,141/- p.m. and under \$1,490/- p.m.	II		
— do —	\$922/- p.m. and not more than \$1,141/- p.m.	IIIA	B
— do —	\$585/- p.m. and not more than \$922/- p.m.	IIIB	
— do —	not more than \$585/- p.m.	IVC or Modified C	D
— do —		V	

APPENDIX B

Memorandum on the procedure governing the allocation of Junior Officers' Quarters.

A general waiting list and a priority waiting list are kept and applicants are put on the priority list after their cases have been considered by the Junior Officers' Housing Advisory Committee. Under this system priority consideration is given to officers who are improperly housed and allocation is made to deserving cases after their accommodations have been inspected and after all the circumstances of each case have been fully considered.

Officers coming on transfer from other States and who were in occupation of quarters are given priority consideration but those who have registered for Quarters in another State are treated as fresh applications for the purpose of registration. In any case such officers are also given priority consideration if the Junior Officers' Housing Advisory Committee are satisfied that they are improperly housed and that they have been on the waiting list for Quarters in their previous station.

The Junior Officers' Housing Advisory Committee is constituted as follows:—

Assistant Settlement Secretary (Admn.) Chairman.

Office Assistant, Settlement Secretariat, Official Member.

Three unofficial members nominated by the Junior Civil Service Association.

APPENDIX C.

F. — LOCAL PURCHASES, TENDERS AND CONTRACTS.

324. Any stores which may be purchased locally or any commercial service required by a department, other than engineering works or supplies, should, unless the estimated cost during the year is less than \$1,500, be obtained by contract after public tender. If, however, no tenders are made or the Financial Secretary in the case of a Federal service or the Mentri Besar or Resident Commissioner in the case of a State or Settlement service has ground for belief that the tenders sent in are collusive or unreasonable, other arrangements may be made. All tenders will be submitted to a Board of not less than three persons appointed by the Financial Secretary in the case of Federal expenditure and by the Mentri Besar or Resident Commissioner in the case of State or Settlement expenditure.

325. Except where otherwise authorised by the Financial Secretary in respect of Federal services, or the Mentri Besar or Resident Commissioner in respect of State or Settlement services, tenders must be invited for all engineering works, or engineering supplies normally obtained locally, estimated to cost more than \$5,000, where such works are not to be carried out departmentally.

326. Tenders will be invited by the issue and posting of notices and by circulation to registered contractors. Where the estimated cost of the service exceeds \$10,000 an advertisement will in addition be inserted in the Gazette and if it exceeds \$25,000 an advertisement will also be inserted in such newspapers as may be decided by the advertiser.

327. (a) A register of contractors may be maintained by the Head of any Department for the purpose of assisting departmental officers and Tenders Boards by the classification of contractors according to their financial standing and the maximum value of works and/or services which they are normally capable of carrying out satisfactorily.

(b) Contractors may be registered in one or more of the following classes:

Class A for contracts for works or supplies estimated to cost over ...	\$1,000,000
Class B for contracts for works or supplies estimated to cost not more than ...	\$1,000,000
Class C for contracts for works or supplies estimated to cost not more than ...	250,000
Class D for contracts for works or supplies estimated to cost not more than ...	100,000
Class E for contracts for works or supplies estimated to cost not more than ...	50,000

Purchases
by contract
after tenders.

Tenders for
engineering
works or
engineering
supplies.

Inviting of
tenders.

Registration
of Contrac-
tors.

Class EX for contracts for works or supplies
estimated to cost not more than ... 25,000

Class F for contracts for works or supplies
estimated to cost not more than ... 10,000

(c) Contracts for engineering and building works and supplies will only be awarded to registered contractors.

(d) Contractors will be required to pay such fee as may from time to time be prescribed by law upon registration or upon amended registration or re-registration. Payments are non-returnable.

(e) All registration of contractors in Classes A, B and C shall be subject to the approval of the Department, or the Mentri Besar or Resident Commissioner in the case of State or Settlement services. A contractor's name may be removed from the list of registered contractors at the discretion of the Federal or State or Settlement head of department or in the event of a breach of any condition of tendering or of any condition of a contract provided that the name of Class A, B and C contractors shall not be removed except with the approval of the Federal Head of the Department, or of the Mentri Besar or Resident Commissioner in the case of State and Settlement services.

328. Tenders for works or supplies on State, Settlement, or Federal account may be received:

- (a) by the departmental officer in charge of the district or area if the estimated cost does not exceed \$25,000;
- (b) by the Federal head of department or Settlement head of department if the estimated cost exceeds \$25,000; provided that such tenders for works or supplies shall immediately be deposited unopened in a locked Tenders Box.

Receipt of
tenders

Opening of
tenders

329. (a) Tenders for works or supplies on State, Settlement, or Federal account will be opened:

- (i) by the Departmental Officer in charge of the district or area if the estimated cost does not exceed \$10,000;
- (ii) by a Tenders Opening Committee consisting of the departmental officer in charge of the district or area and the District Officer or Sub-Treasurer if the estimated cost exceeds \$10,000 but does not exceed \$25,000;
- (iii) by a Tenders Opening Committee consisting of the senior officer of the department in the State or Settlement or an officer nominated by him and the State or Settlement Treasurer if the estimated cost exceeds \$25,000.

XIII

- (b) The Tenders Opening Committee will open the Tenders Box at the appointed hour, schedule the tenders received and forward them under sealed confidential cover to the appropriate departmental officer whose recommendations in respect of such tenders are required by the Tenders Board.

(c) All tenders received after the appointed hour will be returned to the sender.

330. (a) Tenders Boards will be appointed by the Financial Secretary, Mentri Besar or Resident Commissioner, as the case may be. They will ordinarily consist of a Chairman, and three members, namely — the appropriate departmental officer, a financial officer and an unofficial member.

Tenders
Boards

(b) The constitution of all Tenders Boards will be published in the Gazette.

(c) Members of Tenders Boards are expected to satisfy themselves that the approved tenderer is competent to perform the work for which he tenders.



