

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY, PENANG

I ST SITTING OF THE  
FIRST SESSION FRIDAY  
29 TH MAY; 1964

KPP  
328.595123  
PEN



0-11779

PPAPP



1000761417

29TH MAY, 1964.

PRESENT:

Yang Berhormat Tuan Yang di-Pertua (Tuan Haji Sulaiman bin Haji Ahmad, P.J.E)  
Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri (Dato Wong Pow Nee, P.M.N)  
Yang Berhormat Penasihat Undang2 (Enche Wan Suleiman bin Pawan Tei  
" " Ahli Kawasan Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik, A.M.N., J.P.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Enche Kee Yong Chin, J.P.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Enche Chor Sin Kheng, J.P.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff, P.J.E  
" " Ahli Kawasan Sungei Pinang (Enche D. S. Ramanathan, J.P.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Enche Tan Khim Hoe)  
" " Ahli Kawasan Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M. S. A. Zachariah  
" " Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Enche Cheah Seng Khim, J.P.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Kepala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah, A.M.N.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Enche Phee Joo Teik)  
" " Ahli Kawasan Nibong Tebal (Tuan Haji Sahid bin Hassan, P.J.E.  
" " Ahli Kawasan Balik Pulau (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Mohamed Taib  
" " Ahli Kawasan Tasek Glugor (Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil  
" " Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Enche Williams David)  
" " Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim  
" " Ahli Kawasan Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu)  
" " Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Barat (Enche Teh Ewe Lim  
" " Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Tengah (Enche Teh Geok Koo  
" " Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Utara (Enche Khoo Kay Por  
" " Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah  
" " Ahli Kawasan Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin)

ABSENT:

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

The Assembly resumes at 10.00 a.m.

Mr. Speaker: Ahli2 Yang Berhormat, Majlis bersidang sa-mula. Kita sekarang berada di-dalam chadangan yang di-bawa oleh Ahli daripada Bagan Ajam.

Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion. I agree with His Excellency that the winds of change have come over the Island, and the gentle breeze is blowing across our shores. This reminds me of Hawaii where one always finds gentle breezes throughout the day and night. However, in Hawaii the Government gives; and is giving, top priority to tourism; and the result is that millions of dollars are pouring in into the State's coffers every year. In Malaya, or in Penang in particular, tourism is not getting the priority it deserves. Take, for example, the Penang Hill Road. When I was a young man I heard about the road up the Hill; and when I entered politics in 1955 my maiden speech was to build a road up the Hill; and to-day, what do we have? We have only a jeep track. I hope the Government will reconsider its attitude towards tourism. At present there is only a whisper of a breeze blowing as far as tourism is concerned; and I hope that this whisper will in the very near future turn into a bigger volume, that is, a gentle breeze.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to refer to the low-cost housing scheme at Telok Awak mentioned by His Excellency in his speech. This assurance that it will be completed by 1964 will, I am sure, bring cheer to the people of Telok Bahang, and bring joy to many families.

I support the Motion. Thank you, Sir.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I ask if it is in order, since we came in late and the debate was already taking place over His Majesty's speech... (interrupted.)

Mr. Speaker: His Excellency's speech.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): I mean, His Excellency's speech.... for us to move an amendment to the Motion?

Mr. Speaker: It is in order.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): We would like to move an amendment to the Motion with regard to His Excellency's gracious Address to this Assembly yesterday, to the extent that the Motion as it now stands reads —

"That we, the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, Penang, beg to thank His Excellency for the gracious Address given to this Assembly at the First Sitting of the First Session on 28th May, 1964."

Delete the inverted commas thereon, and add the following paragraph:—

"However, we consider that the people in the State of Penang, and in particular those who live and work in the Island of Penang, would have been given greater assurance and confidence over their future welfare, whilst at the same time perhaps the relationship between the State Government and the Central Government will become even more cordial and the bonds existing between them will be strengthened even more had His Excellency been advised to include in His Gracious Address a special reference to the desire and determination of the people of Penang to retain and preserve the "Free Port Status" of Penang Island; especially since this issue was one of the principal issues taken up by all the major political parties in the State,

including the Alliance Party, during the last State and Parliamentary Elections when the electorate clearly demonstrated their support for the Alliance Party over this issue on the basis of the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia 'that the State of Penang will retain the Free Port Status of the Island of Penang until the people of Penang can be persuaded to change it' by voting in favour of the Alliance Party and thereby returning their candidates into power in the State Legislative Assembly."

(Amendment handed to Mr. Speaker).

Mr. Speaker: What is that? Spare copy? I think you can pass it to the Government bench to study because it is too long.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): It is only one paragraph, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Ahli2 Yang Berhormat, oleh kerana pindaan ka atas chadangan daripada Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam bersangkutan dengan free port atau pelabuhan bebas, saya menerima pindaan ini.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, yesterday, although we did touch on the question of the free port status, and in view of the amendment to the Motion then proposed by the Hon'ble Members for Jelutong and Tanjong Selatan, I did say that we found great sympathy with their views over the free port status. However, we were not able to associate ourselves with the amendment put forward by them because, firstly, the words that were used by them indicated virtually a regret and an opposition to the Motion which stands in the name of the Hon'ble Member for Bagan Ajam. Further,

the issue that was brought up yesterday mentioned the question of the permanent retention of the status of the free port of Penang. Sir, I said yesterday that, whilst we were very naturally thankful to the Hon'ble Members from Tanjong Selatan and Jelutong for bringing up this issue, which virtually was a major election issue of the United Democratic Party at the last elections, we felt it was somewhat inconsistent in view of the fact that the Socialist Front during the campaign in the last elections took as their major issue the question of Malaysia, and also the question of the free port. Their leadership had indicated slightly different views expressed from the Motion moved by them yesterday. Sir, there is a distinct difference in the amended Motion that we have presented because it is consistent with our Party's policy that whilst we are elected here and form the Opposition in the House it is our Party's principle to maintain and help the Government develop the highest traditions of Parliamentary democracy which is referred to by His Excellency in his gracious speech. So it is not our intention in any way to criticize the Motion. But it is our intention however, wherever possible, to work together in conjunction with the Government in so far as the welfare and the general well-being of the people of our State are concerned. Sir, there is no question that as far as the well-being and the welfare of the people of Penang are concerned the question of the retention of the free port status looms large in the minds of a very large number of people living in our State.

Sir, in our motion of amendment, we have made this amendment on two points; and the first point, Sir, is that such a Motion would in fact give the people of the State of Penang, and in parti-

cular those who live and work on the Island of Penang, a greater assurance and confidence over their future welfare because, it is true, yesterday during the course of the debate, and also on other previous occasions in the public Press and in previous Sessions of this House the Hon'ble the Chief Minister had referred again and again to the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia over the question of the free port status and its relationship to Penang Island.

