

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY, PENANG

2 ND SITTING OF THE
THIRD SESSION WEDNESDAY
23 RD NOVEMBER, **1966**

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23rd November, 1966

PRESENT:

The Hon'ble Mr. Speaker (Tuan Haji Sulaiman bin Haji Ahmad, P.J.K.)
.. the Chief Minister (Tan Sri Wong Pow Nee, P.M.N.)
.. the Legal Adviser (Enche Ibrahim bin Abdul Manan)
.. the Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim, J.M.N., J.P.)
.. the Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik,
A.M.N., J.P.)
.. the Member for Sungei Bakap (Mr. Kee Yong Chin, J.P.)
.. the Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff, P.J.K.)
.. the Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D.S. Ramanathan, J.P.)
.. the Member for Kelawei (Mr. Tan Khim Hoe, P.J.K.)
.. the Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M.S.A. Zachariah)
.. the Member for Tanjong Bungah (Mr. Cheah Seng Khim, J.P.)
.. the Member for Kepala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji
Abdullah, A.M.N.)
.. the Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik, P.J.K.)
.. the Member for Nibong Tebal (Tuan Haji Sahid bin Hassan, P.J.K.)
.. the Member for Balik Pulau (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Mohamed
Tahar)
.. the Member for Tasek Glugor (Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamal)
.. the Member for Butterworth (Mr. Williams David)
.. the Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim)
.. the Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu)
.. the Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim)
.. the Member for Tanjong Tengah (Mr. Teh Geok Kooi)
.. the Member for Tanjong Utara (Mr. Khoo Kay Por)
.. the Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah)
.. the Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin)

ABSENT

The Hon'ble the Member for Ayer Itam (Mr. Lim Kean Siew)

The Assembly resumes
at 10.00 a.m.

(C) Motion by the Honourable
Enche Tan Khim Hoe.

Member for Kelawei (Mr. Tan
Khim Hoe): Tuan Speaker, I beg
to move —

"That this Assembly do sanction,
in accordance with section 343
of the Municipal Ordinance, the
borrowing by the City Council
of George Town of a sum not
exceeding \$2,500,000 from the
Central Government for the
purpose of sewerage extension in
George Town."

Under section 343(1) of the
Municipal Ordinance, the City
Council may, with the sanction of
this Assembly, and subject to the
provisions of section 344 of the
Ordinance, borrow money for any
of the purposes prescribed in sec-
tion 343(2) of the Ordinance.

"The exercise of the powers of
borrowing conferred by this Or-
dinance shall be subject to the
following provisions:-

- (a) A loan not be raised under
the authority of this Ordinance
so as to make the total
indebtedness of the Commis-
sioners or loans, after deduct-
ing from such indebtedness the
current value of all sums cre-
dited to the sinking funds on
loans, exceed five times the an-
nual value of the houses,
buildings, lands and tenements
liable to assessment within the
Municipality, provided that in-
debtedness for loans raised for
unremunerative works, after de-
ducting from such indebtedness
the current value of all sums
credited to the sinking funds
on such loans, shall not exceed

double the annual value of the
houses, buildings, lands and
tenements liable to assessment
within the Municipality.

For the purposes of this sec-
tion all works shall be deemed
to be unremunerative unless
and until the State Authority
has ordered that any work
shall be deemed to be remune-
rative.

- (b) The period for repayment shall
in no case exceed sixty years.
(c) When money is borrowed to
pay off an existing loan the
period for repayment of the
money so borrowed shall not,
except with the sanction of the
State Authority, extend beyond
the unexpired period for which
the original loan was sanc-
tioned and shall in no case be
extended beyond the period of
sixty years from the date of
the original loan."

In the First Malaysia Plan the
City Council submitted a bid for
\$4,600,000 to cover the cost of
the extension of the sewerage
scheme in the City during the
period 1966 - 1970. The Central
Government has approved a loan
of \$2,500,000 to the City Council
for this purpose at the following
terms:—

Period of Repayment: 25 years

Rate of Repayment: 5½% per annum

Method of Repayment:
by equated annuities
of principal and interest.

The loan funds will be utilised
by the Council to supply water-
borne sewerage to new building de-
velopments and to existing areas
which are at present served by the
bucket system or septic tanks.

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Honourable Members will certainly appreciate that it will be in the interest of the Council and the public to provide such facilities in the City. At the present time only about 60% of the City area has been provided by sewers. The remaining 40% is served by the bucket system or septic tanks. It is estimated that to supply water borne sewerage to the remaining area an expenditure of \$10,000,000 would have to be incurred. The Council proposes to seek future loans to complete the sewerage works within the City area. Past experience has shown that the bucket system and septic tanks give rise to problems of public health. As George Town is a high-density city the siting and space requirements of large septic tanks are a problem. Moreover, it has been found that once house-owners instal septic tanks they are generally reluctant to convert to water-borne sewerage when this is provided. It is therefore the aim of the City Council to ensure that all new areas are supplied with water-borne sewerage wherever possible. The expenditure on modern sewerage facilities will also result in considerable saving in the conservancy and septic-tank amenities service. Therefore it will be appreciated that this is certainly a major project which will enable the Council to provide very important service to the community.

Tuan Speaker, I beg to move.

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Tuan Speaker, I beg to second the motion.

Tuan Speaker, in as far as the sewerage system is concerned, we appreciate that it is time that the City Council should extend the sewerage system to the other parts of the city which are being served by the bucket system and the septic tank system.

We have the experience in Butterworth. We do not have the sewerage system, we have the bucket system and the septic tank system.

Now, in as far as the septic tank system is concerned, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Butterworth local authority has difficulty in maintaining these septic tanks. The reason being that every now and then it is found that the septic tanks are full and we have to send for the dislodging truck to dislodge the septic tanks. We have experienced the difficulty of trying to dislodge one tank in the north, one in the south, one in the east and one in the west, and we have received a lot of complaints about flooding of septic tanks. So since the city of George Town is fast-growing it would be proper for the sewerage system to be implemented as soon as possible to serve the remaining 40% of the city which is now being served by the septic tank system and the bucket system. All members of this House have seen, early in the morning, trucks coming along with the labourers and remove the buckets and I would personally say that really it is an eye-sore to the people here and to the people who visit the city. And we have got the trouble in Penang, for example, we have no backlanes and they have to carry the bucket through the front door. So all in all, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think this House should support this motion fully to enable the City Council to borrow this sum of money so that the sewerage system could be extended to the other areas of the city which is now being served by the septic tank and the bucket system.

Thank you.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): It may be partly my fault for being just a little late

for the opening remarks made by the Honourable Member for Kelawei in moving this motion. But, Sir, before I participate in this particular type of motion, I seek certain clarification and with your permission I will diverge a bit from the actual text of the motion.

The clarification that I seek, Sir, is whether this provision for sewerage development extension in George Town was made and applied for by the elected Councillors before the Council was suspended. Sir, this is a very important matter, because, unfortunately, you ruled out one of the motions which I submitted to debate. This question and the significance of it, Sir, is clearly marked because I do not think this House should get itself associated with any commitments which can lead to further and eventually to legal complications involving the expense of public monies on matters which can be legally interpreted as incorrect.

For example, Sir, during the course of the Honourable the Chief Minister's speech with regard to the development of the low-cost housing, 3,700 over units at Rifle Range, we refer to a very interesting point where I had no chance to talk since I had already used up my opportunity. As far as I understand, the land in Rifle Range was leased out or alienated on a ninety-year lease to the City Council for purposes of public housing. Since then we found that this land has been leased by the City Council, under suspension, to a private concern — a local as well as a foreign concern — for the purpose of putting up a factory in that low-cost housing. Sir, such an arrangement can lead, I suggest, to vary many legal complications and I would like clarification as to whether this particular sewerage scheme was put up by the elected council or whether it was put up by the council under suspension before we participate in this.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether this request is made by the former council or the present council is a legal matter where I am not qualified to say. But one thing I can say is, the City Council is run by the Chief Minister, and with regard to this particular loan it was made by the former council which has the agreement of the Chief Minister. With regard to the land that the City Council has leased to the factory, I have explained that. To the point raised by the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan, and I would like to repeat here that although the land was leased by the State Government to the City Council for the public housing, the City Council can seek the power of the State Government to sub-lease the land to anybody. As a result of the scheme, which was proposed by the City Council, and which did not materialise because of the impossibility of getting the loan during the period when the Rifle Range scheme is under consideration, that will take about three and a half years, the Chief Minister felt it would be a revenue producing effort if the City Council were to lease this land to these factories for the convenience of the factory and also for the safety of the people in George Town. Revenue: I think, this lease will bring a few thousand dollars to the City Council instead of leaving the land idle for four years. Safety: this is a different type of housing construction. Instead of the normal conventional type, it is an industrial type where parts of the building will be conveyed to the area and be assembled. Now, if

the Government felt it is also the request and appeal of the Minister of Housing that the State Government should assist in all ways possible to cut down as much problem as possible with regard to traffic and safety of the people, therefore, the Chief Minister with the officials of the City Council decide as a result of this problem to lease to this contractor. That means it is better to let the land which is long idle for four years to this contractor to gain some revenue and also to cut down the problems of hazard of traffic which will really cause a lot of problem to the State Government if hundreds of lorries convey all these parts to these city roads, damage of Housing that the State Government the roads and causing traffic problems. That is why the City Council decided to lease to this contractor.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I thank the Honourable the Chief Minister for his clarification. Obviously, this particular loan was proposed by the original City Council. However, Sir, I am not satisfied with the clarification of the second part, and I hope that the Honourable the Chief Minister will be good enough, in private correspondence, to supply me with information because obviously, the City Council, the State and the Federal Government are all involved in this particular scheme. Sir, as far as I understand, the recommendations by the City Officials who now advise the Honourable the Chief Minister in his capacity as the person in charge of the City Council, were not particularly keen to release this piece of land. However, Sir, their views were overruled and they have not very much to say. And secondly, I feel this is a travesty of the terms of lease and thirdly, Sir, I do not under-

stand whether the savings in cost in transportation will make the cost in the overall building of these low-cost housing much less or whether this is just an instance of helping certain builders.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I very much regret that the Member for Kota is twisting what I am trying to explain. There is no question in saving the cost of building. It is in the cost of transport, the cost to the damage of the roads to the City Council and also the traffic hazard that would be caused by hundreds of lorries conveying materials from the factories if they are miles away from the City Council area. And because of that the Chief Minister, and with the City Officials agreed to the lease. I do not know where the Honourable Member for Kota got the impression that the Chief Minister overruled an advice given by the officials. The first advice was "reject the application because there is a scheme for housing." But the City Council has no money to build the scheme, as it has to depend on loans. And the Minister for Housing has decided and convened to the Council that it is not possible to consider their application until the completion of the Rifle Range scheme and after the completion the Minister will reconsider the application. As a result of that — a matter of four years — is it proper or reasonable to allow the land to remain idle. Instead of getting some money for the City Council budget? And also to cut down the dangerous traffic which will be caused by this project.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Tuan Speaker. Sir, before the last war the sewerage system was already introduced to the city of George Town, of which we are all aware. It was then the

municipality of George Town. And parts of the city then came under the scheme. However, with the advent of the second world war and the subsequent occupation of the Japanese, the plan for converting the city from the conservative pail system to the new and more hygiene sewerage system came to a complete halt. However, with the return of peace and restoration of this country to the British rule, the plan for conversion to the sewerage system could not immediately be implemented at that time, due to lack of funds. However, with the gradual return to normality, new plans — please correct me if I am wrong — were introduced to include some more areas or streets under the sewerage system. Although this new plan was introduced to some areas and streets, still a large part of the city has not come under the sewerage system. The conservative pail system is still used in a large part of the city; and the City Council is responsible for running the service of night-soil disposal, though I believe in some of the remote areas of the city private bodies are still tackling them.

The pail system, Sir, apart from being unhygienic causes much annoyance, as the Honourable the Member for Bagan Ajam did mention, that it is being conducted in broad daylight in the morning. And in certain houses where there are no back lanes and no back doors, it is a fact that such removal is being done through the front door. But, Sir, one very important consideration, however, must be given to the extension of sewerage in George Town, and that is that a very large number of night-soil labourers would be thrown out of employment. The State Government must make provision to absorb them into other service if and when the pail sys-

tem were to give way ultimately to the sewerage system.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, on a point of clarification: I would like to know whether the Honourable Member intends that the State Government should make provision to absorb these labourers or the City Council.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the City Council under the control of the State Government.

Chief Minister: It is not the State Government which is running the City Council, it is the Chief Minister.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Anyway, I thank the Honourable the Chief Minister for drawing my attention. And on no account must these labourers be made to suffer and to be turned into unfortunate victims of progress. Another thing I would like to know: we do not know what would be areas and streets that would benefit out of this extension. Also for that large sum of money we do not know whether it would cover the whole extension.

Another thing I would like to touch upon is the query brought up by my colleague, the Honourable Member for Kota. I quite agree that the Honourable the Chief Minister has taken a wise step in allowing somebody to make use of the land. But we have got to consider whether this piece of land falls in line with the zoning. And I know very well that the City Council of George Town is very particular and very strict. In fact, there were cases where an application put up for only a shed

is not permitted. But in this instance it has been tolerated. And in this particular instance where there is going to be a housing scheme around the area, with the congestion, still the Officer-in-charge sees fit to allow.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, that is only an administrative action.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker Sir, I ask for clarification just now. Are you going to let me participate?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, before I go on to the debate itself, I still say I am not satisfied with the clarification given by the Honourable the Chief Minister. It smacks a little bit of favouritism to any one particular group. I would not go much further than that until I look into the actual situation. And certainly if the Honourable the Chief Minister would supply me with the facts, I would take the matter up to Parliament, up to the Member of Local Government and Housing.

Sir, with regard to this question of sewerage, I would ask the Honourable the Member for Kelawei who moved this motion, and I am very sorry for him because he is obviously holding a brief for the City Council, and he is holding a brief for the State Government, and at the present moment he is holding a brief for the Chief Minister. So in his capacity as the authority in charge of the City Council under suspension. Sir, I would like to know from him whether in the process of development of sewerage the City Council comes under the Aegis of the Chief

Minister, and therefore under the sub-lease of the State Government also considers this question of water problem for the future. We have been told that there will be water supply problems in the future, and the sewerage schemes do utilize a fair amount of water. And any provision for sewerage schemes of this type we have a lot of sea-water around Penang Island in particular, and we know provision should not be made for utilization of sea-water in this sewerage system in this particular instance. It will certainly offset some of the problems of the water supply.

Sir, the provision of \$2,500,000. I think, has come at a good time for the Alliance Government, and the Alliance Party in particular, to go into the elections to say that they passed it here. But it is quite clear that this provision was put forward by the elected council, of which the Alliance did not have the majority. And it is high time that this sewerage extension should have been provided. And it has come a little bit late, I think, on the whole, for the extension of George Town because we have raised this problem time and time again for tourism — Mr. Honourable Member for Glugor — for people to come down to the business shopping centres of Penang and see our w.c. vans, the most important vans of all, because they are the only cars with seven tyres and thirty-eight doors or.....

Mr. Speaker: Windows.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Alright — windows going right across the middle of Bishop Street at 11 o'clock when people are trying to do some shopping, and coming out again with a beautiful tub of waste. That, I presume, is another view.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, that is the system of the Alliance State Government? I would like the Member to clarify that.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I am confused now as to who takes over, in view of the suspension — whether it is the Alliance or the Chief Minister.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the Member to clarify specifically whether it is the system of the Alliance. I think it is the system of the United Democratic Party, the Alliance and the Socialist Front.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, we could put it the other way round. That is the way of putting the minor group first. We do not mind coming out first. That is why we are concerned about the future and concerned about the legal complications in the future. If we held elections in the City Council we will probably come out first.

Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M. S. A. Zachariah): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am extremely disappointed at the way the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat has been trying to give his observations on this Motion, being a member of the now suspended City Council. It is a pity that he has not been following the deliberations and the workings of the various committees in the City Council, even though my friend the Honourable Member has been privileged to attend all committee meetings as the lone voice of the United Democratic Party.