Sir, the second thing we mentioned is that we hope also that such an inclusion of a reference to the retention of the free port status of Penang in His Excellency's gracious Address would perhaps augment the cordial relationship, and strengthen the bonds existing between the State Government and the Central Government because we believe that, whilst it is true we should preserve cordial relationships and have strong ties with the Central Government, these relationships, however cordial, must be strengthened on the basis of an equitable situation existing between the State and the Central Governments; and yet it should not come only from the generous heart of the Prime Minister of Malaysia whilst we go only with begging hands. Sir, the cordiality should exist on the basis that the State of Penang exists as a real entity in Malaysia; and we shall in the next five years in this Assembly, Sir, try to prod the opposite side more and more to exert influence to indicate to the Central Government that the existence of the State of Penang is a reality and an entity which should be treated with parity, uniformity and with the same equal status with other States comprising the Federation of Malaysia.

Sir, on this issue we feel, and we hope, that the Members from

the opposite side of the House will support the amendment because we realise that sometimes it may be a little difficult for the Members in the front bench opposite to express even their deep-hearted opinions. It may be a wiser political caution for them to refrain from mentioning issues which are slightly controversial; but there is no question at all, I am sure, in this. The problem of the retention of the free port status of Penang is of paramount importance in so far as the welfare of the people of Penang is concerned.

Sir, I would only briefly indicate figures to illustrate the fact that the people supported the Alliance Party. Sir, we have worded this amendment in such a manner that we have very strictly accepted the decision of the people in the last elections. I am quite sure nobody will disagree with us that the problem of the retention of the free port status of Penang was a major issue during the last elections. Admittedly, because the last elections were held simultaneously as the State and Parliamentary Elections, the issue of the preservation of the integrity and sovereignty of Malaysia loomed large. But, in the State of Penang, we know that apart from the question of rural development in Province Wellesley the question of the retention of the free port status of Penang Island was a major issue. Sir, it was such a major issue that my honourable friend from Tanjong Selatan did mention that the M.C.A. felt it very necessary, prior to the elections, to send over delegations—and I believe one of the delegations did include the Hon'ble the Chief Minister in his capacity in the M.C.A.—to see the Prime Minister of Malaysia over this question. During the elections, too, Sir, the Finance Minister did warn the people of Penang that if they failed to elect the

Alliance into power, and voted the Opposition into power, by a stroke of his pen he would cut off the free port status of Penang. Now, the people of Penang have taken all this into account, and they have weighed the question of this issue as taken up by the various political parties. Sir, the U.D.P. came out very strongly for the permanent retention of the free port status of Penang. However, we did not win enough support from the people to advise His Excellency in his gracious Address; otherwise, we would have added words such as "greater determination" and "greater desire". However, the Hon'ble Members from the Socialist Front also did take up the issue of the retention of the free port status, but confused it somewhat with the Malaysian issue; and also confused it somewhat with proposed suggestions of bonded areas. Even they took up the question of the free port status. But the Alliance Party in Penang, certainly during the elections and prior to the elections, did try to assure the people of Penang, and assuage them, and won their support by a statement — I stand to be corrected on the exact words; I may remember from the words which the Hon'ble the Chief Minister used yesterday — on the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia that the State of Penang will retain the free port status of the Island of Penang until the people of Penang can be persuaded to change it. These, I think, were the words: "until the people of Penang can be persuaded to change it".

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker. Sir, on a point of clarification, I would like to read what was exactly said.

Mr. Speaker (To Member for Kota): Will you give way?

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Certainly, Sir.

Chief Minister:

"The Hon'ble the Prime Minister has agreed that the implementation of the proposal to include Penang Island in the Common Market should be kept in abeyance until such time as Penang can be persuaded to accept it."

That is the correct version of the letter.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I thank the Honourable the Chief Minister because I would like to use the very words used. And later on, with your permission, I will make an amendment to my own amendment to include the words exactly as said by the Honourable the Chief Minister if we could have a copy of it incorporated.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever the amendment, we intend to finish the meeting today.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Yes, Sir.

I want to indicate certain figures, Sir. In Penang Island — if we take Penang Island as the area where the people are more directly concerned with the issue of the free port status of Penang, although I am quite sure, as I said yesterday, that quite large numbers of the people living in Province Wellesley are also sympathetic to this question, and I would later on clarify the situation — out of rough figures, these figures, with minor adjustments, can be made for the State. Over 122,000 people voted in the last State and Parliamentary Elections in the Island of Penang, and of these 46,700 odd voted for the Alliance Party, over 41,000 voted for the Socialist Front, and over 31,000 voted for the United Democratic Party. Sir, these are figures which we take realistically, and we hope that our friends on the extreme

left of us will take to heart because had it not been for the fact that they unfortunately took the illness of bullheadedness — pox or cow pox — at the wrong time perhaps, and we had found a solution to work together even before we came to this House, and formed a united front, the result of these Elections may well have been different. Not only would we have filled up these three remaining seats here, but we might well have reversed the entire situation in this House. Sir, however, we hope to slowly develop that in the future.

Mr. Speaker: But that is not part of the Motion. The amalgamating of the Socialist Front with the U.D.P. is not part of the Motion.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): It is to this extent, Sir. If we were to take the Alliance support by itself over 46,000 people voting for the Alliance on the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, and we take it that each elector represents a figure of three who are dependent on him, over 120,000 people are involved. Now, if the Alliance, however, do not mind associating only in figures with us, a combination between the Alliance figures and our figures make an impressive total of over 77,000 — a total number of dependants of over 200,000. And if we take the figures added between the Socialist Front and ourselves, Sir, they certainly exceed the total figures of the Alliance in Penang Island — here also very impressive. Sir, in view of this fact we say that the electorate clearly demonstrated their support for the Alliance Party over this issue on the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia. Sir, I would only like to conclude, with your permission, by making an amendment to my own amendment, that

the words which I have put after "the Prime Minister of Malaysia" be altered to include the corrections which the Honourable the Chief Minister has brought up, and to read exactly the words that were used by the Honourable the Chief Minister earlier.

Mr. Speaker: If you were to amend that, I have to have a copy again because I don't have a copy of the Prime Minister's letter with me too.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, if the Honourable the Chief Minister would assist us we will take it down slowly.

Chief Minister: With your permission, Sir —

"The Honourable the Prime Minister has agreed that the implementation of the proposal to include Penang Island in the Common Market should be kept in abeyance until such time as Penang can be persuaded to accept it."

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, if I am correct, I will read it:

"... on the basis of the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia ... ." (interrupted)

Mr. Speaker: Where does this come? After which part of the Motion?

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Towards the end of the paragraph —

"... when the electorate clearly demonstrated their support for the Alliance Party over this issue on the basis of the promise made by the Prime Minister of Malaysia ... ."

Delete all that is in the inverted commas as exist, and add the words:

"that the implementation of the proposal to include Penang Island in the Common Market should be kept in abeyance until such time as Penang can be persuaded to accept it";

and then the rest continues the same—

"by voting in favour of the Alliance Party and thereby returning their candidates into power in the State Legislative Assembly."

Mr. Speaker: May I have the amendment to the amendment?

(Mr. Speaker is handed the amendment.)

Anyone to second the second amendment?

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the amendment.

Mr. Speaker: I have to refer to the Standing Orders because this is an amendment to the original Motion, and then amendment to the amendment.

Under the Standing Orders I have to put to the House each amendment accordingly, one after another. It is best, because the amendments had come from one Member, that the first amendment to the original Motion be withdrawn, and this present amendment be considered.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I am willing to withdraw the first amendment, and use this as the real amendment to be considered. That will save the trouble of voting over the issue.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I have a clarification? In this amended amendment I notice at the end of the last words "Legislative Assembly", there is an inverted comma. Now, do I take it that that inverted comma should be deleted? In fact, it should be deleted because the actual words of the Prime Minis-

ter's letter end with "should be kept in abeyance until such time as Penang can be persuaded to accept it"—and that is the end of the quotation. So there should be no quotation mark at the end of "Assembly".

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir that is a typing error. There should have been a closed quote after the words attributed to the Prime Minister; and the last inverted comma is to replace the inverted comma at the end of the Motion as it stands which I proposed should be deleted in moving my amendment, and ending up here, Sir. I hope that is quite clear. Therefore, the Motion, Sir, will then completely read as it stands, to include only this paragraph as amended.

Mr. Speaker: Saya suka merangkaikan lagi bahawa kita sekarang berada di-dalam chadangan yang kedua. Pindaan yang pertama telah di-tarek balek oleh Ahli daripada Kota. Pindaan ini-lah yang menjadi masa'alah di-depan Rumah ini.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the amendment, I feel it is only proper, since all the political parties in their election campaigns had come forward with the promise—the Alliance, the Socialist Front to a certain extent, and the United Democratic Party—of the maintenance of the Penang free port status, it is only proper that in His Excellency's gracious speech this amendment be included so that the people of Penang could know that all the elected Assemblymen in this Council are in support of the retention of the free port status of the Island of Penang. For this I hope the House will not hesitate to give support to this amended Motion.

Thank you.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose this amendment.

It has been well said that very often we human beings use words to hide what we think, and it seems to me that this very long paragraph proposed as an amendment to the gracious speech achieves this purpose very well. It contains various statements which can only be considered as not strictly correct. For example, in the second half it says—

"this issue (that is, the free port status issue) was one of the principal issues taken up by all the major political parties in the State including the Alliance Party, . . ."

It may have been true of the U.D.P. and the Socialist Front because it served their purpose to take up the question of the free port status; and it is perhaps also true that the Alliance had to reply in their election campaigns to various statements from the other parties on this question of free port status. But it was not certainly taken up by the Alliance Party as a major issue. What the Alliance Party was concerned with was to see that the people had a very clear idea of what was involved. When the present Minister of Finance came here and said that by a stroke of the pen the free port status could be removed, he was actually expressing his own appraisal of the situation as it existed. When the Socialist Front said that by an appeal to the Tariff Advisory Board they can retain forever the free port status of Penang, I immediately denied their claim and said that that was a puerile statement intended to deceive the public because the Tariff Advisory Board is a Board established by the Central Government; and the Central Government is not bound

to take the advice, though it may do so if it wants to. Therefore, to say that the Alliance made this one of the principal issues in the last election campaign is simply not correct.

I notice also that the Hon'ble Member for Kota brings in the question of figures in the last elections. What he hoped to prove by bringing in these figures I do not quite follow, but if he is trying to say that because the other opposition parties polled more votes therefore they were voted in for their stand on free port status, and that those who voted for the Alliance Party voted against free port status, I think that is also wrong because the General Elections were conducted, as he himself mentioned, on both national and local issues; and I believe that, as far as the Alliance is concerned, we were more concerned with the national issue and, therefore, it would not be accurate to describe the votes or the figures in the last elections as indicating any clear opinion of the electorate on this one particular question, because there were so many questions discussed, and people are influenced by so many factors in deciding for whom they are going to vote.

I was going to say something about the last part, but now that the amendment has been made it is clear that the Hon'ble Member for Kota accepts that the actual wording is different from what he has put down in the original amendment.

Further, the last three lines —

"by voting in favour of the Alliance Party and thereby returning their candidates into power in the State Legislative Assembly"—

would appear to have no connection with the rest of the paragraph, and therefore it seems as if those words have been put there merely to confuse the issue. I

have already said in this connection, when the first amendment was brought in by the Member for Jelutong, that the question of free port status has many aspects, and that naturally we who live in Penang would like to have it continued. We must consider it also from the national angle, and not merely press this forward as a matter which benefits merely the people of the Island of Penang. Again, here I must re-emphasize one thing: free port status benefits the people of the Island of Penang, not the people of Penang, because Penang consists of both Province Wellesley and the Island of Penang; and for a long time, by administrative methods, the Province has been excluded from the free port status which Penang as a whole had had before. That is the fact of the situation, and that is why we must oppose this amendment because it is merely intended to be a criticism of the gracious speech from the Throne, and as such we cannot accept it.

**Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the amended Motion of the Member for Kota. He mentioned that the relationship between the State Government and the Central Government will become even more cordial and the bonds existing between them will be strengthened even more had His Excellency been advised to mention about the Free Port Status in his gracious Address. Well, I can assure the Hon'ble Member for Kota that as long as the Alliance governs the State of Penang relationships with the Central Government will always be ever cordial.

In supporting his Motion he just mentioned about the election campaign, in which the Alliance Government supported the free port. I assure him that we on the mainland never used that in our elec-

tion campaign because we were not in the free port area. We have to pay import taxes. Therefore we never mentioned that or promised our electorate during the Election campaign. On the other hand, he used the free port as an issue for making this amendment and he asked for permanent retention of the free port.

**Member for Kota (Dr. Lin Chong Eu):** Not me, Sir.

**Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin):** You did mention during your speech that the U.D.P. is always fighting for the permanent retention of the free port. That is one of your aims. However, I believe that permanency is a thing which no one can subscribe to because we are not sure what will happen on the morrow. Neither can we be sure what will happen when we get out of this room. At any rate, this long amendment has not much gist in it except the retention of the free port status and the elections, and more or less it is only a criticism of H.E's speech.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose.

**Member for Permatang Paul (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff):** Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-benar-nya adalah satu perkara yang salah sekali sekira-nya ada orang berkata — kemenangan Perikatan dalam Pilihan Raya yang lalu oleh Parti Perikatan telah banyak memberi janji berkenaan dengan Pelabohan Bebas. Walau pun ada Yang Amat Berhormat Menteri Kewangan datang ka-Pulau Pinang ini dalam penerangan Pilihan Raya-nya berkenaan dengan Pelabohan Bebas, tetapi saya rasa apa yang di-katakan oleh Menteri Kewangan itu telah pun berlaku sekarang — Pelabohan Bebas maseh berjalan sekarang. Tetapi kalau sekira-nya ra'ayat memilih Parti

Pembangkang, harus pada hari ini Pelabohan Bebas telah tamat.