I make this observation, Sir, because of the fact that the bucket system of carrying this refuse in some of the city areas is partly

done by contract labour and partly by council employees. I do remember when this matter came up for discussion in the council meeting, we did go through the absorbing of the employees who would be thrown out of job in the event of the modernisation of the clearing of this refuse in the city areas, and matter has been thoroughly discussed and very satisfactorily discussed; and it was also concluded that in case if any of the labourers, as a result of the introduction of sewerage system in the area which would replace the bucket system were coming into being, of course, those labourers concerned would be absorbed in the other departments of the City Council. And I am extremely sorry that even though, and I wonder whether he refuse not to know or he is just giving a wrong impression to this House; or whether he is in a confused state of mind, because at one stage, when I saw he was in a confused state of mind, we heard him say he is not very happy about the way the refuse is being cleared in a modern city like George Town. And at the same time, he is afraid that if this thing comes into being, that means that the motion is carried and the City Council is given permission to borrow the money and modernise the sewerage system in the whole of the city area. He is afraid that so many people will be thrown out of job. That is why, Sir, I wonder whether he is still aware of what has taken place in the City Council in so far as the sewerage system is concerned.

Regarding the observations made by my friend the Honourable Member for Kota, I know what he is trying to drive at. Of course, we the Alliance Members in the City Council, we are not trying to claim credit for what has been done.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): You cannot.

Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M. S. A. Zachariah): I am coming to that. I have not finished my speech yet. Probably he may be trying to point out that in numbers, the Labour Party may be more as far as councillors are concerned. But his colleague, the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat will vouch that for the last one year or so the entire council administration was more or less at committee stages was done by Alliance members, and not by United Democratic Party members or other members.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Back-door members.

Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M. S. A. Zachariah): Whatever the Honourable Member considers, that is his opinion. I wonder what he means by back-door members. I am not going to ask him to clarify that statement.

I am just still wondering why the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat has been so much a stranger to the proceedings and deliberations of the City Council for the last three years that he has the honour of serving the public. We as far as the Alliance councillors are concerned we are not there to claim credit, but we are there to do service for the rate-payers and public of George Town in particular.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Mr. Speaker Sir, on a point of clarification. I can assure the Honourable Member for Dhoby Ghaut that I am aware of the proceedings in the City Council and I can assure him that unlike some, I do not sleep inside the council. There is no harm if I am asking Government for assurance

that these labourers would be taken into service. I am quite sure that it does not mean that I am not aware of the proceedings in the City Council.

Member for Kelawei (Mr. Tan Khim Hoe): Tuan Speaker, with regard to the statement made by the Member for Tanjong Barat, he is always frightened about the employment of the local people. The Alliance Government has been telling them all the time, especially members of the opposition, that we are trying to find work for them, that is why, this year we sent an Industrial Team to the other countries so that we can have big industries in our State. The idea is to provide more work for the people. Of course, everything takes time.

About the plight of the night-soil workers, I can assure the Member for Tanjong Barat that we will find other work for them in other departments when the time comes.

About this amount of \$2,500,000, it may be a co-incidence. Since he is interested in the areas concerned, I would like to inform him that the areas affected are: Edgecumbe Road, Jalan Brother James, Burma Road (city limits to the north), Kelawei Road, Gurney Drive which in Kelawei. It is a co-incidence. With regard to the Member for Kota who says it is too late, I would like to inform him of the saying "It is better late than never".

Question put and agreed to.

(D) Motion by the Hon'ble Mr. Khor Peng Seah.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bawa Usul ini pada hari ini kerana di-dalam

masyarakat sekarang orang2 miskin ini tidak mempunyai tanah, selalu di-seksa oleh kaum penindas. Orang2 ini bukan sahaja hidup dalam keadaan penderitaan, malah tidak ada juga tempat kediaman yang tetap. Mereka selalu di-paksa pindah dari satu tempat ka-satu tempat dan dari satu tempat ka-tempat yang lain, berpindah pula dari satu tempat ka-tempat yang lebih jauh. Di bawah ranchangan Perumahan dan ranchangan membina jalan2 di-Negeri kita, telah banyak penduduk2 di-paksa di-pindah dan mereka ini kebanyakan tidak dapat pertolongan yang sewajar. Oleh demikian, mereka telah menghadapi penderitaan yang lebih hebat. Pada masa ini kemungkinan mengakibatkan masa'alah yang buruk ia-lah masa'alah Brown Estate. Tuan tanah Brown ini mempunyai tanah yang banyak di-Pulau Pinang ini. Semasa dalam penjajahan dahulu tanah2 itu menjadi harta-nya sendiri dengan sebab itu, sekarang tuan tanah ini beransor2 menjual tanah-nya dengan harga yang mahal kepada orang2 dalam negeri kita, membawa balek bilangan wang yang besar ka-negeri-nya. Ra'ayat negeri ini bekerja dengan susah payah mengumpulkan wang hampir2 sepanjang hayat hidup mereka untuk mendapatkan kembali tanah2 yang telah di-rampas sekian lama ini. Tanah2 yang di-rampas oleh tuan tanah itu sudah semestinya di-milik-negarakan oleh Kerajaan, tetapi Kerajaan bukan sahaja tidak memilik-negarakan untuk faedah ra'ayat, tetapi menyatakan sechара terang2 yang Kerajaan akan membeli tanah ini; kemudian di-jual kepada penduduk2 di-sana dengan harga yang murah itu pun tidak. Sikap Kerajaan membiarkan tanah Brown ini di-jual2 kepada tuan tanah di-mana ra'ayat yang tinggal di-tanah ini berada di-dalam keadaan yang chemas ada-lah

satu sikap yang tiada bertanggung jawab. Ra'ayat yang tinggal di-dalam Brown Estate ini sudah sekian lama menderita bermacam2 penindasan. Pernah pada satu masa yang lalu pehak British sengaja memberi perintah menanam pokok kelapa di-tanah2 halaman rumah penduduk2 di-situ. Lagi satu peristiwa — sa-orang penduduk di-kawasan itu minta supaya pehak British menebang pokok2 kelapa yang mana chondong ka-arrah rumah mereka dan mengancham keluarga-nya. Permintaan yang di-buat itu bukan sahaja tidak dapat layanan daripada pehak Brown, sebaliknya menyukakan hati orang2 itu. Ia menyatakan kepada orang2 itu mana lebih lama di-antara rumah dengan pokok kelapa itu; kalau pokok kelapa itu lebih lama daripada rumah, maka lebih baik rumah itu di-runtuhkan. Ini-lah jawapan yang manis pehak tuan tanah yang kaya terhadap ra'ayat yang miskin.

Pada beberapa tahun yang lalu, pehak Brown Estate telah beransor menjualkan tanah tersebut kepada tuan2 tanah di-sini. Tetapi tanah2 ini di-jual pada masa dahulu itu tidak merbahaya seperti pada masa sekarang — yang mengancham kedudukan penduduk2 di-situ merasai kalau Brown Estate itu tidak di-jual kepada mereka, maka mereka mungkin akan terpaksa di-pindah ka-tempat yang lain. Oleh itu, penduduk2 di-situ telah menghantar wakil-nya untuk berjumpa dan berunding dengan pehak Brown Estate. Akhir-nya pehak Brown Estate telah bersejatu menjual tanah sechара menjual saham. Akan tetapi pehak Brown Estate terlebih dahulu telah menjual tanah-nya yang lebih daripada 2,000 ekar itu kepada sa-orang tuan tanah Indian, ya'itu Arumugam Pillai. Tuan tanah ini, termasuk..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Saya minta kepada tuan jangan-lah membawa sa-sa-orang itu ka-dalam Majlis ini sehingga tuan dapat membuktikan yang sama-ada betul beliau membeli tanah itu. Tuan boleh sebut tuan tanah sahaja.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah):....kebun kelapa, sawah serta kampong kediaman yang mengandungi lebih 1,500 buah rumah dan 10,000 penduduk2. Apa-kah maksud tuan tanah ini membeli Estate ini? Ada-kah kerana hendak menolong ra'ayat yang miskin? Maksud-nya 'jauh panggang dari api'. Maksud tuan tanah ini hanya mahu mencari untong sebanyak-nya walau pun dengan apa chara. Ini adalah tabiat Kapitalist yang kita selalu lihat. Apabila masaalah itu menjadi hebat, maka pihak Brown Estate telah membeli separoh estate itu dengan tuan tanah baru ini, dan yang baki itu maseh ada dalam tangan tuan tanah Indian ini. Apabila Kerajaan negeri mengishtiharkan dalam Warta Kerajaan tentang satu kawasan di-sana sebagai tempat kediaman, tuan tanah Indian itu telah pun menjual beberapa ekar di-dalam estate.....(interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Tak payah-lah sebutkan Indian-kah, China-kah, Melayu-kah; tuan tanah sahaja chukop.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Konon-nya selepas Kerajaan ishtiharkan kawasan itu sebagai kawasan kediaman, tuan tanah ini maseh jual beberapa ekar lagi — ia mahu lihat apa tindakan yang akan diambil oleh Kerajaan konon-nya. Oleh yang demikian, saya anggap chara paling baik untuk mengatasi kesulitan ra'ayat dalam kawasan itu, ia-lah milek-negarakan estate itu. Walau pun Kerajaan telah ishtihar dalam Warta Kera-

jaan menyatakan tempat itu sebagai tempat kediaman, tetapi Kerajaan tidak menegaskan mahu membeli tanah itu. Kalau Kerajaan tidak mahu menerima chara milek-negarakan, maka terus membeli tanah ini dengan harga yang murah dan jualkan kepada ra'ayat dengan membayar dengan chara beransor. Kalau Kerajaan tidak menguasai harga estate ini, apabila Kerajaan hendak beli ini juga satu chara tidak menolong ra'ayat dan ini juga akan memberi keruntongan kepada tuan tanah, kerana dia boleh mengemukakan harga ikut suka hati. Kerajaan harus juga menguasai harga apabila Kerajaan membeli tanah estate ini. Oleh yang demikian saya mengusul "Dewan ini mengambil keputusan bahawa Kerajaan Negeri patut beli semua tanah Brown Estate yang baharu di-jual kepada tuan tanah Indian supaya berpechahan lot2 dan di-jualkan kepada penduduk2 dengan chara di-bayar beransor2 untuk mengelakkan penduduk2 Brown Estate itu berpindah".

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Saya menyokong usul yang di-bawa oleh rakan saya Ahli Y.B. dari kawasan Tanjong Selatan. Sebagai perkara yang saling berlaku, apabila tanah2 di-jual kepada orang2 yang lain, maka penduduk2 di-kawasan ini sering di-suroh berpindah dan ada banyak tempat pemindahan rumah dan sebagai-nya tidak-lah diganti rugi dan ini mengakibatkan banyak penduduk2 yang di-suroh pindah menghadapi kesulitan. Baru2 ini, tanah Brown Estate yang luas ini telah di-jual kepada sa-orang tuan tanah dan penduduk2 yng lebih daripada 10,000 orang telah merasai bimbang kerana dengan tanah ini di-jual kepada tuan tanah, kalau tuan tanah mahu menggunakan tanah itu untuk ranchangan mereka atau mahu menggunakan tanah itu

untuk faedah2 mereka, maka penduduk2 di-sana akan di-halau keluar dari tanah yang mereka dudok sekarang ini. Juga ada banyak penduduk2 di-sana menggunakan tanah untuk berchuchok tanam dan kalau mereka di-suroh pindah ka-tempat yang lain, mana mereka akan menghadapi kerugian. Jika penduduk2 di-sana yang bersawah sekarang, jika berpindah ka-tempat2 yang lain mereka akan menghadapi kerugian. Sebab itu-lah penduduk2 di-sini ada meminta kepada Kerajaan supaya kepentingan mereka di-pertahankan. Mereka telah minta Kerajaan supaya membeli tanah ini, kemudian di-jualkan balik kepada mereka sechara membayar ansoran. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Kerajaan harus mengambil perhatian yang berat terhadap penduduk2 yang sedang di-ancham oleh penjualan tanah Brown Estate itu dan saya sokong Usul ini kerana jika Kerajaan membelikan tanah itu dan di-jualkan kepada penduduk2 di-sini, maka mereka tidak payah-lah di-suroh pindah ka-tempat2 yang lain. Satu perkara lagi yang saya harap Kerajaan mengambil perhatian ia-lah tanah2 yang akan di-beli, harus-lah menguasai harga kerana jika Kerajaan beli dengan harga yang tinggi, maka penduduk2 di-sana harus juga membayar wang yang banyak kepada Kerajaan dan kalau wang ini tidak mampu mereka bayar lagi, itu akan-lah susah juga. Sebab itu saya harap Kerajaan mengambil perhatian terhadap perkara ini untuk kepentingan ra'ayat dan untuk kepentingan penduduk2 di-sini. Saya sokong Usul yang di-bawa oleh rakan saya ini.

Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang menjadi susah sedikit, kelmari kita telah di-beri pesan yang bertalu2 meng-echam dengan hebat-nya pekerjaan kita, hari ini pula telah menyata-

kan bahawa Kerajaan sekarang sudah mula hendak menjadi Ahli Perniagaan yang hendak mencari keuntungan, dan sekali2 pula kita di-tudoh mengatasi insurance. Hari ini pula kita di-minta menjadi 'Broker' tanah, beli tanah kemudian jual. Jadi, kalau Kerajaan belum pun berhajat hendak menjadi sa-buah kompani perniagaan, ha-nya-lah dalam perasaan ahli yang berniagaan sahaja bahawa Kerajaan ada mempunyai perasaan hendak berniaga, maka telah pun di-kecham-nya; sedangkan ia-nya meminta supaya Kerajaan membuat perniagaan yang paling besar modal-nya jika menjadi kembali tanah itu kepada orang2 pertumpangan. Jika dia minta di-milek-negarakan kemudian di-beri per-chuma, itu soal lain, tetapi ada soal berniaga. Sekarang soal berniaga pun di-timbulkan pula — berma'ana kechaman-nya selama itu ada-lah serupa barangkali. Dalam perkara itu pula, Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Selatan menyatakan bahawa ada orang2 yang di-suroh pindah dengan tidak di-beri apa2 sagu hati, malah menyusahkan orang2 itu sahaja. Ini saya minta(interrupted).

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, satu penjelasan — saya menyatakan apa yang mereka dapati itu tidak begitu chukop.

Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Se- siapa sahaja yang menerima daripada orang lain, memang tidak pernah chukop kalau pun melebehi. Saya tidak tahu ini adakan yang telah di-suroh oleh pihak Kerajaan untuk membuat sa-suatu ranchangan atau pun persa-orangan. Jika ranchangan2 ini mengenai Ranchangan2 di-bawah Pemba-ngunan Luar Bandar, saya berani-lah mengaku tidak ada orang yang di-paksa keluar dengan tidak mendapat bayaran yang sechukup-

nya. Saya menyatakan chukup kerana jika orang2 atau tuan tanah yang berkenaan tidak berasa puas hati dengan apa yang di-beri oleh Kerajaan, boleh-lah ia mengadu kepada pehak Mahkamah, sebab itu saya menyatakan chukup — orang yang tidak puas hati boleh-lah berhubung dengan Mahkamah. Tetapi, jika perkara ini mengenai orang2 persa-orangan, maka itu terpulang-lah kira-bi-chara di-antara tuan tanah dan pehak yang berkenaan. Sebagai yang tuan2 ketahui, kita ada-lah juga mengenal dasar2 Demokerasi memiliki harta dan juga memerlukan menghormati hak assasi ma'anusia di-dalam negeri ini. Ini ada-lah juga satu hak assasi, bukan hak assasi orang2 yang menumpang, tetapi hak assasi tuan tanah juga asal-nya. Berkenaan dengan perkara2 seperti hasrat ra'ayat itu di-punyai oleh penduduk2 yang senang sahaja — itu perkara yang singkat, tidak-lah dapat kita menyatakan apa2 mengenai dengan permintaan Ahli Kawasan Jelutong supaya bila Kerajaan beli nanti, konon di-jual-lah dengan harga yang murah, dan beli itu pun jangan kalau hendak milek-negara itu pun mahu rampas atau kalau bichara yang beli itu soal lain. Tetapi kita misti ingat sebelum memandang sesuatu, kita tidak boleh buat apa2 berkenaan dengan harga, kerana kalau pehak yang berkenaan tidak puas hati berkenaan dengan harga, walau pun pehak, Kerajaan hak harga itu hanya di-punyai o'eh mahkamah dan perkara ini boleh diputuskan mengikut heberana yang patut. Tujuan Usul ini ia-lah hendak memilek-negarakan tanah di-kawasan yang berkenaan ini. Perkara milek-negara hanya-lah yang paling senang di-buat keputusan. tetapi pengambilan sesuatu dan milek-negara sesuatu saya rasa ini ada bersebab dengan beberapa perkara termasuklah perlembagaan Undang2 dan dasar. Hari ini kita

hanya baharu mengambil Majlis Bandar Raya seperti mana yang selalu di-alu2kan oleh Ahli Tanjong Selatan — telah pun bermulut2 di-Dewan ini dan juga sekarang ini sehinggakan ka-mahkamah. Jadi, begitu juga-lah perkara ini pada fikiran membawa usul-nya dan keputusan ini di-dapati perkara itu selesai begitu sahaja, dengan tidak ada apa2 reaksi-nya. Lagi pun perkara yang begini ada hubungan-nya dengan dasar Kerajaan Persekutuan yang lebih luas. Ada-lah lebih elok Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Selatan menyata kepada Ahli2 di-Parlimen mengemukakan Usul ini di-dalam Parlimen kerana perkara itu saya rasa ada-lah menjadi dasar Kerajaan Persekutuan. Kalau di-putuskan begini sahaja, perkara itu di-jalankan nanti lagi panjang. Perkara ini saya harap benar2 untuk mendapat perhatian Ahli yang berkenaan. Oleh kerana Kerajaan telah pun mengambil langkah untuk mengambil balek tanah lagi maksud kediaman, saya rasa Usul ini ada-lah keterlaluan. Saya suka-lah mengambil peluang ini untuk memberi jaminan kepada penduduk2 di-kawasan yang berkenaan bahawa Kerajaan telah pun mengambil langkah2 yang sesuai untuk tindakan mereka—tindakan pengambilan tanah yang di-kenal dengan nama Brown Estate. di-bawah Sekshen 3 dalam Undang2 Pengambilan Tanah. Tahun 1960. Pehak berkuasa Negeri boleh mengambil sebarang tanah yang di-perlukan:

- (a) Bagi sebarang kegunaan ramai, atau oleh sa-orang atau lembaga yang sanggup membuat satu kerja yang di-fikirkan oleh berkuasa Negeri.
- (b) Untuk memberi faedah kepada orang ramai.
- (c) Bagi tujuan melombong atau tempat kediaman atau pun perusahaan. Semasa mengemuka

ini, Dewan ini telah juga meluluskan Rang Undang2 Pinjaman Pengambilan Tanah2, Tahun 1960.