Untuk penerangan kepada sahabat saya Ahli Kawasan Kota, di-Seberang Perai Parti Perikatan tidak pernah, dalam sebarang campaign Pilihan Raya, membuat sebarang janji berkenaan dengan Pelabohan Bebas. Walaupun begitu, kita pehak Perikatan telah menyapu bersih semua sekali kerusi2 di-Seberang Perai — dalam mana di-sana orang2 gagah tokoh2 dari parti lawan kita telah pun kalah — ini dengan tidak ada sebarang janji berkenaan dengan Pelabohan Bebas dan ada pula yang hilang wang pertarohan-nya.

Dengan kemenangan Perikatan, boleh-lah saya katakan bahawa ra'ayat di-dalam Negeri ini telah pun menerima semua dasar2 dan kerja2 kebajikan dan pembangunan yang telah di-jalankan oleh Kerajaan Perikatan selama berkuasa lima tahun yang lalu — tidaklah semata2 dengan Pelabohan Bebas ini.

Sekian, terima kaseh.

**Chief Minister:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the normal practice for Opposition Parties to criticise any speech from the throne. This is expected. However, I am glad to note today that criticism is not so unrealistic as it used to be. But if the Honourable Members oppose do not criticise the speech they would be neglecting their duty.

To bring up the issue of the relationship between the Central Government and the State Government is I think a very good opportunity for me now to express our sincere thanks to the Federal Government, and appreciation of the cordiality extended to the State Government of Penang. Without this cordial relationship our development projects and the amenities that the people of

Penang are enjoying to-day would not be possible.

The responsibility of the State is clearly defined in the Constitution. The State has certain powers; but with the coming of Merdeka the State has given up certain rights to the Central Government. I am sure the Honourable Member for Kota is fully aware of the situation because he was with me before Merdeka, and even after Merdeka, preparing the Constitution for the Penang people.

Now, what greater assurance do we want than the one coming from the Prime Minister who has assured us of the future of Penang? To ask for perpetuity of the free port of Penang is I think something which is not possible for any human being to promise. I am glad that the Member for Kota has not used the word "perpetuity" now. And I do hope the people of Penang will once and for all realize that in this world it is not possible for any human being to promise anything perpetual. We know our country is progressing; and with this progress we must follow with the times. But one thing I can assure Honourable Members of this House: that whatever the Alliance Government proposes to do it would be for the benefit and welfare of the people. If it is for the good of the people of Penang to retain the free port status we, the Alliance Party, would certainly support this question. Not only would we support; we will do our best to retain it. But if the time comes when there is something better than free port, why not we, the people of Penang, investigate and consider: are we going to remain in this state, whereas other States are progressing? And as such I think there is no need for any more assurance from the Government with regard to the free port status of Penang.

I am glad that my honourable colleague has explained that the Minister of Finance, as far as my memory goes, did not say that if the people of Penang voted the Opposition — I repeat, voted the Opposition — with a stroke of the pen the free port status will disappear. What I still remember is that the Minister of Finance has the power to take away the free port status of Penang with a stroke of the pen. There was no intimidation, neither was there any threat.

In this connection, I would like to assure Hon'ble Members that the question of free port status was never brought up during the election campaign in the Province. If the Opposition Parties, the U.D.P. or Socialists, think that this question of the free port was brought up in the Province then I think the U.D.P. or the Socialists would have been in the same position. But the major issue that was brought up during the election campaign in the Province, and even in Penang, was the question of the integrity and sovereignty of our country. The people voted the Alliance back into power, having full confidence of the efficiency, integrity and sincerity of the Alliance Party. They have seen, and they have tasted the better standard of living now in our country since Merdeka. The rural development has clearly shown to the people of Penang that the Alliance Party is sincere in its promises. We made certain promises in the year 1959; and most of those promises have been fulfilled. That was the major issue to decide which Party should come into power. Free port was one of the issues taken up in Penang Island. But still the Alliance, on other issues, have captured the support of many people on the Island.

So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure this House that

there is no greater assurance that we can get for the benefit of the people of Penang than what we have already got from the Prime Minister of Malaysia; and that before any changes take place according to the promise made Penang would again be consulted. And I can assure the House that if free port is still of great benefit to the people of Penang we will certainly do our best to support it. But if there is a better way of improving the standard of living of the people of Penang Island we will not hesitate to persuade our people to understand it. And I do hope that Opposition Parties would not, just for the sake of opposition, mislead our people for the future of our State.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pada mula-mula pada masa saya mendengar pindaan yang panjang lebar itu, saya merasai besar hati kerana pindaan ini mungkin bersangkutan dengan satu perkara yang chukup besar yang mahu memberi "greater assurance and confidence" untuk ra'ayat punya "future" atau nasib ra'ayat di-masa akan datang. Tetapi amat-lah kechewa kepada saya sa-lepas saya dengar penjelasan atau keterangan daripada Yang Berhormat Ahli Kawasatan Kota itu hanya satu soal sahaja iaitu soal "Free Port", soal pelabohan bebas. Sa-benar-nya, soal pelabohan bebas ini — alasan atau apa sebab2-nya kita mahu mempertahankan taraf pelabohan bebas. Saya tidak maslahat kami beri pada meshuarasa susah hati, kerana Front rat kelmari. Pada masa kel-Socialis dalam Malaya ini ada bamarin, saya sudah kechewa kerana2 lagi wakil2 dan anggota dan Parti U.D.P. tidak menyokong2. Pengerusi Front So-tetapi hari ini mengambil soal itu ialah yang bertanding dalam sebagai pindaan mereka sendiri. Pilihan Raya itu tidak hilang deposit, tetapi sebak-nya U.D.P. ... (interrupted.)

Mr. Speaker: Itu tidak apa-lah. ... (interrupted.)

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Tetapi itu tidak masuk dalam soal "free port".

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Saya merasa kita harus jujur kalau soal itu soal yang bersangkutan dengan kepentingan ra'ayat—walau-pun chadangan datang daripada parti mana pun, kita harus menyokong, kita harus bekerjasama dalam Dewan ini dan bukan sahaja mahu memberi penerangan untuk parti sahaja atau memberi penerangan politik untuk sesa-buah parti—satu niat yang tidak jujur kepada ra'ayat. Saya tidak bersetuju dengan niat mereka yang bermain politik itu. Sa-benar-nya, chadangan ini sudah di-chadang oleh Front Socialis kelmari. Pada mula-nya, saya agak mungkin dia mahu menyebutkan soal "welfare" atau soal kebajikan ra'ayat, soal pengangguran atau soal2 lain lagi yang termasuk dalam soal kebajikan ra'ayat dalam Pulau ini. Tetapi malang-nya, hanya satu soal sahaja yang disebut oleh mereka dan saya merasa juga kami tidak mahu menipu atau memainkan politik dalam Dewan ini dan saya..... (interrupted.)

Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya minta penjelasan, adakah perkara ini bersangkutan dengan "Free port". Nampak saya ini "campaign" antara parti Kepala Lembu dengan U.D.P.

Mr. Speaker: Nanti pada masa-nya, saya yang menahankan perkara itu.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hanya mengatakan fasal "Free port". Adakah "Free port" ini satu perkara yang besar dalam Pilihan Raya bersangkutan dengan ini.... (interrupted.)

Mr. Speaker: Ada orang kata besar dan ada orang kata kecil.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Kerana

U.D.P. menudoh kami tidak membawa soal "Free port" dalam Pilihan Raya hanya dalam sini kami mahu chuba memberi keterangan dan saya menchuba memberi keterangan kepada Ahli2 Yang Berhormat supaya tahu juga keadaan yang sa-benar-nya dan bukan sahaja ada orang boleh datang ka-sini menipu orang yang tidak dengar "campaign" Front Socialis atau tidak baca Manifesto kami. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sebab itu saya harap kita boleh memikirkan dengan teliti terhadap soal pelabohan bebas juga—tetapi oleh kerana chadangan kami telah di-kalahkan dengan kekechualian U.D.P. pada meshuarat kelmarin dan saya merasa chadangan ini ditimbul lagi sekali tidak-lah mustahak dan tidak ada guna sama sekali.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, saya minta ma'af kepada Ahli Tanjong Selatan kerana memberi jawapan dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

The speech made by the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan was rather interesting. And we on this side of the House naturally feel it always a good thing that we go on talking, because as we go on talking and talking we will be getting closer and closer in our approach and our ideas. I think unlike some people who think that the only way of curing bullheadedness is to cut off the head or that a shock such as what happened in the last elections might awaken them to certain realities. The essential difference between our amendment and the amendment made by them is that we seek in this amendment to associate ourselves to a large extent with the views that the Government holds with regard to free port status. And I believe that the speech made by the Honourable the Chief Minister virtually in effect reflects much of the

sentiment which is contained in our amendment. We have even accommodated the Government bench by making an amendment to our amendment to include the very words that they used.

Sir, it is true that changes will take place. It is also true that no one individual can guarantee the perpetuity of any guarantee to the State Assembly. But it is our hope — and I am sure it has been expressed by Members of the Alliance Party — that our nation shall go on living forever, even though you or I and we pass away. And it is hoped that if we abide by the Oath we took as we came into this House yesterday, to uphold this nation, we should try to perpetuate this nation. Sir, this argument does not involve either the person of myself, or the persons of all the Members of this House; it involves this House. We may come; we may go; we may even change seats; we may even change opinions; we may find different views as we go on, so long as we work towards the benefit of the country. The country is not something nebulous; it means the people living in it. So long as we work for the benefit of the country, we hope that this House will go on. We are out not only to sustain our nation forever; we are also out to promote and sustain Parliamentary democracy forever or so long as this nation exists. So I think, Sir, the question of perpetuity of the House or the decisions taken in this House, has no relevance to the individual persons because we are here for only a short time. But in this House, Parliamentary democracy, and the nation, we hope will go on forever and ever, so long as there are human beings in this world and in this nation. So this question of changes should not be broached and mixed up with the question of perpetuity.

There is another question brought up by the Honourable the Chief Minister. This is where we stand, both opposite, and slightly different to this side of the House. Sir, I am not trying in any way to undermine or mislead the people. We are here to represent the people. We are not here to fight the election battles again. We are here to express in this House views which are transmitted to us by people living in the island of the State of Penang. We certainly cannot say that the island of Penang is not a part of the State of Penang; and we cannot say that the island of Penang is not an important part of the State of Penang. They constitute an integral thing. I will talk on that further as I go on. We are here not to mislead the people. We are here to represent to the Government the views of the people who have elected us here to act on their behalf.

Sir, there is a little confusion in the minds of the State Government with regard to what the State Government should do, and what the Central Government should do. I am quite sure that in the course of the next few debates, whenever Members on this side of the House who are on the right or left may bring up certain matters, the immediate famous words will be used from the other side to bang us down— "This is not a matter concerning the State; this is a matter concerning the Federal Government." So, over the issue of the free port status of Penang, if there is any real cordiality it must exist both in the State as well as in the Federal Government. The assurance which has been given to us so far has come from the Prime Minister of Malaysia. Everybody agrees that the Prime Minister of Malaysia is an extremely generous man, and a far-sighted man, and a great statesman, and has done a lot for this country. However,

Sir, if we are debating the gracious Address of His Excellency we are pressing a matter of State importance. And we would like to see in the gracious Address an assurance given by the State Government to the people of Penang about their own future, and over this question the future of Penang's free port status naturally looms large.

Sir, the Members for Permatang Pauh and Sungei Bakap brought up this question of cordiality and Province Wellesley opinion. To me, since my younger days when I was in close association with the Honourable the Chief Minister we found many agreements, and we worked together on behalf of the State. It is not we who had changed, Sir; the circumstances have changed. But we are a little more adamant; we are a little more principled; and we are a little bit more firm in our own convictions, and we had not changed. I remember that in the First Session of the First Assembly in 1959 when we had an elected majority and there was a Chief Minister, after Merdeka, the free port status was mentioned by His Excellency in his gracious Address; yet slowly this question of free port status is pushed aside. But I assure you that the free port status of Penang will remain being an important issue; and it will go on being an important issue, not only in this House but outside this House. And all I am saying is that we accept the promise given by the Prime Minister. We would like to see it included, however, by His Excellency in his gracious Address, so that it would mean that the State Government also *bersetuju*, also agrees, and also shows cordiality over this question of the free port status with regard to the promise made by the Prime Minister. Thereby, if the State Government also gives this assurance, and the Prime Minister gives this assurance, then

the people of the island of Penang, and the people of the State of Penang will be given greater assurance and confidence over their future welfare.

Sir, now we come to the first speaker, and that is the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang. He said I used long words to try and hide my feelings. My feelings are very clear. We would like to see the people of Penang given greater assurance and greater confidence over their future, and particularly those living on Penang Island.

Sir, the question of State and national interest is a matter of great interest, because later on when we debate His Excellency's gracious Address we shall have opportunity to use the very words used by the other side to criticize them for rejecting this particular amendment.

Sir, I brought the figures not to confuse the issue. I did not try to bring up figures to show that we, the United Democratic Party, were greater heroes, as suggested by the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan. I brought out the fact that we realistically accept that the Alliance Party in Penang Island polled more votes than either the Socialist Front or ourselves. We accept that as a fact. But we also say that in Penang Island the Alliance took up the issue on the basis of the promise made by the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia. The Socialist Front took it up in a little bit more confused way, and they maintained it very much more strongly than ourselves — much stronger for the free port status. We very clearly, in my Manifesto which I will not trouble you to read, included the free port status of Penang on a permanent basis. Now, these were the three issues