Tujuan Undang2 ini ia-lah untuk membolehkan Kerajaan mendapat kumpulan wang pinjaman bagi mengambil minta yang tersebut dalam Undang2 Tanah, Tahun 1960. Penambilan Brown Estate yang di-jatuhkan itu telah pun di-siarkan dalam Warta Kerajaan di-bawah sekshen 4, Undang2 Pengambilan Tanah, Tahun 1960. Sekshen ini ada-lah memberi kuasa kepada Pegawai Kerajaan memasuki tanah itu dan menjalankan persatuan mengenai kewangan dan lain2 sehingga laporan ini diterima. Kerajaan Negeri itu dapat menentukan kawasan tanah yang sebenar dan kehendaki bagi tujuan ini kalau pun Kerajaan puas hati bahawa tanah itu akan di-gunakan bagi tujuan itu. Tuan Speaker, oleh yang demikian, saya mohon meniadakan supaya Dewan ini menolak Usul ini.

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Tuan Speaker, dalam Usul ini saya suka tarek perhatian Ahli2 Kawasan Tanjong Selatan. Pertama sekali, saya suka mengambil kata2 Usul ini dan saya bersetuju dengan bingkangan Usul ini ada sebab-nya. Kata2 sahabat saya, Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh berkenaan dengan Usul yang di-bawa oleh-nya bagi pehak Kerajaan beberapa tahun yang sudah berkenaan memileki tanah. Alasan yang di-beri lagi baru2 ini dan saya bawa atas kata2 chadangan ini, saya bangkang terus juga. Saya satu Ahli2 yang dudok di-dalam kawasan ini, ada lagi Ahli dari Kawasan Bayan Lepas. Jadi, pertama kali nama Brown Estate, kita misti ingat — Brown Estate ini mengikut Usul ini, jikalau kita hendak bersetuju sudah siap. Semua kawasan yang berkenaan, ada Brown Estate, ada Glugor Estate,

ada Sungei Ara Estate. Saya ambil atas Usul ini kita tidak bersetuju. Baik Usul ini kita jual, saya nyata Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita jual kepada Ahli Tanjong Selatan atas Usul ini, bagi menerangkan ini tanah di-jual atau tidak. Saya mahu itu. Sebab itu saya bangkang.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Oh, you tak tahu jual, sudah jual..... (interrupted).

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Macham mara jual, jual saya kata sold — sold, when sa-orang bagi deposit itu, itu sold. Sa-sa-orang, kalau bagi deposit, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, itu ma'ana sold. Kalau saya bagi deposit ini hari kepada wakil Tanjong Selatan, atau sebut di-sini bagi satu deposit, satu perkara itu jual. Atas Usul ini saya misti tahu — juga dalam Dewan ini tunjok ini surat jual yang dalam keterangan, saya nak tunjok kepada Dewan ini tanah ini sudah jual dan betul kata2 Usul ini. Baru kita hendak sokong. Berkenaan dengan Usul ini juga, kata2 dalam Usul ini hendak memileki tanah dengan sebaik-nya. Jadi, di-sini saya punya fahaman di-bawah semua Kerajaan, dasar Kerajaan sudah beberapa tahun di-bawah Nationalise di-bawah begini punya Usul, dalam kesusahan baru nak tolong orang ramai. Kerajaan sudah tolong banyak kepada orang ramai memileki tanah — dengan ranchangan perumahan, jalan2 raya berjaya, ranchangan perumahan Kerajaan bagi pindah orang2 itu — tak guna buang di-tengah jalan, tak susah langsung; dapat duit senang hati, dapat tanah, dapat tempat, ada yang baik — jadi tang mana yang orang2 susah? Ini hari kalau Kerajaan ambil tempat2 yang berkenaan, jikalau Kerajaan hendak mengambil tempat2 yang ada di-Usul ini, jikalau ada mengikut Bil yang

di-bawa dua-tiga hari sudah, jika-lau sunggoh belum tentu lagi — berma'ana kalau ada ranchangan2 seperti itu dalam 2,200 ekar ini, saya ingat di-sini semua orang tahu dasar Kerajaan kita — tak usah bimbang, misti Kerajaan chari satu tempat, jikalau Kerajaan punya tanah. Jadi di-sini Usul yang kita chadang semua di-beri betul susunan. Kalau kita berse-tuju, berma'ana tanah ini sudah di-jual.

Lagi satu, ketua2 Brown Estate bermacham2 — ada di-bawah manager Brown Estate, ada di-punyai oleh manager Glugor Estate, ada Sungai Ara Estate. Semua ini kalau berse-tuju, susah — semua terlibat dalam 2,200 ekar ini. Jadi, kalau wakil Tanjong Selatan ambil tahu perkara ini, bagi sharat, bagi tahu susunan mana2 estate punya nama. Kalau kita berse-tuju, ba-haru-lah betul. Jadi, kita tidak boleh berse-tuju, kita buat salah, tak betul kita buat kerja dalam Dewan ini.

Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pan-dangan saya atas Usul ini dan saya semua hendak bangkang Usul yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Tanjong Selatan ini.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Tuan Speaker, saya bangun menyokong bangkangan yang telah di-bawa oleh sahabat saya ya'itu Ahli Permatang Pauh, sebab bukan-lah arti-nya saya dan Y.B. Enche Aziz Ibrahim yang telah pun berchakap. tak hendak menolong penduduk2 di-tempat tersebut, kalau terjadi kapada mereka berma'ana kami berdua terlibat sama. Jadi, maksud kita lagi sa-kali saya suka tegas-kan bukan-lah pehak Kerajaan tidak mahu menolong ra'avat dan penduduk yang ada di-tanah Brown Estate itu. Sebenar-nya kita pen-duduk2 di-situ menaruh penoh keperchayaan kapada Kerajaan

Perikatan, kapada Kerajaan Pulau Pinang yang kita perchaya dapat menolong ra'ayat2 yang ada di-situ.

Tuan Speaker, dalam mengusul-kan Usul ini, Y.B. Ahli dari Ka-wasan Tanjong Selatan telah ber-uchap ada beberapa perkara yang saya rasa ma'aluman yang di-da-pati oleh beliau itu tidak betul, ti-dak mempunyai bukti—barangkali beliau sendiri bukan-lah orang yang terlibat dengan perkara itu. Tetapi, saya suka mengambil pe-luang di-sini untuk menerangkan yang sebenar keadaan dan kedu-dokan tanah yang mana di-panggil Brown Estate. Tanah Brown Es-tate ini yang sebenar-nya ia-lah luas-nya lebih kurang 2,221 ekar. Keadaan penduduk2 yang dudok di-dalam tanah ini di-beri pada masa dahulu, di-beri kebenaran tinggai di-tempat itu dengan bayaran yang saya rasa paling murah sekali ka-lau kita banding dengan tempat2 lain. Kebanyakan penyewa2 tanah ini tinggal di-tempat2 itu yang hanya membayar \$2/- — sa-tahun dan pak-tani2 pula yang membuat sawah di-dalam Estate itu hanya di-kenakan pada satu ekar \$20/- walau pun padi di-tanam dua kali. Keadaan atau ramai orang yang terlibat yang ada dalam estate ini ia-lah lebih kurang 1,600 keluarga. Berjumlah ramai-nya lebih kurang 16,000 orang.

Tuan Speaker, manakala pendu-dok2 dalam tanah Brown ini me-ngetahui yang keadaan mereka itu akan bertukar tuan, pehak pendu-dok2 di-situ telah mengadakan perjumpaan di-bawah anjoran parti Perikatan dan saya sendiri sebagai Pengerusi Jawatan-kuasa perjumpaan tersebut penduduk2 itu telah mengadakan beberapa kali perjumpaan untuk menchari jalan bagaimana supaya keadaan dan keselamatan mereka di-situ terjamin. Pendek-nya, kita parti Perikatan tidak dudek diam ber-

tindak dan menolong penduduk2 tersebut. Dalam beberapa perjum-paan, kita memandang kapada 3 dasar yang besar yang akan me-nimpa ra'ayat atau pun penduduk di-situ. Yang pertama, kita hendak jaga keadaan dan kedudukan ke-selamatan 16,000 penduduk2 tadi. Kita harap pada masa yang da-lang 'Tenancy right' yang kita hendak dalam kawasan itu. Yang kedua, dalam Estate ini sendiri ada mempunyai pekerja2 yang lebih kurang 250 orang. Jadi, dari segi ini juga kita perhati kalau estate ini bertukar tangan dan ber-pechah, maka tidak-lah terjamin kapada 250 orang pekerja ini. Jadi, beberapa boleh, kita pehak parti Perikatan chuba hendak memper-tahankan kedudukan 250 orang pekerja yang ada dalam estate itu. Lain daripada itu, dalam 2,221 ekar tanah ini, ada lebih kurang 900 atau 700 ekar tanah sawah, yang mana kebanyakan orang2 kita bekerja mendapatkan hasil pendapatan-nya selain daripada bekerja di-lain2 untuk mendapat-kan sara hidup mereka hari2. Jadi, berdasar kapada ketiga2 faktor yang saya sebut tadi, maka itu-lah kita parti Perikatan telah pun mengadakan beberapa perjumpaan hingga akhir-nya kita telah pun mengadakan perjumpaan dengan Y.A.B. Dato' Ketua Menteri, su-paya kerajaan dapat membuat se-suatu perkara atau satu tindakan untuk menjagakan orang dan pe-kerja2 dan juga sawah yang ada di-situ tadi

Tuan Speaker, saya sebut sen-diri tadi apa yang kita tahu de-kad-desus yang kita dengar pehak tuan punya estate terpaksa men-al estate tersebut kerana hendak membayar estate duty. Jadi, da-lam masa'alah ini Tuan Speaker perkara yang di-bangkitkan oleh ahli Y.B. dari Kawasan Tanjong Selatan menyatakan penduduk2 di-dalam estate ini, pada masa tuan tanah yang lama tidak membayar

chukai. Saya rasa ini satu perkara yang tidak betul, kerana saya tahu sebenar-nya macham mana ke-adaan kedudukan estate itu. Jadi, dengan sebab orang2 di-sini men-dapat kemudahan yang tak dapat lagi di-banding di-lain2 tempat sebab itu-lah orang di-sini rasa takut dengan perubahan dengan tuan tanah yang lain — boleh jadi mereka itu tidak dapat jaminan mempertahankan kemudahan yang ada mereka dapat pada yang lepas2. Jadi, saya rasa ada satu masa'alah juga, kalau sekira-nya hendak minta Kerajaan kita 'Na-tionalise' estate ini, kemudian beri balek kapada orang yang dudok, yang bekerja di-atas tanah itu, saya rasa sebagai Y.B. Ahli Ka-wasan Permatang Pauh tadi ber-kata pehak Kerajaan kita tidak boleh berbuat begitu sebab Un-dang2 Negeri kita ta'ada. Pada pendapat saya, kalau sekira-nya hendak tunggu nak buat macham itu, saya rasa tentu-lah orang2 kita di-sana akan di-timpa beber-apa kesusahan lagi, dan keadaan-nya lebih burok dari sekarang ini. Jadi, itu-lah Tuan Speaker, saya rasa bangun di-sini menyokong bangkangan yang di-buat oleh Ahli Y.B. dari Kawasan Permatang Pauh itu, dan saya bagi pehak penduduk2 memberi keperchayaan penoh kapada Kerajaan Negeri yang boleh menolong penduduk2 di-sana, dan bukan dengan chara 'Nationalisation' seperti yang di-kehendaki oleh Parti Buroh itu. Sekian, terima kaseh.

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Tuan Speaker, reading through the motion —

"That this House resolves that the State Government should acquire all Brown Estate land which was recently sold to an Indian land-owner, to enable it to be sub-di-vided into lots for sale to the resi-

dents and to be paid on instalment basis so as to prevent the residents from being forced to quit the place."

as far as I am aware the State Government can only make use of the Compulsory Acquisition Act to acquire land not for a private purpose but for a public purpose. And furthermore, after acquisition of a land by using the Compulsory Act, I do not think Government would be able to sell the land but only can allocate on a leasehold and not on a freehold. On this point, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the motion.

Further, Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this motion is carried in this House to-day, I am afraid the State Government will be flooded with appeals and requests from residents throughout the State, appealing to the State Government to acquire land to sub-divide or relet the land to them.

I hope that Members of this House will oppose this motion; otherwise it will cause a precedent, and at the same time the land-owners will lose their parliamentary rights as citizens of this country.

Member for Tanjong Utara (Mr. Khoo Kay Por): Tuan Speaker, Sir, in speaking on the Motion moved by the Honourable Member of Tanjong Selatan, I wish to refer the House to certain facts covering this area.

As mentioned by the Honourable Member for Bayan Lepas, the Brown Estate, having an area of approximately 2,200 acres is inhabited with a population of about 16,000 people comprising various races living in about 1,600 houses. The estate was at first free from payment of any assessment for nearly fifty years; and only in 1932 the inhabitants started to pay 30 cents as quit rent for each house

However, Sir, the quit rent now for each house. However, Sir, the quit rent now for each house is between \$1 and \$2.

At the very outset Brown Estate was uncultivated. As a sign of good gesture the land-owner originally financed the fore-fathers of the present inhabitants of the estate to build houses, and also offered them land for cultivation of the estate on the understanding that there should be goodwill understanding and co-operation amongst all residents, in the hope that Brown Estate would eventually become a prosperous area. For the information of the House, the people have already sold practically all their belongings and valuables in order to raise the money to buy the land which the former land-owner had promised to sell to them. It is very sad to say the land-owner failed to keep his promise; and part of the estate will be sold to an individual. This state of affairs has greatly perturbed the residents of the estate and they are now in a state of anxiety and depression because they simply do not know what the future holds for them.

I think you will agree with me, Sir, that it is financially impossible for the people now living in the estate to purchase the land from the present owner. The residents are mostly labourers, farmers and pig-rearers; and they just manage to live from hand to mouth. If the land were sold to only one wealthy individual it will be another lucid example of the rich exploiting and victimising the poor. The rich become richer, and the poor become poorer. If this state of affairs is allowed to go on unchecked by the State Government then the irony of it is that Government on the one hand tells the people time and again that the policy of the Government is to bridge the gap, or

narrow the gap, between the rich and the poor, whereas on the other hand it is making the gap between the rich and the poor even wider.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the residents of the estate, if I am not wrong, formed a Working Committee; and the Committee went to see the Honourable the Chief Minister. The Honourable the Chief Minister assured them that the Government would endeavour to find a solution to the problem. On this score the Member has also stated in the Press that the Government would try their best to solve the plight of the inhabitants. On 21st August, 1966, the Working Committee convened an emergency meeting; and a resolution was passed unanimously to the effect that if the Brown estate land-owner persisted in disposing the land to an individual the residents should fight the issue resolutely with all their resources.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, therefore, in view of what I have said, I urge the State Government to take up this matter at the earliest possible moment with the owner of the estate in order to find a satisfactory resolution, in order to ensure that the residents in this estate will not be displaced. Failing to treat this matter urgently, I shudder to imagine what would be the consequences.

Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M. S. A. Zachariah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been observing the long speech by the Honourable Member for Tanjong Utara, but I find that nowhere in his deliberation did he say whether he seconded the Motion or opposed the Motion before this House. I am merely seeking clarification.

Mr. Speaker: If you do not support or do not second it is abstaining.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): We may support or oppose the motion.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in rising to oppose the motion, I wish to make only one comment. It is really a matter on which I am trying to find some clarification and I hope the Honourable Member will choose to clarify it in his summing-up speech. It refers to the terms of the motion in which it is stated "That this House resolves that the State Government should acquire all Brown Estate land which was recently sold to an Indian landowner, to enable it to be sub-divided" and so on and so forth. I wonder if the mover objects to the sale of the land just because it happens to be sold to an Indian landowner, or whether he will have similar objection if it were sold to a Chinese landowner or Malay landowner or other type of landowner.

I believe the Member for Kota claims to be some sort of socialist. I do not know which type—Marxist or Leninist. I have always understood—I may be wrong—that socialists never have any distinction of community or creed or colour. But class, they do, of course. But here comes along this distinction of socialist who say we must not allow it. I wonder if that is what he has in mind. I hope he will clarify it in his summing-up speech.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, just to assure the Honourable Member for Dhoby Ghaut who was very impatient because we always accept your ruling. I believe the motion will eventually come to a stage when you will ask us whether we support or do not support the motion. But last night, his neighbour was very kind to assure me a good

night's sleep. This morning I shall be able to assure him with a few minutes speech because my Party will make certain observations in this motion. We will make certain comments but we shall abstain from the voting of this motion because, Sir, this particular motion has presented the House with a very interesting occasion, because it shows the need for, in actual fact, three parties at the present moment. There will eventually be, Sir, I think a more united Opposition and there will be, probably, a two-party system. Sir, we have this wonderful opportunity on this corner of the House to see a battle going on between the Alliance State Government and our Honourable Members on the extreme left of ourselves over a quibble of words and a hiding of intentions and also a demonstration of a lack of vision of the future.

Sir, the reason we are abstaining from this motion is not because we are not sympathetic with the motion as moved by the Honourable the Mover, the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan, we are, in actual fact, very concerned with the plight and the possible danger that will come to the future livelihood of the people living in this area called Brown Estate. If in the event it is sold to anyone individual who will not carry out the same liberal and same tolerant policy which the previous landowner, namely, the inheritors of the original Brown Estate have carried out. And that has been developed in full by my honourable colleague, the Member for Tanjong Utara.

Sir, this House had already earlier on, in actual fact, touched upon this issue. And we are with a wonderful example of Members from the Alliance Backbenchers trying to hide what they want to

do with the right hand by covering with their left hand. We were told by the Honourable Member from Permatang Pauh, who was solidly and wonderfully supported and seconded by the Honourable Member for Bagan Lepas over the motion to pass the Bill on the Land Acquisition Act that the \$2,500,000 which was provided for under that Bill would, in fact, be used for the purchase of part of Brown Estate. Sir, the solution of that problem is just the same as the solution provided for by the Member for Tanjong Selatan — that we should buy the land and keep the people as they are so that the sixteen thousand inhabitants of these two thousand and more acres will not 'lose out'. The Alliance Government has a little bit more experience in Government. The Honourable Member for Glugor has let the cat out of the bag a little bit by telling us that in actual fact this amount, \$2,500,000, for acquisition may eventually be used not only to purchase part of Brown Estate, but it might be used to purchase Glugor Estate and Sungei Ara Estate and so on. Sir, whether it is so or not, I do not know. But whatever it is, it is obviously clear that both sides of the participants of this debate hitherto except in this corner of the House haven't got the vaguest idea what they want to do accept to win the vote of these people. Sir, I assure you we can join in the fun and games of the future elections by saying that we are concerned about the future.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): It is natural if you got yourself as the Chairman of the Committee and you go and see the Chief Minister, and next week the Chief Minister puts out a Bill for housing, \$2,500,000, without a definite plan. You will win vote that way.

Chief Minister: On a point of clarification, Sir. I think the Member is assuming that there is no plan.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): I am not assuming. I hope when the time comes the Honourable the Chief Minister will present this House with a paper on what the Government intends to do with this \$2,500,000; and particularly that part of the money which is being used for the purchase of that part of Brown Estate which they have in mind for purchasing. We would like to have the opportunity to debate it. By comparison, like what happened in Tanjong Tokong ten years ago, we put \$2,500,000 in and nothing is produced. Sir, the point is that this area of land historically and in the future will, I think, represent a very important area. Sir, I think, historically, everybody knows or should know that when the original colonisers of Penang Island came to this place, Brown was one of the members of the entourage of Captain Light. and they divided this Island very much in a way in which the present mover of the motion and the Alliance Backbenchers wish to divide it up. But you are dividing it up into smaller bits. And they said 'Light will take one big chunk, right up to George Town and Brown will take another big chunk right up to Brown Estate is. And there was a big argument as to where the township of Penang should be sited—whether it should be in Bayan Lepas.

Sir, our Party have on very many occasions indicated: firstly, the need for serious consideration for the extension of the City limits of George Town; and we have indicated that the extension of the limits of George Town should be southwards. Secondly, we have indicated that the plan-

ning for island development and the future economic development of Penang should envisage an area in the south of the present city limits where there will be provisions for industrial siting and probably for even wharves. Sir, we do not think in terms of putting our foot in Mak Mati or Mak Mandin. In spite of the experience we have had in Mak Mandin where the bad soil condition has slowed down progress we are going to Sungei Pinang where there is also mud. We would choose better areas in the south. And Brown Estate happens to be one of these large areas. Sir, I am sure that if this proposal had come in earlier, and if the Government had the foresight — and in fact, if the Government had rural development or re-development plan, or as the Honourable the Chief Minister had said — they wouldn't have gone about trying to purchase the squatter-ridden area behind the Brown Estate for a university site. Brown Estate presents a wonderful site for a future university. This is an example of development — not much thinking, that is sort of playing by ear, by chance and no planning.

Sir, the other factor is that we have advocated very strongly, and that is why, I said we were very sympathetic with the Honourable Member for Glugor — that he should fight for Jalan Aziz Ibrahim and push Jalan Ibrahim into a causeway road across to Pulau Jerejak, because we consider that here with this area just outside Glugor, right up almost to Sungei Nibong, with the sea in front, and the State land of Pulau Jerejak, if the State had vigour enough and vision enough and vitality enough, we can solve the industrialisation, future wharfage problem and the future development of Penang and the incorporation of Penang Island into the

Common Market. So, for that reason, Sir, I feel that the motion is too restrictive because it restricts us to the purchase of the land and to the re-selling of the land only to the present inhabitants in that area. The Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam, although he lives in Butterworth and fights very hard for the Common Market and for the people in Butterworth, already says that if the State Government buys land for sale there will be many people who will apply for purchase of land in this area. Sir, we have a wonderful opportunity to look into this problem of the future of that area of land in which Brown Estate is incorporated. The Government has indicated that it has some vague idea of what it has to do. In actual fact this house has already passed this \$2,500,000 to purchase land which may include part of this land; and we hope the Government will give us an opportunity to debate its future development plan.

All of us are sympathetic about the people living in this area at the present time, so that whether the land is bought by any individual or whether the land is acquired by Government, the people who are now living on the land and utilising the land should be assured that their livelihood and future as residents in that area will not be jeopardized. I think everyone in this House is agreed as to how we are going to utilise the land. Sir, from that point of view although we are sympathetic with part of the motion, we feel that the wording of the motion, the intention of the motion is far too limited. At the same time we consider that the reasons offered by the Alliance Government for passing this motion is a little 'katak di-bawah tempurong' concept and we cannot associate ourselves with them; and therefore our members will abstain.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am surprised that the Member for Kota, after mentioning all the pros and cons of the Motion moved by the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan, has decided to be just jellyfish — no backbone. We on our side are firm in our stand. We not only talk. We stand firm in our resolve that we will do as much as possible for the benefit of the people. The Member for Kota is fully aware of the steps taken by the Government to assist the people, not only in the brown area, but also the white and the pink and the red areas in the State. As such we have to be consistent in our stand. If the Motion is restricted, if the Motion is unrealistic, I think there is a stand where we declare that the mover should withdraw the Motion or we oppose the Motion. So my people here, we know what we are doing. We realize what we should do. We have taken steps to do what we can, so we oppose the Motion.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Tuan Speaker, my colleague, the Honourable Member for Kota, has made our stand on the debate of this Motion. However, I would like to offer my own observations which would cover the Motion.

I am quite sure all of us know very well that there was much anxiety and worry among the residents or squatters of the Brown Estate when it was first mentioned that this Estate that this Estate was sold to an individual. Sir, the reason for such anxiety and worry is quite obvious — because of the fear of being evicted with the development of that Estate on a commercial basis for profits. Naturally, if any of us are residents of the Estate we would be much concerned over the sale because of the insecurity that will

be brought along by a change in ownership. Sir, the people of this Estate are by no means well-to-do. On the contrary they are poor; and therefore on account of economic and financial considerations they have stayed on the Estate. And some, if you care to come and see, are living in houses or huts much below the standard of those found in our City. For this reason many of them have no alternative but to live there though I am quite sure many of them, if they could afford, would prefer to live in the City, instead of roughing it out there, or having to travel daily to and fro for miles to the City to work and earn their livelihood.

Sir, in spite of the inconveniences that they undergo, these people at least have one consolation; and that is that they know they have a roof over their heads, or they know their beloved ones need not be drenched to the skin on a rainy day, or be scorched and burned by the sun. Because of these sales, many harbour the fear that the very plot of land on which they work will no longer be available to them. For that matter, any one in the shoes of these people would be anxious and worried when the future and security of their modest and humble homes and working land are at stake. Sir, a good Government with the interest of these poor people at heart would have immediately come forward to aid them in any possible way. With the present trend of owning one's own house, no matter how humble and modest it may be — or for that matter a small piece of workable land to grow something for a livelihood — the State Government, if it has any concern for the welfare of these people, will not overlook their need.

Sir, land in Penang is getting more and more scarce because of housing projects and development by developers and other profit-making organisations while there is still an acute shortage of low-cost housing for the poor. However, the Alliance Government, in passing the Loans (Acquisition of Lands) Bill, 1966, which has been debated on at great length, has not informed this House how the \$2,500,000 will be utilised in the acquiring of lands. In fact there is not much to show how this very large sum of money will be spent. It would be morally wrong for the State Government to spend so much public money in order to indulge in commercial undertakings for profits, or to assist any single individual or organisation to acquire land. In passing the aforementioned Bill, the Government has in actual fact revealed its weak-kneed policy of bowing down to the demand of a small section of the people to acquire the necessary power without knowing what it intends to do. Unless the Government could assure the people, and allocate lands to them without any profit, while coupling with the ultra vires revelation of the site during the introduction of the Bill by the Government side, thereby enabling owners of the Estate to cash in on the sale of the Estate, we regret that we will not be able to support the motion, and therefore would wish to refrain from participation in the debate. Abstention is a precise parliamentary procedure.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Y. B. Ahli Ka-wasan Permatang Pauh menyatakan saya mahu Kerajaan menjadi Broker dan berniaga. Tetapi, kalau mengikut beberapa keputusan seperti apa yang di-ambil seperti

kelmarin itu, itu seperti perniagaan, tetapi, kalau usaha2 untuk menolong ra'ayat ini ada-lah perkara tugas atau tanggung jawab Kerajaan. Kalau mahu beli Brown Estate, boleh di-kata ini sebagai satu tugas Kerajaan. Kerajaan telah banyak beli tanah2 atau ambil tanah2 untuk mendirikan rumah murah atau ranchangan lain—itu pun seperti perniagaan juga. Tetapi, apabila ranchangan itu berfaedah kepada ra'ayat, boleh di-anggap seperti perniagaan, tetapi ranchangan berfaedah persa-orangan itu tidak di-anggap sebagai perniagaan. Ahli Y.B. dari Permatang Pauh menyatakan kalau kita beli tanah ini, apa-kah reaksi akan terjadi: nampaknya hebat reaksi daripada tuan tanah itu, mungkin misti tidak baik. Tetapi, mungkin reaksi daripada penduduk di-situ ada-lah baik.

Chief Minister: Reaksi ! (laugh-ter).

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Ahli Y.B. dari Kawasan Permatang Pauh juga menyatakan soal ini boleh di-kemukakan di-dalam Parlimen. Kalau soalan Brown Estate ini hanya boleh di-kemukakan dalam Parlimen. Kerajaan Negeri, nampaknya tidak ada bertanggung jawab dan tidak ada sangkut-paut dengan soalan Brown Estate ini.

Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Untuk Penjelasan. Ini saya katakan di-kemukakan dalam Parlimen, soal memilek-negarakan itu soalan polisi Persekutuan.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Dan Y.B. Ahli dari Permatang Pauh juga menyatakan ada-kah tempat itu akan di-jadikan sebagai satu kawasan kediaman atau tidak, maseh belum tentu. Maka wang sebanyak \$2,200,000 yang di-luluskan

pada persidangan kelmarin dan satu Rang Undang2 yang di-luluskan pada persidangan kelmarin juga, bukan-kah Rang Undang2 ini menguntokkan wang yang akan membeli Brown Estate itu? Kerajaan telah meluluskan Rang Undang2 itu, mengapa Kerajaan tidak menyatakan terang2 mahu membeli tanah itu dan hanya memperuntokkan wang sahaja? Tetapi, kalau pada pendapat saya kelmarin Y.B. dari Permatang Pauh telah menyatakan wang yang akan diperuntokkan untuk membeli tanah Brown Estate, tetapi pada hari ini ia mengatakan lain pula, ini adalah sangat luar biasa dan..... (interrupted).

Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Membeli, bukan milek-negarakan.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Y. B. dari Kawasan Glugor itu menyatakan ia maseh tidak tahu peristiwa yang timbul di-dalam Brown Estate itu.

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak kata tidak tahu — saya minta keterangan, bukan berma'ana ini tanah sudah jual, kalau tahu ini tanah sudah jual, deposit mana sudah jualkan saya tidak tahu.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tetapi, saya perchaya Ahli Kawasan Glugor itu dia mesti tahu perkara ini.

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-orang bagi deposit bukan berma'ana ini tanah sudah di-jual. Kalau tahu ini tanah sudah jual, kalau duit semua sudah bagi, saya minta keterangan-nya daripada Ahli Tanjong Selatan. Kapada saya, tanah ini tidak di-jual.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tetapi soal yang berlaku di-dalam kawasan-nya itu, ia tidak tahu, ia katakan maseh belum jual kapada sa-orang tanah Indian seperti apa yang saya sudah katakan itu.

Tetapi, walau bagaimana pun, alasan ini tidak boleh menjadi alasan yang menentang Usul ini. Saya merasai juga Ahli Y.B. dari Kawasan Glugor itu menyatakan kata2 di-dalam Usul ini tidak betul, tidak tersusun; tetapi nampaknya kata2 Ahli Y.B. dari Glugor apabila ia memberi ucapan pun tidak tersusun juga. Saya sanggup belajar bahasa Kebangsaan dengan sa-orang, yang dinamakan diri sebagai pakar bahasa.

Ahli dari Kawasan Bayan Lepas menyatakan Kerajaan mahu mengatasi peristiwa yang berlaku di-Bayan Lepas itu. Kalau Kerajaan hari ini menolak Usul ini, berma'ana Kerajaan tidak mahu beli tanah ini. Ahli2 Y.B. dari kawasan Glugor menyatakan duit ini bukan sahaja beli Brown Estate, mahu beli lain2 tempat lagi. Itu boleh berma'ana pada satu hari Kerajaan boleh menggunakan wang ini untuk usaha2 yang lain tetapi bukan Brown Estate. Ahli dari Kawasan Bagan Ajam menyatakan kita tidak mempunyai Undang2 untuk beli tanah itu — beli tanah ini untuk kepentingan 'private' persa-orangan. Juga Ahli dari Kawasan Permatang Pauh menyatakan tidak mempunyai Undang2 untuk menahan harga estate Glugor itu, tetapi, saya merasai Undang2 di-buat oleh ma'anusia dan sekarang Perikatan telah membarui banyak undang2 termasuk seperti..... (interrupted).

Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Report.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Ketua Menteri, satu waktu yang lalu dapat mengubah undang2 dan mengambil alih Bandar Raya. Tetapi kalau mahu Kerajaan membuat undang2 yang berfaedah kepada ra'ayat, tidak boleh-kah kita mengubah undang2 untuk kepentingan ra'ayat? Di-permulaan lagi, tidak sekali pun Kerajaan membuat Undang2 yang berfaedah kepada ra'ayat supaya menjaga kepentingan ra'ayat ramai. Ahli daripada Kawasan Sungei Pinang ada menyatakan mengapa saya menyatakan mengapa saya katakan tuan tanah Indian. Ini ada-lah hakikat pada apa yang saya tahu—Brown Estate telah di-jual kepada sa-orang tuan tanah Indian. Saya menyatakan tuan tanah Indian bukan berma'ana saya menentang Indian. Tentang tuan2 tanah mahu pun Indian, China atau siapa2 pun, kami akan menentang. Ada-kah Ahli itu mahu bela tuan tanah ini atau ia berperasaan ia sendiri Indian. Ia menyatakan ia tidak tahu kami ini socialist mana, tetapi kalau socialist-nya itu ia-lah 'independent labour' dan berubah2; tetapi kalau socialist kami tidak berubah tetap di-sini. Tetapi saya harap lagi jangan-lah sekali lagi berubah2.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, nampaknya Kerajaan sekarang tidak mahu terus beli tanah ini, dan apa yang kita boleh nampak juga tuan tanah sekarang misti meninggikan harga tanah itu. Kalau Kerajaan membeli tanah itu dengan harga yang tinggi dan di-jual kepada ra'ayat, maka Kerajaan telah menolong tuan tanah itu lebeh banyak daripada ra'ayat, kerana tuan tanah ini lebeh senang lagi kalau jualkan kepada ra'ayat dan dengan harga yang mahal. Mithal-nya, ia beli Brown Estate satu ekar \$1,000, sekarang ia mahu jual \$2,000. Tetapi, kalau Kerajaan benar2 mahu jaga kepentingan

ra'ayat dalam kawasan Glugor itu, harus membuat undang2 supaya mengawasi harga2 tanah itu supaya kepentingan ra'ayat dapat terjamin. Saya tidak tahu kalau Kerajaan mahu tolong ra'ayat dengan chara lain, saya tidak membantah asalkan Kerajaan mahu menolong mereka, tetapi bagaimana Kerajaan mahu menolong mereka? Jangan-lah satu kerja yang merugikan ra'ayat dan hanya mahu menipu ra'ayat dengan menyatakan 'saya telah menolong mereka'.

Terima kaseh.

Question put and Motion defeated.

(E) Motion by the Honourable Mr. Tan Hock Hin.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sebagai mana kita tahu semua bahawa dengan munchulnya pukat harimau di-Pulau Pinang ini telah berlaku dua perarakan nelayan sechara besar2an dan perkelahian di-antara pekerja2 pukat harimau dan nelayan2 pantai juga sering berlaku. Ini adalah satu soal yang penting. Jika Kerajaan tidak mengambil langkah yang berkesan untuk menyelesaikan perkara ini maka akibatnya akan burok. Mengapa boleh terjadi perkelahian di-antara pekerja2 pukat harimau dan nelayan2 pantai sebab-nya yang pertama ia-lah pukat harimau telah menangkap ikan di-perayeran nelayan2 pantai dan itu telah mengakibatkan kerugian yang besar kepada nelayan2 pantai. Yang kedua Kerajaan telah mengambil sikap yang memusuhi nelayan2 pantai maka kehidupan nelayan2 pantai telah menerima pukulan yang besar maka dengan ini-lah nelayan2 pantai, kerana mahu mempertahankan periok nasi mereka telah berjuang untuk mem-

pertahankan kepentingan mereka sendiri dan saya menanggapi perjuangan mereka ada-lah perjuangan yang adil.

Menangkap ikan sechara pukat harimau kalau di-lakukan di-laut yang dalam boleh-lah di-katakan satu chara yang maju untuk menangkap ikan sechara besar2an tetapi jika pukat harimau menangkap ikan di-laut yang changkat maka bukan sahaja pukat ini menangkap ikan tetapi di-kurau-nya ikan2 yang belum berguna, telur2, anak2 ikan dan segala bakal2 ikan akibat-nya di-laut yang changkat itu kerana pukat ini boleh menchakar lumpur yang mengakibatkan ayer kotor dan busok, ikan2 yang selalu berada di-kawasan itu pun melarikan diri dari kawasan itu dan ikan2 yang selalu bertelor dalam kawasan itu pun tidak berani datang ka-sana maka nelayan2 akan tidak dapat menangkap ikan, kehidupan mereka akan terancham, ra'ayat akan tidak ada chukup ikan untuk makan dan harga ikan akan bertambah tinggi. Kerana satu perarakan di-laut yang di-adakan pada tahun yang lalu pihak2 yang berkuasa telah menghukumkan bahawa kapal pukat harimau yang kalau dapat ke-izinan atau lesen menangkap ikan maka kapal-nya harus tidak kurang daripada 50 ton jika kepunyaan kapal itu tanggungan sharikat kerjasama, jika orang persa-orangan maka kapal-nya harus-lah tidak kurang dari 100 ton dan mereka tidak di-benarkan menangkap ikan di-perayeran dalam 12 batu dari pantai dan di-kawasan perayeran yang dalam-nya kurang daripada 15 depa. Tetapi setelah 15 hb January tahun ini pengumuman ini di-iarkan kapal2 pukat harimau telah sering melanggar sharat2 yang di-tentukan oleh pihak2 yang berkuasa. Mereka telah memasokki kawasan2 pantai, kawasan2 nelayan pantai menangkap ikan dan itu telah mengaki-

batkan tentangan yang kuat daripada nelayan2 pantai, maka nelayan2 pantai sekali lagi mengadakan perarakan pada 23hb Oktober. Mereka membantah Kerajaan kerana tidak mengawal kapal pukat harimau dengan berkesan. Sejak pengumuman pihak2 yang berkuasa di-siarkan hingga hari ini beberapa hakikat yang membuktikan bahawa Kerajaan tidak dapat mengawal sechara yang berkesan terhadap kapal pukat harimau mahupun yang berlesen atau yang tidak halal. Kerajaan tidak dapat mempertahankan dengan berkesan supaya nelayan2 pantai tidak di-ancham oleh kapal2 pukat harimau. Umpama-nya kapal pukat harimau yang dapat lesen itu di-negara ini hanya 49 buah sahaja iau-itu di-Pulau Pinang ada 16, di-Kedah ada 20, di-Pangkor ada 10 buah kapal pukat harimau. Tetapi yang tidak berlesen ada-lah lebih daripada 100 buah dan Kerajaan tidak dapat mengadakan langkah2 yang effective untuk mengawal kapal pukat harimau yang tidak itu.

Kapal2 Kerajaan untuk mengawal kapal pukat harimau itu sudah tidak chukup mengikut apa yang di-beri tahu kepada saya oleh nelayan, mereka berkata pihak Pejabat Pertanian dan Perikanan hanya ada 2 buah kapal berkawal sahaja dan di-tambah kapal berkawal dari Marine maka dengan kapal yang kurang ini bagaimana dapat mengawal kapal2 pukat harimau supaya tidak melanggar peraturan atau sharat2 yang di-umumkan oleh pihak yang berkuasa. Kapal pukat harimau memasoki perayeran yang changkat atau memasoki laut yang changkat menangkap ikan ada-lah satu perkara yang biasa. Selalu mereka tidak menghiraukan langsung peraturan atau sharat2 yang di-beri kepada mereka mengikut sa-orang wakil nelayan pantai memberi tahu kepada saya bahawa mereka telah

melaporkan kepada pihak polis. Umpama-nya pada 17hb Julai tahun ini ada 16 buah kapal pukat harimau telah memasoki perayeran Muka Head dan Batu Ferringhi, menangkap ikan. Pada 23hb Ogos juga ada sa-buah kapal pukat harimau memasoki perayeran di-sana menangkap ikan dan kapal2 itu datang di-perayeran nelayan2 menangkap ikan. Pada 16hb Oktober di-Tanjong Piandang juga berlaku kapal2 pukat harimau menangkap ikan di-laut yang changkat itu dan di-Kuala Muda juga ada berlaku lebih daripada 10 buah kapal pukat harimau melanggar sharat2 yang di-tentukan oleh pihak yang berkuasa.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, perkara2 ini ada-lah di-beri tahu kepada saya oleh sa-orang nelayan dan perkara ini hanya di-ingatkan oleh sa-orang nelayan sahaja tetapi apa yang sebenar-nya pukat2 harimau yang melanggar perayeran pantai itu sudah banyak tetapi Kerajaan tidak mengambil langkah yang effective untuk menahankan, peristiwa itu dari terus berlaku. Ada kapal2 pukat harimau yang tidak halal di-tangkap oleh Kerajaan tetapi mereka di-lepaskan sahaja tanpa hukuman. Satu perkara yang menarek perhatian ia-lah pihak yang bersangkutan mengambil sikap yang bekerjasama dengan kapal2 pukat harimau. Umpama-nya pada 3hb November jam 4.00 petang di-Pulau Pinang telah berlaku satu perkara ia-itu kapal pukat harimau yang berlesen telah membawa kapal2 pukat harimau yang tidak berlesen menangkap ikan di-Pulau Pinang. Kapal2 Pukat harimau yang berlesen di-Pulau Pinang ini hanya 19 buah tetapi pada masa itu 24 buah kapal pukat harimau munchul di-perayeran Tanjong Tokong. Kemudian 7 buah lagi nampak di-perayeran tersebut. Sudah jelas dan terang di-dalam 31 buah pukat harimau itu mesti ada kapal2 pukat hari-

mau yang tidak halal. Pada masa itu nelayan2 telah juga melaporkan kepada Ketua Pegawai Polis dan Ketua Pegawai Polis pun dengan sendiri-nya melihat perkara itu di-Tanjong Tokong. Saya ingin dapat tahu mengapa pada masa itu kapal2 berkawal yang bersama2 berada di-laut dengan kapal2 pukat harimau itu tidak menawan pukat2 harimau yang tidak berlesen itu menangkap ikan. Pada 28hb Julai pula berlaku satu perkara yang menarek perhatian, ia-itu 3 buah kapal pukat harimau telah di-lihat di-Balik Pulau. Nelayan2 telah melaporkan kepada pehak polis dan Pegawai polis telah menghantar kapal berkawal daftar No. 3 pergi menyiasat tetapi kapal itu balek melaporkan bahawa di-kapal2 pukat harimau itu tidak ada pukat langsung tetapi kemudian-nya kapal berkawal daftar No. 4 telah membawa kapal2 pukat harimau itu pergi tempat lain menangkap ikan. Apa-kah ma'ana-nya perkara ini? Baru2 ini di-Kedah pun ada 2 buah kapal pukat harimau yang berlesen melanggar syarat2 yang di-tentukan dan lesen2 itu telah di-rampas oleh Kerajaan tetapi 2 buah kapal pukat harimau itu tukar nombor-nya, kemudian meminta lesen baru, dan lesen di-dapati balek. Dengan chara ini bagaimana Kerajaan dapat mengawal dengan berkesan terhadap kapal2 pukat harimau menangkap ikan sechra tidak halal. Nampak-nya dalam contoh2 tadi Kerajaan tidak-lah dapat menahan kapal pukat harimau memasoki laut yang changkat menangkap ikan dan jika di-biarkan kapal2 pukat harimau itu terus-menerus memasoki perayeran nelayan2 pantai menangkap ikan dan terus-menerus mengakibatkan kekacauan besar dengan nelayan2 pantai saya kuatir ini mungkin menjadikan satu perkara yang burok dan mungkin perkelahan di-antara mereka sechra besar2an akan berlaku dan ini akan mengakibatkan kenchaman masha-rakat.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-negara2 lain mereka juga menangkap ikan sechra pukat harimau tetapi kapal mereka besar dan Horse Power kapal itu pun besar. Kapal pukat harimau di-tempat kita ini bukan-nya kapal yang tidak cukup besar dan berat-nya pun tidak sesuai di-gunakan di-dalam laut yang dalam. Mengikut nelayan2 yang berpengalaman memberi tahu kepada saya bahawa kapal pukat harimau seperti yang berada sekarang di-negeri ini mereka kalau menangkap ikan di-perayeran dalam 7 depa hingga 11 depa maka mereka boleh dapat hasil yang banyak tetapi mereka pergi laut yang lebih dalam daripada itu maka hasil mereka bukan sahaja tidak banyak malah kadang2 merbahaya kerana kapal pukat harimau di-negeri ini tidak besar dan kapal itu tidak sesuai pergi ka-laut yang dalam menangkap ikan maka memang sudah biasa mereka mahu masuk ka-perayeran nelayan2 pantai menangkap ikan kerana mereka bukan-lah kapal pukat harimau di-laut yang dalam yang sebenar-nya. Jika kapal pukat harimau di-negeri ini ada-lah pukat harimau yang sesuai menangkap ikan di-laut yang dalam maka mereka tidak perlu lagi pergi ka-laut yang changkat menangkap ikan dan mengakibatkan pertentangan yang kuat daripada nelayan2 pantai.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jika kapal pukat harimau tidak memasoki laut yang changkat menangkap ikan dan tidak mengakibatkan kerugian yang besar terhadap nelayan2 pantai yang berjumlah tidak kurang dari 370,000 orang maka kita tidak akan menentang kegunaan pukat harimau tetapi pada hakikat-nya kapal pukat harimau itu tidak sesuai pergi ka-laut yang dalam menangkap ikan. Sudah barang tentu mereka mahu masuk laut yang changkat menangkap ikan dan ini sudah boleh menjadikan perkara2 yang burok.

Jika ini tidak dapat di-elakkan dengan menahan kapal2 pukat harimau menangkap ikan di-laut yang changkat nelayan2 pantai akan menentang kerana mereka tidak mahu periok nasi mereka di-rampas oleh orang lain sebab itu saya menhadangkan Dewan ini mengambil keputusan menyampaikan hasrat orang ramai kepada Kerajaan Pusat supaya menghalangkan pukat harimau. Kalau Kerajaan Perikatan tidak dapat mengawal dengan berkesan terhadap pukat2 harimau melanggar kawasan nelayan2 pantai ini akan menyebabkan keadaan yang burok dan merugikan terhadap nelayan2 pantai. Sekian.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong usul ini, saya merasa kepentingan nelayan2 kechil dalam negara kita telah lama di-abai2kan oleh Kerajaan tetapi dalam beberapa tahun ini sa-olah2 Kerajaan mahu mengambil perhatian masa'alah mereka ia-itu menghalalkan pukat harimau dan biarkan pergaduhan di-dalam laut. Sudah empat tahun nelayan2 kechil berjuang untuk menentang pukat harimau, permintaan mereka itu bukan sahaja tidak dapat di-atasi malah banyak pukat harimau telah di-halalkan dan banyak lagi pukat harimau yang tidak halal pun keluar menangkap ikan dalam perayeran changkat.

Bagi pakar2 Kerajaan mengatakan pukat harimau ini ada-lah satu pukat yang maju, tetapi bagi nelayan2 kechil yang berpengalaman dan yang berketurunan menangkap ikan itu menganggap pukat harimau itu ada-lah sa-jenis pukat hanya sesuai dalam laut yang dalam tetapi tidak sesuai dalam laut yang changkat kerana pukat harimau itu boleh merosakkan dasar laut, menghapuskan telur2 ikan, membusukkan ayer

di-laut atau menghalau ikan dari ayer2 yang changkat dan pukat harimau itu di-anggap oleh nelayan2 kechil seperti perumpamaan Tionghua ia-itu "menyembeleh angsa baru mendapat telur dan chara ini di-tentang keras oleh nelayan kechil. Kementerian Pertanian hendak membuktikan pukat harimau ini ada-lah satu jenis pukat yang maju maka satu rombongan wakil2 nelayan kechil di-hantar ka-Siam untuk melawat kampong2 nelayan di-sana.