taken up by the three Political Parties. The Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang has suggested that I am trying to confuse the issues, and that the words taken up were not really a correct statement. Sir, one of the essential laws of life which will go on after we have all disappeared is: there is an action, there is a reaction. Even if the Alliance Government or the Alliance Party refused to take up the question of the free port status as a major issue, unfortunately the Opposition Parties did take it up as a major issue; and the Alliance Party, if it is a vital organization, has to react to it. We took it up; they replied to us. So they took it up too. But they have to hold the baby. The Honourable the Prime Minister has assured us on this question being taken up. Therefore I naturally defer to the greater scholastic opinion from the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang. I feel that there is no mistake about the words 'took up'. It is perfectly clear, and there is no misleading part of it. Sir, I say this: if the Alliance Government in the State of Penang are really and earnestly confident in themselves, and really adhere to the assurances that they have been giving us all these months; this question of the free port status of Penang was agitated by a statement made in a previous Session in the previous House when the Honourable the Chief Minister made a statement over the free port status of Penang which sparked off a series of debates throughout the whole State of Penang; if the Alliance Government believes this is a matter of importance then they should say so. In making this amendment we have not in any way criticized them. We have used the very words that you used to make this amendment. The thing is this: changes have taken place. Many years ago people from Province Wellesley used to say Penang

has everything. Now we have to listen to Members from Province Wellesley say, "We are THE group, and you the people of Penang have to come to us." Sir, I talk as in the old days: "Let us not think of Penang Island; let us think also of Province Wellesley." That was the cry seven, eight, nine years ago. Today I say to the Members from Province Wellesley, "Don't just think of Province Wellesley; think of the State as a whole, and think of Penang Island." This question of free port status has been a confusing issue. We are not actually having a free port. We are in technical terms a short-listed port — we are not even a free port. But the question of the free port status of Penang involves this: whether the whole of Penang Island, which is part of the State of Penang, should be in the free port area, or that just one little bit of Penang Island be cut off and be made into a free port area. And I ask the Members of Province Wellesley to think not only in terms of their *Kawasan*, or their Constituency in Province Wellesley, but to think of the State as a whole, both the island and the mainland as one, and to think that whatever benefits Penang will gain will naturally accrue to the whole State of Penang, and therefore to Province Wellesley. So think as a State; don't think as just a part of the State.

Sir, in view of the fact that the gracious Address by His Excellency omitted this question of the free port status, we feel that the people of this State are a little bit perturbed. However, if in spite of our amending the Motion in a manner to suit you, let us direct our remarks to the amendment made by the Honourable Members sitting to the left of us. Sir, had we been given the opportunity yesterday for consultation we

would probably have made minor amendments and adjustments with them over the words because, Sir, it is not our intention to criticize or attack the Government or to break the gracious Speech. It is our intention to assist the Government in so far as it is possible to give greater assurance and confidence to the people of the State of Penang, and particularly to the people living in the island of Penang, over the future. Sir, these words themselves are carried in the speech — "The people's welfare should be of paramount importance to all of you at all times."

Over the question of cordiality, the Member for Sungei Bakap said that I have over-emphasized it. But again in the gracious Speech you notice, towards the end, that even the Alliance Government seek to strengthen the bonds even further. So we are expressing exactly the same sentiments that you are expressing. The words that are contained in the amendment have been copied directly from here (His Excellency's Address), so that the words are your own very words. And I would be very surprised and ashamed if the Members of the front bench opposite us cannot support this amendment when they expect us to support the very words that are used in His Excellency's Address which are contained in this amendment. I hope we put aside, as the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan said, Party interest, and so on, and think of the welfare of the State, and the people of the State. I am quite sure that if you look very carefully and eliminate all these other terms which I used, which are in fact words which you have used on the other side, the important issue here is to give the people in the State of Penang, and in particular those who live and work in the island of Penang, a greater assurance and confidence

in their future welfare. That is all we ask for in this amendment, and that is the issue. If the opposite side of this House refuse to accept this amendment it must be taken that they refuse to give the people of the State of Penang, and the people of the island of Penang greater assurance and greater confidence about the future.

Sir, that is all I have to say; and I hope that in considering the issue we do not let Party issues prevail. Think in terms of the State.

Thank you, Sir.

Question put and amendment defeated.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Standing Order 114, I ask that we divide.

AYES.

Dr. Lim Chong Eu  
Mr. Teh Ewe Lim  
Mr. Teh Geok Kooi  
Mr. Khoo Kay Por

NOES.

Chief Minister  
Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik  
Mr. Kee Yong Chin  
Mr. Chor Sin Kheng  
Enche Ariffin bin Shariff  
Mr. D. S. Ramanathan  
Mr. Tan Khim Hoe  
Enche M. S. A. Zachariah  
Mr. Cheah Seng Khim  
Tuan Hj. Ahmad b. Hj. Abdullah  
Mr. Phee Joo Teik  
Tuan Haji Sahid bin Hassan  
Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Mohd. Taib  
Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil  
Mr. Williams David  
Enche Ismail bin Hashim

# Abstentions.

Mr. Khor Peng Seah  
Mr. Tan Hock Hin  
Mr. Speaker

# Absent.

Enche Aziz Ibrahim

Mr. Speaker: Ahli2 Yang Berhormat, kita sekarang kembali kepada chadangan asal.

Question put and agreed to.

(B) MOTION BY THE HON'BLE ENCHE AFRIFFIN BIN SHARIFF.

Member for Permatang Paul (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, usul di-bawah nama saya ini ia-lah berkenaan dengan perlantekan Jawatan-Kuasa Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat. Ahli2 Yang Berhormat sekalian mungkin maseh ingat lagi bahawa pada masa yang sudah chuma ada sa-buah Jawatan-Kuasa sahaja yang bertanggung jawab berkenaan dengan Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat dan Perlebehan2. Maksud kita sekarang ini ia-lah hendak mengadakan Jawatan-Kuasa2 yang berasingan untuk kedua2-nya, ia-itu satu untuk Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat dan yang satu lagi untuk Perlebehan2. Dengan berbuat demikian, baharu-lah sama saperti yang di-amalkan dalam Parliamen.

Tugas Jawatan-Kuasa ini ia-lah untuk menimbangkan semua perkara2 yang bersangkutan dengan Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat yang di-rujokkan kapada-nya oleh Dewan Negeri, dari sa-masa ka sa-masa dan membuat laporan berkenaan dengan-nya. Pengerusi Jawatan-Kuasa Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat Dewan Ra'ayat ia-lah Yang Berhormat Tuan Speaker nya sendiri. Oleh itu, untuk mencapai persamaan, maka di-chadangkan-lah supaya Tuan Yang di-Pertua sendiri menjadi Pengerusi Jawatan-Kuasa Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat Dewan Negeri ini. Saya yakin bahawa keahlian dan pengalaman Tuan Yang di-Pertua berkenaan dengan Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat itu akan memberi faedah yang besar kapada Jawatan-Kuasa tersebut dan juga kapada Dewan ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menchadangkan —

“Bahawa Dewan ini membuat ketetapan melantek ahli2 yang berikut menjadi ahli2 Jawatan-Kuasa Peratoran2 Majlis Meshuarat Dewan Negeri, Pulau Pinang:—

1. Y.B. Tuan Yang di-Pertua (Pengerusi)
2. Y.B. Enche Phee Joo Teik
3. Y.B. Enche Williams David
4. Y.B. Enche Ismail bin Hashim.
5. Y.B. Enche Teh Geok Kooi

dan Pengerusi serta dua orang Ahli2 yang lain ada-lah chukup untuk menjadi koram bagi menjalankan meshuarat. Jawatan Kuasa ini tidak berkuasa memanggil sesiapa jua pun berhadapan dengan-nya (ataupun meminta supaya surat2 kenyataan atau risallah2 di-kemukakan kapada-nya, kechuali jika Dewan ini membuat ketetapan yang sa-balek-nya.”

Sekian, terima kaseh.

Member for Balik Pulau (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Mohd. Taib): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong.

Question put and agreed to.

(C) Motion by the Hon'ble Mr. Chor Sin Kheng.

Member for Ayer Itam (Mr. Chor Sin Kheng): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the

Motion standing in my name reads as follows:—

“That this Assembly resolves that the following be appointed as Members of the Committee of Privileges of the Legislative Assembly, Penang:—

1. Hon'ble Mr. Speaker (Chairman)
2. Hon'ble Tuan Haji Ismail b. Che Chik, A.M.N., J.P.
3. Hon'ble Enche Kee Yong Chin, J.P.
4. Hon'ble Enche D. S. Ramanathan, J.P.
5. Hon'ble Tuan Haji Ahmad b. Haji Abdullah, A.M.N.
6. Hon'ble Enche Teh Ewe Lim
7. Hon'ble Enche Tan Hock Hin

and that the Chairman and three other Members shall form a quorum. The Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and documents and to report to the Assembly from time to time.”

Sir, the function of this Committee is mainly to consider matters affecting the remuneration, allowances and other privileges of the Assemblymen, and to make recommendations to the Assembly from time to time.

According to the procedure adopted by Dewan Ra'ayat, I am proposing that you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, should be the Chairman of this Committee, and the membership should include Government front benchers, which proposal is again in accordance with the procedure adopted by Dewan Ra'ayat whose Committee of Privileges consists of the Speaker as its Chairman, and several Ministers as members.

Sir, in accordance with the provision of Standing Order 109(1) regarding the requirement to reflect the balance between the Go-

vernment and the Opposition, it is proposed that the Committee shall also include two members of the Opposition, one from the United Democratic Party, and the other from the Socialist Front. I am glad to say, Sir, that the two Opposition members whom I am going to propose in my Motion have been nominated by the respective Opposition Parties concerned.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

Member for Butterworth (Mr. Williams David): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

(D) MOTION BY THE HON'BLE  
TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN HAJI  
ABDULLAH.

Member for Kepala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menhadangkan usul di-bawah nama saya.

Mengikut Peratoran Majlis Meshuarat 109A Dewan ini perlu-lah melantek sa-buah Jawatan-Kuasa Kira2 Kerajaan yang Ahli2-nya terdiri daripada Ahli2 Dewan ini sendiri. Jawatan-Kuasa ini hendak-lah di-tubuhkan dengan sa-berapa segera yang boleh se-lepas sa-suatu penggal itu di-mulakan. Oleh yang demikian, memang kena pada tempat-nya jika usul ini di-pertimbangkan sekarang.

Ahli2 Yang Berhormat sedia ma'alum bahawa mengikut Peratoran Majlis Meshuarat 109A, Jawatan-Kuasa itu hendak-lah mengandungi sa-orang Pengerusi dan tidak lebeh daripada tiga orang ahli terdiri dari mereka yang bukan ahli2 Majlis Meshuarat Kerajaan. Dalam menguruskan pekerjaan-nya, Jawatan-Kuasa itu ada-lah berkuasa untuk

memanggil Pegawai2 Kerajaan Negeri berhadapan dengan-nya ataupun meminta risallah2 dan kira2 yang ada dalam jagaan Pegawai2 Kerajaan Negeri itu se-lepas mendapat izin Setia Usaha Negeri.

Tugas Jawatan-Kuasa ini ia-lah untuk memeriksa kira2 tahunan Negeri Pulau Pinang yang sudah di-odit. Dengan itu dapat-lah ia menentukan yang wang Kerajaan di-belanjakan dengan sejimat2-nya dan tidak membazir, dan juga wang itu di-belanjakan mengikut saperti mana yang di-putuskan oleh Dewan ini. Jawatan-Kuasa tersebut akan mendapat panduan dan pertolongan daripada Juru Odit Negara yang akan di-jemput menghadziri tiap2 meshuarat. Jawatan-Kuasa ini akan membuat laporan kepada Dewan Negeri dari sa-masa ka-sa-masa.

Ahli2 Yang Berhormat sekalian tentu-lah sedar bahawa Jawatan-Kuasa ini ia-lah sa-buah Jawatan-Kuasa yang mustahak dan bertanggung-jawab kerana ia mengawasi perbelanjaan wang Kerajaan. Oleh itu mustahak-lah sa-orang ahli yang berpengalaman di-lantek menjadi Pengerusi-nya. Jadi, saya chadangkan Ahli Kawasan Bagar Ajam ia-itu Yang Berhormat Enche Phee Joo Teik di-lantek kerana ia telah pun biasa dan pernah berkhidmat sebagai Pengerusi Jawatan-Kuasa tersebut. Mengikut Peratoran Majlis Meshuarat 109(1) di-chadangkan pula ia-itu sa-orang Ahli daripada pihak pembangkang hendak-lah di-lantek menjadi ahli Jawatan-Kuasa tersebut.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menhadangkan —

“Bahawa Dewan ini membuat ke-tetapan melantek Ahli2 yang berikut ini menjadi ahli2 Jawatan-Kuasa Kira2 Kerajaan bagai Penggal yang Pertama, Majlis Dewan Negeri Pulau Pinang

yang Kedua, ia-itu untuk memeriksa kira2 dan laporan2 yang di-tetapkan di-bawah Peratoran Majlis Meshuarat 109A (1), dan membuat laporan2 tersebut sebagaimana yang di-fikirkan menasabah oleh Jawatan-Kuasa itu:—

1. Y.B. Enche Phee Joo Teik (Pengerusi)
2. Y.B. Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Mohamed Taib
3. Y.B. Enche Williams David
4. Y.B. Enche Khoo Kay Por

dengan Pengerusi serta dua orang Ahli menchukupi menjadi koram bagi menjalankan meshuarat.”