Di-negara Thailand nelayan2 kechil di-sana ada menggunakan pukat harimau untuk menangkap ikan di-perayeran yang changkat. Pada mula-nya banyak hasil mereka dapat tetapi akhir-nya mereka tidak boleh dapat hasil lagi dalam perayeran yang changkat itu maka banyak nelayan2 kechil yang tinggal dalam kampong itu pergi chari makan di-tempat2 yang lain. Pengalaman yang sedeh ini telah di-beri tau kepada nelayan2 kechil negara kita dan mereka, nelayan2 kechil di-negara Thailand itu telah menasehat nelayan2 kechil di-sini supaya jangan mementingkan kepentingan sementara dan harus memandang kepentingan jangka yang panjang. Ini ada-lah hakikat yang di-ketahui juga oleh Kementerian Pertanian dan mengapa-kah Kerajaan maseh berkeras mengatakan pukat harimau itu ada-lah satu pukat yang maju? Kami mengaku dan saya perchaya nelayan2 kechil juga mengaku pukat harimau ini hanya maju dalam laut yang dalam tetapi bukan dalam perayeran yang changkat. Dalam negara kita pukat harimau yang di-beri lesen oleh Kerajaan ini ada-kah pukat2 harimau ini benar2 pergi menangkap ikan mengikut syarat2? Boat pukat harimau itu bukan sahaja tidak cukup 50 ton, seperti apa yang di-sharatkan oleh Kerajaan dan pukat harimau yang haram

itu pun tidak di-tangkap atau Kerajaan tidak mengambil tindakan yang keras untuk menangkap pukat harimau yang haram. Apabila pukat harimau yang berlesen itu apabila mereka pergi ka-dalam perayeran nelayan kecil itu Kerajaan juga tidak begitu menjaga. Boleh di-katakan Kerajaan tidak begitu bersungguh2 untuk menjaga pukat harimau supaya mengikut syarat2 yang di-kenakan pada mereka itu. Oleh kerana itu 2 orang nelayan kecil, ia-itu Soon Choon Hoe dan Ooi Ah Huat di-Tanjong Piandang dan Pantai Remis telah terkorban dalam pergaduhan itu dan juga beberapa pekerja2 pukat harimau telah terbunuh. Ini ada-lah kesalahan Kerajaan kerana Kerajaan tidak mengambil tindakan yang tegas untuk mempertahankan pergaduhan ini atau menjaga-nya.

Di-Pulau Pinang ada 19 buah pukat harimau yang halal. Pada masa dahulu Kerajaan hanya mempunyai satu boat ronda Pejabat Perikanan untuk mengawal pukat2 harimau ini, kita harus fikir dalam laut yang gelap gelita itu bagaimana sa-buah boat ronda dapat mengawal 20 buah pukat harimau. Kadang2 pukat harimau ini memadamkan api dan mereka boleh menangkap ikan di-mana2 sahaja pun, dan selepas mendapat penjelasan apa yang berlaku itu Kerajaan telah tambah lagi satu boat ronda dari Pejabat Perikanan dan juga boat ronda Marine. Ini maseh tidak chukup lagi untuk mengawal pukat harimau itu dan ini bukan-lah satu chara untuk mengatasi pertentangan itu. Kerajaan harus kaji mengapa-kah pukat harimau itu mahu mengachau di-perayeran yang changkat itu. Kalau boat mereka atau pukat mereka boleh mendapat hasil di-laut yang dalam mengapa-kah mereka mahu masuk ka-dalam perayeran yang changkat? Ini boleh

jadi ada sebab2-nya, ia-itu pukat mereka tidak chukup panjang boat mereka tidak chukup besar dan juga engine motor mereka tidak begitu kuat — horse power tidak begitu kuat. Oleh kerana itu boat mereka hanya boleh dapat hasil di-perayeran kecil, boleh dapat hasil di-tempat yang bukar di-sharatkan itu. Kalau capital pukat harimau maseh tidak chukup modal untuk membeli boat yang besar untuk menangkap ikan di-laut yang dalam maka Kerajaan kalau benar2 mahu mengambangkan pukat harimau Kerajaan harus fikir bagaimana menolong mereka supaya boleh menangkap ikan di-perayeran yang dalam dan tidak menjadi pertentangan yang makin hebat di-antara nelayan kecil dan pekerja pukat harimau.

Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri telah mengatakan Kerajaan tidak dapat menahan pergaduhan di-antara nelayan kecil dan pukat harimau dan apabila tunjok perasaan di-lakukan di-Pulau Pinang itu Yang Berhormat Menteri Pertanian juga mengaku boat ronda Kerajaan untuk mengawasi pukat harimau itu maseh tidak chukup. Kalau bagini mengapa-kah Kerajaan maseh mahu selalu mengeluarkan lesen untuk menghalalkan pukat harimau itu dan kalau Kerajaan tidak sanggup mengawal mereka dan kalau Kerajaan mahu mengeluarkan lesen harus-lah pula sanggup mengawal pukat2 harimau itu supaya mereka jauhkan dari perayeran yang changkat.

Oleh kerana itu kami merasa Kerajaan maseh tidak boleh mengawal pukat harimau itu dengan chara yang berkesan maka satu chara yang bijak untuk mengatasi pergaduhan itu ada-lah haramkan pukat harimau supaya kehidupan

nelayan kecil yang beratus ribu di-negara kita dapat terjamin. Di-Utara Malaya ada beberapa puloh orang pukat harimau sahaja dan ini juga.....(interrupted).

Speaker: Saya nak betulkan sedikit.....(interrupted).

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Di-Pulau Pinang, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Speaker: Kalau nak masokkan Utara Malaya itu susah sedikit kerana kita tidak ada kuasa. Kita hanya berkuasa di-Pulau Pinang sahaja tidak termasuk Kedah dan Perak.....(interrupted).

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Ia, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tetapi nelayan2 kecil di-Pulau Pinang yang lebeh ramai daripada 100 kali ganda seluruh Pukat Harimau di-Malaysia menghalalkan Pukat harimau ini ada-lah satu langkah untuk mengakibatkan pergaduhan yang lebeh hebat. Dari surat khabar wakil2 nelayan kecil telah mengeluarkan kenyataan kalau Kerajaan tidak dapat menahan pukat harimau sechra berkesan mereka akan serang Pulau Pangkor. Ini mungkin terjadi satu akibat yang amat hebat. Oleh itu jangan-lah Y.A.B. Ketua Menteri mengatakan kita tidak boleh menahan tetapi boleh mengeluarkan lesen. Jangan kita mempunyai sikap bagini.....(interrupted).

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, saya kata lesen bukan Kerajaan Negeri yang mengeluarkan.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Dengan nasehat Menteri Pertanian. Oleh kerana itu saya bersetuju dan semua wakil2 yang datang dari kawasan yang mempunyai nelayan2 kecil menyokong usul kami ke-

rana ini ada-lah satu chara yang paling baik untuk mengatasi perkara ini.

The Assembly adjourns at 12.44 p.m.

The Assembly resumes at 2.30 p.m.

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Tuan Speaker, chadangan yang di-bawa oleh ahli kawasan Jelutong berkenaan dengan hendak mengharamkan pukat tunda dan pukat harimau di-dalam usul ini, sebab Kerajaan tidak boleh menyelesaikan perkara ini atau pun sebab tak boleh menjaga keadaan sekarang, usul itu di-buang. Dengan keterangan di-beri, jadi di-sini saya bangun Tuan Yang di-Pertua, memberi sedikit sebanyak keterangan kepada ahli kawasan Jelutong — ma'af ia tidak ada di-sini — kerana dengan keterangan2 yang saya beri, dan juga rakan2 saya nanti, boleh jadi ahli kawasan Jelutong boleh tarek balek usul ini dengan beberapa alasan. Kita Tuan Yang di-Pertua, wakil2 ra'ayat dan juga Kerajaan memberi simpathi, bersusah hati, bersimpathi selalu kepada orang2 kita yang menchari makan dengan chara menangkap ikan. Kita selalu bersimpathi. Jadi, sebab2 yang patut kita buat, menolakan usul ini ia-lah, saya hendak memberi keterangan sedikit sebanyak dalam keterangan2 oleh ahli kawasan Jelutong ia-lah saya nampak sebagai satu keterangan atau pun sebagai 'kempen' semua-nya perkara politik. Tetapi mengikut apa yang di-jalankan pada masa ini, apa yang patut kita ja'ankan sekarang ia-lah patut kita mengikat atau pun menjalankan kuasa2 atau peratoran2 yang Kerajaan susun, yang mana kita memperkuatkan lagi yaitu menjagakan perkara pukat harimau dan undang2 dan peratoran2 mengikut

apa yang Kerajaan ishtiharkan. Jadi hendak mengharamkan kegunaan pukat harimau dengan sepe-
noh-nya ada-lah satu sikap yang sangat2 tidak di-ingini. Pada pendapat saya kita harus menchuba mengatasi masa'alah2 pangkal-nya dan menchari jalan supaya kegunaan pukat harimau ini di-teruskan. Tentu-lah ahli yang berhormat dari kawasan Jelutong sedar betapa penting-nya perusahaan menangkap ikan ini kepada ekonomi negara kita, yaitu berkenaan dengan menangkap ikan dengan pukat harimau. Sejak bertahun2 yang lalu nelayan2 Malaysia telah menggunakan alat2 dan chara2 yang lama dan menjalankan penangkapan sechara kechil sahaja untok mengeluarkan makanan yang penting ini. Chara2 semacham ini tidak sesuai lagi pada masa sekarang dan menjadi tanggong-jawab Kementerian Pertanian dan Sharikat Kerjasama dan Kerajaan kita untok menchuba meninggikan taraf usaha Nelayan2 yang miskin ini supaya menjadi satu perusahaan yang tinggi mutunya untok memenohkan kehendak penduduk2 yang makin ramai dengan meninggikan mutu makanan utama penduduk2 Negara kita ini.

Kajian mengenai pukat harimau ini hendak-lah dengan berdasarkan latar-belakang2 ini. Untok menggalakkan nelayan2 pergi menangkap ikan di-laut yang dalam, Kementerian dan Kerajaan kita telah mengambil keputusan untok menghalalkan penangkapan ikan dengan pukat harimau dengan mengeluarkan lesen2 kepada pukat2 harimau yang di-punyai dan di-jalan oleh Sharikat Kerjasama Nelayan2 saya sekali lagi ulang, Sharikat Kerjasama Nelayan dab—'co-operative societies' 21 buah pukat harimau yang di-punyai oleh Sharikat Kerjasama Nelayan2 dalam Georgetown telah di-berikan lesen tahunan sa-telah membayar

wang chagaran sa-banyak \$500 bagi tiap2 lesen. Di-dalam lesen2 itu tidak ada bertulis beberapa sharat2 yang terchatit yang patut di-jalankan dalam penangkapan ikan dengan chara pukat harimau. Sharat2 ini telah di-buat bersama2 selepas perundingan, ya'itu antara wakil2 nelayan Pantai dan sharat2 yang di-persetujui oleh wakil2 nelayan Pantai, yang melangar salah satu daripada sharat2 ini, akan mengakibatkan denda yang berat di-kenakan dan lesen-nya di-batalkan.

Jadi pemukat2 harimau yang berlesen itu mempunyai pengkalan yang telah di-tentukan di-Bagan Jermal. Dari sini pemukat2 harimau yang berlesen itu meninggalkan pengkalan mereka beramai2 Jabatan Perikanan (satu di-hadapan di-iringi oleh kapal2 Perondan kumpulan dan satu lagi di-belakang) ka-tempat menangkap ikan yang di-tentukan itu dan jauh-nya kita tahu misti-lah 12 batu dari pantai atau 15 depa dalam-nya (yang mana lebeh jauh '15 fathoms. Kapal2 peronda Jabatan Feri kanan mengawal perjalanan pukat2 harimau yang berlesen dan kemudian mengiring kapal2 pemukat harimau itu balek ka-pengkalan mereka di-Bagan Jermal. Jadi soal tidak ada-nya kawalan oleh Kerajaan Perikatan tidak timbul. Sebenar-nya tindakan yang keras sedang di-ambil oleh Kerajaan Perikatan terhadap 'illegal trawlers', tindakan akan di-ambil.

Nelayan2 Pantai telah berkali-kali mengatakan yang mereka tidak membantah perjalanan pemukat2 harimau yang berlesen jika mereka mematohi sharat2 yang di-kenakan keatas mereka dan mereka menjalankan penangkapan2 ikan di-dalam kawasan yang telah di-tentukan untok mereka.

Yang Berhormat Menteri Pertanian dan Sharikat Kerjasama telah menemui wakil2 nelayan2 pantai dan juga wakil2 Pemukat2 harimau yang berlesen di-Pulau Pinang pada 31hb. Oktober, 1966. Dalam pertemuan ini wakil2 nelayan pantai telah mengatakan yang mereka tidak membantah perjalanan pemukat2 harimau yang berlesen walau pun begitu mereka telah membantah keras perjalanan pemukat2 harimau yang haram yang menjalankan usaha mereka dalam bot2 kechil berdekatan dengan pantai. Mereka juga telah mengadu bahawa setengah pemukat2 harimau yang berlesen tidak mematohi sharat2 lesen itu dan ada juga daripada mereka yang bekerja bersama-sama dengan pemukat2 harimau yang haram.

Yang Berhormat Menteri Pertanian dan Sharikat Kerjasama juga telah menganggap pemukat2 harimau yang haram sebagai musuh Kerajaan—'Prosecuted and arrest'.

Pada pendapat saya, yang dikehendaki sekarang ini bukan-lah pengharaman pukat harimau tetapi mengadakan kawalan yang cukup. Dari itu, saya tidak bersetuju dengan usul Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Jelutong.

Terima kaseh.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Party finds itself in very great sympathy with the plight of the inshore fishermen; but we also find ourselves in similar sympathy with the plight of the trawler fishermen. Our view has always been

that this problem of trawler fishing and the future livelihood of the inshore fishermen, particularly those in the State of Penang, is a very important one. And whilst we agree with the honourable the mover of the Motion that the problem is a serious one, and that the Alliance Government, particularly the Central Government, has not done enough to resolve the issue equitably or amicably between the trawler fishermen and the inshore fishermen, we cannot support this Motion because it attempts in virtual fact to take away the livelihood of one group of people in order to solve the problem of the livelihood of the inshore fishermen. Sir, I think myself that it is an unfortunate matter that the Alliance Government has not been able to seriously set about to look into this problem, and to find an appropriate solution which will satisfy both the inshore and the trawler fishermen. The solutions that have been put forward have been put on control; and it is a fact that the Alliance Government have not been able to enforce the proper delimitation of the areas for the trawler fishermen. And I think the instances quoted in detail on August 23rd and October 16th by the Honourable Member for Jelutong are interesting to us. However, Sir, I think this issue is quite serious. But to advance the theory that the only way to solve this problem is to illegalise trawler fishing, I think myself, goes against the very ground of the socialist spirit of promoting the livelihood of the people in this country. However, I think myself that the Alliance Government in vacillating—sometimes favouring the inshore fishermen and suspending the trawler fishermen — is also not providing a solution.

This is not a Motion moved by the Alliance benchers, but our friend on this side. So, whilst the Alliance Government will oppose it from their point of view to fit their own interest and to hide their own inefficiency, we will oppose this Motion because we think that whilst we fully are sympathetic and will do everything we can to promote the future livelihood of the fishermen we do consider that the illegalizing of trawler fishing is not a good solution. It is like cutting off the arm of one worker to solve the labour problem of the workers.