Sekian sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

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

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Saya suka membawa satu pindaan terhadap chadangan Yang Berhormat dari Kepala Batas itu. Pindaan saya begini —

Tukar nama Yang Berhormat Enche Phee Joo Teik (Pengerusi) dengan nama Yang Berhormat Enche Khoo Kay Por di-No. 1, dan di-No. 4 nama Yang Berhormat Enche Khoo Kay Por di-tukar menjadi Yang Berhormat Enche Phee Joo Teik.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, alasan saya menhadangkan pindaan ini ia-lah untuk mensesuai perjalanan Parlimen dengan Negara2 Commonwealth dan Dewan Ra'ayat British. Saperti mana Ahli2 Yang Berhormat di-dalam Dewan ini sedar bahawa Jawatan Kuasa Kira2 Kerajaan ia-lah mengawasi rekod di-atas kira2 Kerajaan. Dari itu Peratoran Dewan menunjukkan bahawa anggota2 Executive Council tidak di-perbolehkan menjadi

anggota Jawatan Kuasa — ini se-chara betul tidak begitu baik. Sa-orang Pengerusi hendak-lah juga bebas dari segala tekanan politik supaya dia boleh menunaikan kewajipan-nya tanpa takut dan ragu2. Sa-orang Pengerusi daripada Parti Pemerintah tidak bebas dari pengaruh politik kerana ta'at setia kepada Parti menghindar dia menjalankan tugas-nya se-chara jujur. Dari itu keperluan awam boleh jadi berkurang dan dengan ini saya chadang untuk meminda supaya Ahli daripada Pihak Pembangkang ia-itu Yang Berhormat Enche Khoo Kay Por dari Tanjong Utara di-lantek sebagai Pengerusi. Saya harap Kerajaan akan, untuk kepentingan demokrasi berparlimen, menerima pindaan saya. Terima kaseh.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong pindaan ini.

Mr. Speaker: Ahli2 Yang Berhormat, sekarang ada satu pindaan di-atas chadangan asal ia-itu berkenaan dengan nama Pengerusi Yang Berhormat Enche Phee Joo Teik di-gantikan dengan Enche Khoo Kay Por dan Enche Phee Joo Teik menjadi ahli yang di-dalam No. 4 itu. Ini ia-lah pindaan dan pindaan ini telah mendapat sokongan.

Chief Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Parti Perikatan yang pegang kuasa menjalankan dasar, kebanyakan mengikut Dewan Ra'ayat ia-itu di-dalam Negeri kita. Saya suka juga memberitahu Dewan ini, jangan-lah kita mengikut Dewan British atau Dewan2 yang di-luar negeri. Kita ada satu Dewan Pusat. Itu-lah Dewan yang kita patut beri sokongan yang penoh. Untuk pengetahuan Ahli2 kita di-sini, perkara ini bukan-lah perkara besar — sudah berjalan bertahun2. Tuan Pengerusi yang kita chadangkan itu, kita fikir boleh jalankan keria dengan tertib dan itu-lah kami di-

sebelah sini menyokong ia-itu Y.B. Enche Phee Joo Teik menjadi Pengerusi.

**Member for Kepala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah):** Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Jawatan-Kuasa ini ia-lah Jawatan-Kuasa Kira2 Kerajaan — yang berkaitan dengan perkara wang public — ma'alum sahaja. Pindaan yang hendak di-pindahkan chuma tukar yang di-atas turun ka-bawah, yang di-bawah naik ka-atas. Telah pun Y.A.B. Ketua Menteri menjelaskan, sa-benar-nya kalau sekira-nya waswas, hati rasa bimbang, perjalanan Kerajaan ini tidak berapa betul—satu daripada yang di-sini, Pengerusi-nya tentu tidak boleh menjalankan apa kehendak-nya. Dalam 4 orang ini satu daripada-nya menguruskan hal ehwal perkara2 yang berkaitan dengan kira. Jadi apa yang mendatangkan satu mushkil di-dalam usul yang saya bawa ini?

Jadi walau bagaimana sekali pun, di-antara 4 orang ini, yang mana kesemua-nya ada-lah Ahli2 Dewan, sama ada dari pehak parti Kerajaan sendiri, sama ada daripada parti pehak Pembangkang, perkara yang berkaitan dengan hal ehwal kewangan ini perkara besar. Jadi kesemua bertanggung jawab kerana menjaga supaya perjalanan2 di-atas perbelanjaan wang2 itu tidak berjalan dengan ta' tentu atau ta' kena pada tempat-nya. Jadi hal ini ta' payah-lah ambil yang atas bawa turun ka-bawah — maka sebab itu-lah bagi pehak saya sendiri telah membawa usul ini dan saya rasa pindaan ini tentu sekali tiada satu orang pun yang bersetuju.

Question put and amendment defeated.

**Mr. Speaker:** Kita balek kepada chadangan asal.

Question put and agreed to.

(E) Motion by the Hon'ble Mr. Kee Yong Chin.

**Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move —

"That this Assembly approves the expenditure of \$30,000 shown in the First Supplementary Development Estimates, 1964, tabled as Legislative Assembly, Penang, Paper No. 2 of 1964, and resolves that the said sum shall be applied for the purposes specified in the said First Supplementary Development Estimates, 1964."

**Mr. Speaker, Sir,** I am happy to say that the Central Government has extended the Padi Fertilizer Subsidy Scheme to the State of Penang. Under this scheme, padi farmers can get certain fertilizers such as Basal Mixture and Urea at a price which is less than the price paid by the Government for them. Of course the fertilizers have to be obtained from the Co-operative Banking Union of Province Wellesley which is the agent for distribution of fertilizers bought with Government funds in Penang State. The Padi Fertilizer Subsidy Scheme is in operation with effect from the 1964 off-season crop in the State. For this season, padi farmers have to pay \$3.90 for a bag of basal mixture (72 1/3 lbs. per bag), and \$6.40 for a bag of urea (55 lbs. per bag), whereas without the subsidy they would have had to pay \$4.80 and \$8.00 respectively. The difference in the two sets of prices is made up by a grant from the Central Government under the subsidy scheme. The Central Government has earmarked \$30,000 for the State of Penang for the year 1964. I should like to say 'thank you' to the Central Government for this and other help which it is giving to the State of Penang.

The grant from the Central Government, however, is of a re-

imburseable nature. This means that the State Government must have a suitable subhead in its Development Estimates, and spend first from that subhead and recoup the expenditure from the Central Government afterwards by means of audited quarterly statements. The object of the Motion is to create this subhead so that the benefits of the Padi Fertilizer Subsidy Scheme can be enjoyed by the people of Penang. The subhead to be created bears the name of this scheme, and is under Head 102 of the 1964 Penang Development Estimates.

**Mr. Speaker, Sir,** I beg to move —

"That this Assembly approves the expenditure of \$30,000 shown in the First Supplementary Development Estimates, 1964, tabled as Legislative Assembly, Penang, Paper No. 2 of 1964, and resolves that the said sum shall be applied for the purposes specified in the said First Supplementary Development Estimates, 1964."

**Member for Tassek Glugor (Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil):** Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong.

**Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand up to ask whether the Hon'ble Member for Sungei Bakap

would enlighten us as to how much of this sum of money will be spent on fertilizers which are purchased locally — let us say, within the nation — and how much of it will be spent on fertilizers that are imported from other countries. I do not know whether it is possible to get this.

**Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in answer to the question from the Hon'ble Member for Kota, these fertilizers are purchased through tenders, and the Basal Mixture and Urea are imported from foreign countries. We do not have it locally.

**Chief Minister:** Tuan Yang di-Pertua, I think we require notice of this question in order to give a correct answer.

Question put and agreed to.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT.

**Chief Minister:** Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menchadangkan supaya Dewan ini di-tanggohkan sekarang.

**Member for Nibong Tebal (Tuan Haji Sahid bin Hassan):** Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong.

The Assembly adjourns at 12 noon.