Member for Dhoby Ghaut (Enche M. S. A. Zachariah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun hendak menyatakan sokongan saya kepada rakan2 saya dalam membangkang usul yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari kawasan Jelutong.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bunyi-nya chadangan ahli yang Berhormat daripada Jelutong itu sahaja telah menunjukkan bahawa bukan-lah Yang Berhormat itu tidak ber-setuju dengan Pukan harimau tetapi konon-nya Ahli yang berhormat itu kesal yang mana ia berkata Kerajaan Perikatan tidak dapat mengawal pukat harimau itu.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka menarek perhatian ahli yang Berhormat itu daripada rekod2 yang di-dapati pada masa lalu bukan sahaja setakat kawalan pukat harimau itu bahkan Kerajaan Perikatan telah berjaya menghapuskan perkembangan2 Communist yang meleluasa selama 12 tahun dalam negeri ini dan juga telah sanggup mengekalkan keamanan bagi penduduk2 Malaysia semasa 3

tahun kita menghadapi konfrantasi. Begitu juga baru2 ini Kerajaan Perikatan telah dapat mengekal dan melindungi penduduk2 negeri ini daripada keganasan yang di-bangkitkan oleh serangan daripada pemberontak2 yang hendak konon-nya menunjukan perasaan terhadap ra'ayat Negeri Jepun dari Amerika Sharikat.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau Kerajaan Perikatan dapat mengekal dan mengawal keamanan negeri daripada anchaman yang lebeh besar lagi tidak-lah boleh di-terima chadangan dari ahli yang berhormat itu konon-nya Kerajaan tidak dapat mengawal perkara yang kecil saperti pukat harimau di-laut itu. Ahli Yang Berhormat itu mesti faham ia-itu Kerajaan Perikatan telah menetapkan ia-itu pukat harimau di-benar menangkap ikan seberapa jauh dari pantai ia-itu termasuk-lah di-dalam lautan antara bangsa, atau pun international waters. Tidak-kah menjadi satu fikiran yang bodoh kalau hanya Kerajaan Negeri ini mengharamkan orang2 yang menchari makan di-dalam laut international walhal tidak dapat menangkap ikan dari negara2 yang lain untuk pergi ka-lautan itu juga, mengambil hasil yang telah di-beri oleh Tuhan dalam lautan itu. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Yang Berhormat Ahli dari kawasan Jelutong itu tentu-lah membacha surat2 khabat bahawa nelayan2 dari negara tetangga kita juga berlumba2 untuk menchari Kekayaan daripada lautan yang luas di-sekeliling negara kita ini. Apa-kah sebab-nya kita juga berasa iri hati kepada nelayan2 kita sendiri untuk membawa keamanan dan kekayaan kepada ra'ayat2 negeri ini. Makanan setiap orang dari penduduk2 negeri kita ini ada-lah semata2 bergantung kepada hasil lautan sahaja. Sekiranya Yang berhormat itu sa-orang

yang sentiasa pergi ka-pasar untuk membeli makan rumah ia akan dapat melihat bahawa boleh dikatakan semua orang yang pergi ka-pasar itu hanya-lah kerana hendak membeli ikan untuk bawa ka-rumah dengan banyak-nya ikan yang di-bawa oleh pukat harimau daripada lautan international itu maka kerana belanja orang2 yang berpendapatan kecil boleh juga berkemampuan untuk membeli ikan2 yang baik dengan harga murah untuk sa-isi rumah mereka. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya juga sedar kerumitan2 dan kesulitan2 yang sedang di-hadapi oleh nelayan2 pantai di-negeri ini tetapi dengan ada-nya ranchangan2 yang berfaedah daripada Kerajaan Pukat maka saya perchaya nasib nelayan2 pantai yang bergantung di-laut yang hanya hidup dengan bergantung kepada modal boleh dapat di-perbaiki lagi dan mereka juga boleh bergantung kepada kekayaan yang ada di-dalam lautan yang luas itu.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, buat sementara ini saya perchaya dengan semangat kerjasama dari semua golongan dengan langkah2 yang sedang di-tetapkan oleh Kementerian Pertanian dan Sharikat Kerjasama maka masa'alah pukat harimau itu akan dapat di-atasi dengan memuaskan bagi semua pihak.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan ini saya membangkang usul yang di-bawa oleh Ahli yang berhormat itu.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ahli dari kawasan Glugor, apabila beruchap di-atas perkara ini telah berkata saya membawa usul ini atau saya berchakap apabila saya membawa usul ini sebagai ahli politik.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya membawa usul ini semata-mata ada-lah berfikir kepentingan ra'ayat terutama sekali kepentingan mereka yang sedang di-ancham. Perkara ini sangat-lah penting kepada kepentingan mereka dan kepada keamanan masyarakat kita. Kita tidak berniat hendak menggunakan perkara ini sebagai modal politik atau kempen politik atau lain2 sebagai yang di-sebutkan oleh Ahli kawasan Glugor. Kami mengaku menangkap ikan ada-lah salah satu item yang penting kepada ekonomi negeri. Kerajaan harus juga membantu nelayan2 supaya mereka dapat mempertinggikan hasil mereka hasil mereka dan memperbaiki kehidupan mereka tetapi dengan chara bukan saperti yang di-katakan oleh ahli dari Kerajaan bahawa dengan chara pukat harimau modern ini tetapi menangkap ikan bagini dalam laut yang changkat. Kalau dengan itu bukan sahaja hasil mereka tidak dapat di-tambah, hasil mereka bukan sahaja tidak dapat di-tambah bahkan mereka akan menghadapi satu bahaya, bahaya itu timbul sa-telah kapal pukat harimau menangkap ikan di-kawasan yang changkat ikan atau anak ikan di-habiskan dengan masa yang pendek sahaja. Dan kemudian bagaimana mereka dapat terus chari makan di-dalam laut? Tadi ahli kawasan Glugor juga mengatakan kapal2 peronda mengiringi kapal2 pukat harimau yang bertolak dari pengkalan2 mereka kemudian di-iringi juga balek kapal2. Tetapi tadi apabila saya membentangkan usul ini saya telah membawakan satu contoh ia-itu 31 buah kapal pukat harimau telah ternampak di-perayeran Tanjong Tokong tapi ini di-iringi oleh kapal peronda juga mengapa sudah barang tentu kapal pukat harimau yang tidak halal itu berada di-dalam mengapa kapal peronda yang mengiringi kapal2 pukat harimau tersebut tidak mela-

wan atau tidak menangkap kapal2 yang tidak halal itu? Dan ahli kawasan Glugor juga mengatakan soal kawalan tidak timbul. Soal ini-lah menjadi satu soal yang besar kerana kawalan Kerajaan tidak berkesan untuk menahan kapal2 pukat harimau memasuki perayeran yang nelayan2 pantai menangkap ikan serta menahan pergaduhan di-antara mereka.

Ahli kawasan Glugor berchakap lagi perkara2 nelayan pantai tidak membantah pukat harimau yang halal menangkap ikan mengikut syarat2 yang di-tentukan oleh pihak yang berkuasa. Ia, itu benar, tetapi apa yang terjadi sekarang sejak 15hb Januari tahun ini hingga sekarang kebanyakan kapal pukat harimau tidak mengikut syarat2 yang di-tentukan kepada mereka. Mereka melanggar yang contoh2 itu sudah banyak di-beri pagi tadi dan saya fikir tidak payah saya ulangi lagi. Jika Ahli2 yang Berhormat ingin mendapat tahu lebih banyak incident yang berlaku di-dalam laut bolehlah berjumpa dengan pihak polis saya perchaya pihak polis akan memberi laporan2 yang lebih lengkap. Dan satu lagi perkara Ahli kawasan Gelugor mengatakan nelayan2 pantai di-Kuala Kedah bekerjasama dengan baik dengan nelayan pukat harimau. Kalau saya tidak silap baru2 ini nelayan pantai dan nelayan pukat harimau apabila mahu mengadakan satu mesuarat dengan pihak2 polis, pihak perikanan, timbul-lah wakil kapal pukat harimau di-Kuala Kedah mahu menumbuk sa-orang wakil nelayan pantai di-sana. Itu telah membuktikan mereka bukanlah kerjasama di-antara mereka sangat baik. (interrupted).

Member for Gelugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Fasal kasar chakap itu maka mereka hendak bertumbuk.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Berkenaan dengan perbincangan yang di-kemukakan oleh Ahli kawasan Kota bahawa dengan mengharamkan kapal pukat harimau ini, itu berma'ana kita merampas hak kehidupan sebagai orang untuk sebahagian orang yang lain dan saya ingin mengatakan kami membawa usul ini ada-lah kerana Kerajaan tidak dapat mengawasi secara berkesan untuk menahan kapal2 pukat harimau mengancam kehidupan nelayan2 pantai. Jika sekiranya Kerajaan atau Kerajaan yang lain yang boleh mengawal atau mengawasi kapal2 pukat harimau dari mengancam kehidupan nelayan2 pantai maka kami tidak membangkang ada-nya pukat harimau.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya ingin memberi tahu kepada Dewan ini bahawa jumlah nelayan2 pantai ada-lah tidak kurang daripada 370,000 orang. Berapa banyak.... (interrupted).

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Lagi sekali, berapa?

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): 370,000. 370,000 orang kehidupan mereka bergantung kepada pekerjaan menangkap ikan. (interrupted).

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Ra'ayat Pulau Pinang pun hanya ada 400,000 orang.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak mengatakan di-negeri ini sahaja. Saya mengatakan di-pantai barat. (interrupted).

Speaker: Kita tidak ada hak membabitkan negeri2 lain.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Usul saya ada-lah berbunyi — "Dewan ini mengambil keputusan menyampaikan hasrat orang ramai kepada Kerajaan pusat supaya mengharamkan pukat harimau, kerana kerajaan Perikatan tidak dapat mengawasi dengan berkesan terhadap pukat2 harimau yang melanggar kawasan nelayan pantai dan ini telah menyebabkan keadaan yang burok dan kerugian yang besar terhadap nelayan pantai."

Speaker: Saya mengambil faham orang ramai itu orang ramai Pulau Pinang, orang ramai lain kita tidak berkuasa, kalau tuan mahu berchakap juga saya nanti buang usul ini.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kami tidak ingin melihat orang2 yang banyak ini kehidupan mereka di-ancam oleh sebahagian kecil orang. Dan jika nelayan2 kecil boleh chari makan pada masa dahulu dengan chara2 mereka itu, jika pekerja2 di-kapal pukat harimau menganggap sesuai mereka boleh juga menangkap ikan dengan chara yang serupa dengan nelayan2 pantai dan kami tidak ingin mengatakan dengan usul ini ada-lah bermaksud untuk memusohi orang2 yang bekerja kepada kapal pukat harimau. Kami bersimpati kepada mereka juga jika kehidupan mereka susah. Saya maseh ingat lagi apabila Ahli kawasan Kota telah membawa usul ia-itu menghalalkan kapal pukat harimau saya telah berkata akibat mereka menganggor ada-lah datang daripada Konfrantasi Indonesia dan perkara ini telah selesai sekarang dan saya tidak ingin mahu menunggu lagi tetapi mereka boleh chari kerja2 yang lain

dan nelayan2 pantai telah memberi jaminan ia-itu jika pekerja2 kapal pukat harimau mahu menangkap ikan serupa dengan chara nelayan2 di-pantai mereka sanggup membantu mereka.

Ahli dari kawasan Dhoby Ghaut dalam ucapan-nya pun telah mahu menunjukkan kecekapan Kerajaan terhadap mengawasi segala perbuatan2 yang tidak halal tetapi hakikat-nya tahu-lah sendiri bagaimana kejadian sekarang, kalau ahli yang Berhormat pernah melihat surat khabar atau berhubung dengan pihak polis boleh jadi tahu betapa banyak kapal2 pukat harimau melanggar syarat2 yang di-tentukan oleh pihak Kerajaan atau Jabatan Perikanan dan jika Kerajaan dapat mengawasi secara berkesan kami tidak ada lagi tuntutan, dan nelayan2 pantai tidak akan menunjukan perasaan di-laut ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tadi saya sudah berkata pukat harimau jika menangkap ikan di-laut yang dalam kita tidak akan menentang. Kami mengaku itu ada-lah satu chara untuk menangkap ikan di-laut yang dalam tetapi kita harus menimbangkan keadaan pada hari ini. Di-Pulau Pinang hari ini kebanyakan kapal2 pukat harimau, kerana mereka tidak cukup besar dan engine juga tidak cukup besar untuk menangkap ikan di-laut yang dalam dan tidak sesuai untuk menangkap ikan di-dalam laut yang dalam maka mereka sudah barang tentu akan memasuki laut yang dangkal untuk menangkap ikan dan itu telah mengakibatkan kerugian besar kepada nelayan2 pantai. Sebab itu-lah dan Kerajaan harus mengharamkan pukat2 harimau kerana Kerajaan, dalam hakikat yang saya sebutkan tadi Kerajaan sudah lemah dalam mengawasi pukat harimau daripada mengancam kehidupan nelayan2 pantai.

Question put and Motion defeated.

Mr. Speaker: I would like to make an announcement.

Oleh kerana tiap2 hari kita tanggohkan Meshuarat ini pada pukul 4.30 petang, pada hari ini oleh kerana perkara yang hendak di-perbincangkan tidak berapa banyak lagi, kalau sekira-nya sampai pukul 4.30 petang maseh belum habis juga, saya berchadang hendak menangguhkan Dewan ini pada malam hari. Jadi Ahli2 tu long-lah ambil perhatian.

(F) Motion by the Honourable Dr. Lim Chong Eu.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Motion standing in my name is a very simple straightforward Motion. It reads as follows:

"That this House affirms and fully supports the view expressed by the Honourable the Prime Minister in Penang on October 21st, 1966, that 'the use of the English Language in Malaysia must continue. If we were to substitute English altogether with the national language, the machinery of Government will be thrown out of gear', and in consequence thereon we urge the State Government to include an English language version of all its circulars and notices in the future."

Sir, that Motion, I think, by itself is simple and straightforward. However, Sir, the under-current and the under-tone, and the over-tones of the issue outside this House have been to suggest from certain quarters, for example the UMNO Youth in Penang, that the Motion is mischievous, the Motion is unnecessary, and so forth, and so on. Sir, I accept the under-tone and the over-tone. However, Sir, I like to state that this issue, because of its political over-tones,

may appear to be critical. I wish that this House, in deliberating this Motion, will be able to put aside these political over-tones or under-tones. I do not know how it applies to certain sections of the Alliance bench.

Sir, the words by the Tunku what I have quoted in my Motion appeared in big headlines, so everybody saw them. He made those remarks during the Sesquicentenary Anniversary of the Penang Free School. After he had made these remarks, and the speech had been published for the reading public, not only the people in Penang but also the people throughout the length and breadth of Malaysia felt a great sense of relief and a great sense of happiness that the Tunku in his usual generous, amicable manner should make a statement of this type.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): We accept.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): If you accept you must vote for my Motion.

Sir, in view of the fact that there is widespread public response and public sense of relief over the statement made by the Tunku, I think the Honourable the Prime Minister has contributed greatly towards relieving the tension of the language issue that will be forthcoming in the year ahead of us. Sir, it is only with this purpose of trying to eliminate the political over-tones that I would like to diverge a bit on this point to talk about why it is that the issue has become political, and why the issue has become charged with emotion.

Sir, I feel that everybody knows by now that Article 152 of the National Constitution refers to the language issue. However, Sir, not everyone in this country knows the full text of Article 152. And

certainly, Sir, large sections of the people in our country have been drummed every day, practically for years, with the idea that — by 1967, Article 152 states — the national language shall be the only official language. However, Sir, if we read Article 152 in full we will find that the first part of the Article — 152(1) — reads:

"The national language shall be the Malay language and shall be in such script as Parliament may by law provide."

Nobody has ever challenged that provision.

"Provided that —

- (a) no person shall be prohibited or prevented from using (otherwise than for official purposes), or from teaching or learning, any other languages; and
- (b) nothing in this clause shall prejudice the right of the Federal Government or of any State Government to preserve and sustain the use and study of the language of any other community in the Federation."

Sir, on this again there has been no real challenge by sections of the UMNO or the rest of the population in this country. However, Sir, there has been a lot of misunderstanding arising out of this particular provision because of the term 'official language'. Sir, this term 'otherwise than for official purposes' has been very loosely interpreted to mean that the national language shall be the only official language.

Sir, the Central Government and the leaders of the Alliance have been very careful, in order to enlighten and allay feelings in the forthcoming year, to indicate that there will be continued use — li-

beral use, in the terms of the Minister of Education super-liberal use — of other languages. Sir, we have been told also by the Honourable the Prime Minister and other dignitaries of the Alliance Party that by 'official purposes' it means that certain official documents — the law, and things like that — will be published in the Malay text or in the national language text; or now — according to the Prime Minister you must not use the words 'bahasa kebangsaan' — in the text of Bahasa Malaysia. Sir, all these have come from the leaders of the Alliance themselves. It means in actual effect that the official text in any kind of dispute or any kind of situation will be the text of the national language; and that means 'for official purposes'.

Sir, the other sub-clause, 'the language of any other community', raises a very important problem, particularly with the question of English language, because there are many communities which can be defined genetically or racially — but certainly they cannot be called English — who use the English language. And, therefore, Sir, there is a certain degree of importance in trying to give the emphasis on the use of the words 'of the English language'. Sir, here again the Government assures us that it will preserve and sustain the use and study of the language of any other community and it still goes on saying so. And I don't think myself at the present moment, in so far as the English language is concerned, there is very much concern. The very fact that the Honourable the Prime Minister chose the Sesquicentenary of the Penang Free School, of which he is an old boy, to make the announcement is a mere coincidence. However, I feel that he chose an appropriate sentimental occasion to stress that the con-

tinued use of the English language will in particular be applied in this State, and for the purposes of education.

Sir, it is the second clause of Article 152 which I think, has been deliberately miss-handled, for what purposes I do not know, because the second clause of Article 152 reads:

"Notwithstanding the provisions of Clause (1), for a period of ten years after Merdeka Day"

that is 1957; that means 1967 —

"and thereafter until Parliament otherwise provides, the English language may be used in both Houses of Parliament, in the Legislative Assembly of every State, and for all other official purposes."

Sir, it is this clause which has been misleading, and has caused a lot of the widespread political under-tone, because there is a demand that the Malay language shall be the only national language by 1967. And it is presented, to my mind wrongfully, to the public that the national language — the Malay language — must be the only official language by 1967. In actual fact the Constitutional provision is that the national language shall continue to be for 10 years after Merdeka Day, and thereafter until Parliament otherwise provides; which means that it may be after 1967.

Sir, in actual fact when the first drafters of the original Constitution of the Federation of Malaya provided this clause they very carefully provided for this escape clause of flexibility because in the experience of every one in the world the language problem is a

highly volatile, emotionally-charged problem. And it can, if too rigidly framed, cause a great deal of discontent, and may even cause violence.

Sir, this escape clause is also particularly interesting because since the original provision of the Constitution we have now become not only the Federation of Malaya but we have also become the Federation of Malaysia; and we incorporated into the Federation of Malaya the two States of North Borneo — Sabah and Sarawak. Singapore, I think, we should leave out of consideration just now. And in so incorporating these two States provision was allowed for them also to have this 10 years period of grace; and also this flexibility. So, in actual fact if by 1967 Parliament decides that it is time and proper to enforce this particular clause for the States of Malaya, excluding Sabah and Sarawak, we will still not have managed to make Malay the sole official language because parts of Malaysia will still be using other language provided for by the Constitution. Therefore, Sir, it is indicative that in this new country of Malaysia we must approach this question of language with tolerance and with flexibility. And the only proper way whereby we can decide upon a date is not by a Political Party taking a decision that by such a date it must be enforced, but by examination of the situation as to how the people respond, and whether or not the national language can be fully used. Sir, it is because of this kind of misunderstanding that there are political over-tones on this issue.

The other clauses, Sir, of Article 152 — (3), (4) and (5) — I think, Sir, need not be repeated

in full. But if Members wish they can refer to it in full, because throughout it clearly indicates that laws and so forth, and so on, in actual fact will continue to be enforced in the English language.

Sir, the other cause why there is such an emotional issue over the language problem has been due to the fact that the term 'official language' has been construed to mean its application in education. And, Sir, unfortunately for us, in 1960 when the Alliance Government set up the Education Committee of Review to go into the question of revising the 1956 education policy the recommendations of that Committee which were later incorporated into the policy of the Government combined the problem of official language with the problem of education. I think the Honourable the Chief Minister here, a member of this rather infamous Committee, will remember the points. However, he is a busy man; and I refresh his memory.

Sir, in this particular Report we get the first link-up which has caused a lot of trouble, not directly with the English language, but with the Chinese language in particular. Paragraph 72 of this Report recommends that the examinations to the Lower Certificate of Education and the Federation of Malaya Certificate of Education should be held only in the medium of the two official languages in the country; and all fully-assisted Secondary Schools should be required as a condition of assistance to prepare their pupils for these examinations. So, Sir, at this present moment the question of the provisions of Article 152 of the Constitution is linked up by this paragraph in the 1960 Education Committee of Review's Report. Now, how completely absurd, unjust, ridiculous, and even mad that recommendation is can

be seen in page 31 of that Report where in paragraph 174 — and I quote — it is recommended by the Committee: "It is our unanimous view that these public examinations, namely the L. C. E. and the F. M. C., should be held only in the nation's official languages." However, in paragraph 176 it admits itself — and I quote again..... (interrupted).

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order: Are we debating on the educational policy here?

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am debating my Motion. And I am indicating why this Motion is highly charged. And I am bringing up these points to dispel the emotional charge of this thing, so that my Motion can go by easily and simply.

Sir, it was then stated in paragraph 176. "It has been strongly represented to us from many quarters that public examinations should be conducted in the language medium of the Secondary School. We agree with the principle underlying these representations. It is not reasonable to teach a child in one language, and examine him in another."

Sir, under the present situation fully-assisted schools must teach the children to sit for examinations only in the official languages. In 1967, if Parliament so desires, and Malay becomes the only official language, and the Government has not yet altered this iniquitous educational policy, what will happen will be that the children who are going to English schools will not be able to sit the final examinations unless, of course, the Government changes its policy and

makes it possible for them to sit these examinations in English, which by then would not be an official language.

Therefore, Sir, that already raises a great deal of discontent, and a great deal of the fears and anxieties in the people who have sent their children to English schools. Sir, this raises a further emotionally-charged situation with regard to the parents who have been sending their children to Chinese-medium schools, because in the 10 years between 1956 till now they have suffered. They have suffered because of the application of Article 152, and because of the application of these two paragraphs — paragraph 72 and paragraph 176 — of the Education Committee's Report. They have suffered in that the children going to these schools have found themselves unable to sit for examinations to qualify them for the popular examinations. And certainly, Sir..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: May I refer the Honourable Member to the intentions of the Motion. As I see it the Motion only refers to the use of the English language in notices — surat; and it is masa hadapan. It has nothing to do with schools or textbooks or teaching. The Motion is confined to notices and circulars of the Government. I do not think there is any relevancy in your talk.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): You are quite right, Sir. I am doing the same thing. I am saying it now to prevent other people from doing it. So Sir, the reason why any mention of the language issue creates a situation where people immediately become emotional and convey political under-tones has in actual fact nothing to do with my Motion. But nevertheless, Sir, whenever people

talk about the language issue they are stirred by events which are linked up unfortunately by events that have taken place elsewhere. As a matter of fact the Minister of Education and the Secretary-General of UMNO have suggested that the language issue should be made into a neutral issue.

We on our side, the United Democratic Party, have suggested that it would be best to put the whole issue in a different way; that is to say, create two separate Committees: one Committee to review the education policy, and the other Committee a Royal Commission to look into the question of the implementation of the national language in 1967; so that we take the whole issue out of the political arena, and remove it from its emotional context. However, it is because of this background of confusion, and because of the existence of a time limit, and because of the failure to allow for a proper application of this clause of flexibility, "thereafter until Parliament otherwise provides," which is provided for by the Constitution, that the whole question of language is highly emotionally charged.

I have gone through this exercise, Sir, at great length only to just ask Honourable Members to try and put aside their emotions, and to put aside all these political under-tones which they may carry from outside the House into this House, because, as I said, my Motion is a very straightforward one. If this House agrees that the statement made by the Tunku is correct then they should support us. However, Sir, for a State Government just to say, "We support you", and do nothing about it is not good enough. The State Government must support it, and show by its deeds that it means what it says.

So, Sir, the second part of my Motion, as you have already pointed out, very carefully delimits the request that if the Members of this House agree with me that we should support the Honourable the Prime Minister in his expressed statement then the State Government should in future include an English language version in all its circulars and notices. Sir, the Honourable the Chief Minister has told us in the course of the long debates we have had here that they do sometimes do it. Sir, 'sometimes do it' is not enough. For example, Sir, we have little examples of the ganguan — little difficulties — here when the Chief Minister made his wonderful speech introducing the Motion on the Development Estimates. We had to go to the Press to get the English version. Sir, the English version was produced by the State Government, and run off by the State Government using State officers, and using State materials. And we do not see why as Members of this House we are not accorded the facility of having this version.

Sir, there are other instances of limitation of circulars. It may be that sometimes there are staffing problems. There are certain Committees which meet and speak in English and in the national language; but when the version comes out it is all entirely in the national language. However, Sir, there are instances where circulars appear in the national language and in the English language; and therefore these circulars are helpful. I assure Honourable Members who are very great heroes fighting for the national language that the appearance of circulars in two languages is a very useful matter because a lot of the official terminology which I now understand in the official

language come from my reading this kind of double version circulars. Because of the little I know, what little I do not know I don't have to go through the difficulty of going to a dictionary or getting an interpreter. I get the English-language version, and learn a little bit more. One word more a day is a useful thing.

So, Sir, I, in moving this Motion, urge the Honourable Members (1) to put aside political feeling; and (2) to put aside emotional under-tone. And if they accept that in actual fact, so far as the State of Penang is concerned, there was a widespread happy response by the people of Penang to the statement made by the Honourable the Prime Minister then they should support this Motion. And if they support the Motion, and they are honest to carry on to support the Motion, not by just word of mouth but by deed, then they will go further and urge the State Government to include an English-language version in all its circulars and notices in the future. Sir, if there is opposition to this Motion then either the Members of this House disagree with the Honourable the Prime Minister, or the Members of this House are trying only to pay lip service to the people of this State. They say, "We agree", but they do nothing.

So, Sir, in view of this fact I hope that this simple, straightforward Motion will receive the support of all Members of this House, because, Sir, I feel that this is an opportunity for us to express the peculiar difference of the traditions of the State of Penang, the origins of Penang, and its cultural and educational background which is slightly different from the other States. It does not necessarily mean that in a Federation we must do everything like

every other State. For example, the Ruler of one State has thought it fit to participate in this language issue in a political manner. Sir, in Penang the position is different. The tradition of the English language is a long-standing one. And, Sir, the fact that the Honourable the Prime Minister has indicated that this tradition and the usage of the English language must continue in order not to put the machinery of Government out of gear gives us qualms that after this State Assembly had last year pushed through its milestone of Bahasa Kebangsaan we might push too far ahead. We would not only put the machinery of Government out of gear; we would really jam and wreck the machinery of Government. As I say, I hope that this House will look at this Motion objectively, think of the consequences, and think of its implications and use. Yes, forget the emotional, political content, and vote in support of this Motion.

Member for Tanjong Utara (Mr. Khoo Kay Por): I am speaking in favour of the Motion. The recent statements made by the Honourable Prime Minister, the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and other leaders of the ruling Party on the language issue rightly come from people who have wisdom, foresight, goodwill and understanding; and from people who always see reason, and are willing to accommodate for the good of all and sundry. They do not advocate autocracy. It is indeed a good thing that the Honourable Prime Minister and other leaders have clarified the language problem which has disturbed the minds of millions in Malaysia.

Our Honourable Prime Minister has said time and again, in no

uncertain terms, that the English language will be used for a long time because of its international importance. And he warned that if we disregard the use of this language the whole Administration would be thrown out of gear; and as such the consequences would be great. The Honourable Prime Minister has also said that whatever happens next year, 1967, Malay will be the National and official language, and it will replace English which will be used alongside with the Bahasa Malaysia. All his statements have been endorsed by the leaders of the Alliance Party. It is hoped that the view expressed by the Honourable Prime Minister will be translated into deeds.

Sir, it is rather unfortunate that we have in our midst fanatics or extremists who have all these years been crying that Malay will be the National language, and the sole official language as from 1967, and that English will be dropped and not allowed to be used in the Government Administration. These extremists have even gone so far as to brand those who do not know the National Language as being disloyal to the Country, and that the nation must have only one language so that the people can be united. And they went on to say that ten years is more than enough time to master the language. Now, all these utterances do not hold water; and they are irresponsible and damaging to the peace and harmony of the Malaysians. On this score, Sir, I wish to point out the folly of these fanatics in their arguments. Those who do not know the National language are regarded as disloyal to the country. Where is the logic of this argument, when during the early part of confrontation a few top leaders of the Opposition whose knowledge of the National

Language is unquestionable, Mr. Speaker, Sir, had been detained under the Security Act.

The National Language can unite the people of the country. Well, just to mention a few countries, let us ponder and look at what happens to the people of the following countries who use the same language: East Germany and West Germany, North and South Vietnam, North and South Korea, the Peoples' Republic of China and Formosa, and the United Kingdom. It would do well for those who claim that only one language can unite the nation to imagine the hatred and bitterness of the people in these respective countries. They further say that ten years should be more enough time for the people of Malaysia to master the language. To master the language some of us have been studying and using the English language for years on end; and still we dare not use the word 'master'. Besides the Government must accept the fact in a spirit of goodwill that since Independence in 1957 there have been insufficient facilities for the people to study the National Language. It was only during these few years that the Government has provided fairly adequate facilities for the citizens to learn the language. The folly of the whole set-up is that spelling in books of the National Language used by school children have often been changed. And as such how are we to expect the people to know the National Language properly when the Authorities are not sure of the spelling. The Director of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka has recently been to Indonesia to try to formulate a uniform system of spelling of the National Language with Indonesia. Now we do not know where we stand in the knowledge of the National Language, when spelling and words are ever changeable. The irony of

the whole thing is that those who profess to know the language proficiently do not understand some Government terms and expressions in the National language. Up to the very present moment Malaysia has not compiled a proper dictionary in the National language of its own. Most of the dictionaries of the National language were compiled by foreigners instead. We in Malaysia do not have a recognised dictionary like the Oxford Dictionary used in United Kingdom, acceptable terms in the Courts of Law.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of what I have said, I am of the opinion that the time is still premature for the Government to use solely the National language. If the Government chooses to use it, it must be by gradual steps because it is highly advisable that changing a language during the transitional period must be done gradually, step by step, until such time when the country has a proper dictionary. To use pressure, or to force the language down the people's throat certainly cannot work. We have learnt lessons from other countries of the stupidity and serious consequences when the Government applied force on the people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government has time and again told the people that Malaysia is the only country in South-East Asia to practise true democracy. The Alliance Government has also told the people that Malaysia has made a name abroad as a multi-racial country where the Government practices religious, cultural and educational tolerance; and that it will never use force to pressurise the people. Mr. Speaker, Sir, now it is our fervent hope that the Central Government will keep up the good image of Malaysia, and will not allow a section of

the people who are extremists to tarnish the good name, and to damage the peace and harmony of our country.

We have often heard the Party in power say that the Government welcomes loyal opposition, and that it always accepts constructive criticism. Now, let the Government prove to the whole world at large that they practise what they preach, but not say one thing and do another thing. The State Government knows fully well that the objects of this Motion are relevant to what the Honourable Prime Minister and other leaders have said to the people in regard to the language issue. Therefore, will the State Government be man enough to endorse this Motion, so that the confidence of the people will not be lost? To vote against the Motion is tantamount to holding up the Honourable Prime Minister and his Cabinet to ridicule as the people could not be expected to have confidence in the Honourable Prime Minister. It is hoped that the State Government will not oppose this simple Motion for the sake of opposition.

Thank you.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan keinginan tuan, saya suka membawa satu Pindaan kepada Usul yang di-datangkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kota. Pindaan saya berbunyi demikian —

"Bahawa Dewan ini menyetujui dan menyokong dengan sepenohnya pendapat yang di-suarakan oleh Y.B. Perdana Menteri di-Pulau Pinang pada 21hb, October, 1966 bahawa" penggunaan Bahasa Inggeris dalam Malaysia hendaklah di-teruskan. Jika sekiranya kita menggantikan Bahasa Inggeris seluruh-nya dengan Bahasa Kebangsaan, jentera Kerajaan akan

rosak", tetapi amat-lah di-kesalkan beliau tidak menyebut bahawa Bahasa China dan Tamil harus diberi layanan yang sama dengan bahasa2 yang lain di-pejabat Kerajaan dan badan2 perundangan. Kami percaya rakyat di-antara bangsa tidak akan menchapai perpaduan yang sejati, melainkan hak untuk menggunakan bahasa mereka sendiri sama2 di-hormati, maka Dewan ini mengambil ketetapan, menyampaikan hasrat rakyat kepada Kerajaan Pusat bahawa sambilan Bahasa Melayu menjadi Bahasa Kebangsaan, Kerajaan harus menjalankan dasar pelbagai bahasa (Multi-lingual system) di-pejabat2 Kerajaan dan badan2 perundangan, dan memberi layanan yang sama terhadap pelajaran Bahasa2 Melayu, China, English dan Tamil."

Mr. Speaker: Saya dengar tuan membuat pindaan dengan panjang lebar. Dukachita, pindaan ini tidak di-terima kerana ada berlawanan dengan Usul asal. Di-dalam chadangan tuan telah bentang ini, ada menyatakan Kerajaan Pusat yang mana di-sini tidak ada kena mengena dengan Kerajaan Pusat. Kita ada-lah meminta kepada Kerajaan Negeri terus menggunakan bahasa Inggeris dalam notis2 dan 'circular2', dan saya berpendapat, dengan mengubah pindaan itu satu chadangan yang baru timbul. Sila kemukakan kepada Meshuarat yang lain dan mendapat timbangan-nya daripada saya. Chadangan ini di-tolak.

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Kota has just moved a Motion in which he urged the State Government to include an English language version of its circulars and notices in the future. In point of fact Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member has delivered an oral question on similar lines to the Honourable

the Chief Minister at the beginning of this session, and he was given the assurance that it would be used whenever and wherever it is considered necessary. And in view of such circumstances it would have been more appropriate for the Honourable Member to have withdrawn this Motion. But he persists in playing on this delicate and red hot issue.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Motion involves not only the inclusion of the English version of all Circulars and Notices, but also a time factor. The important phrase of this Motion, in my opinion, is "in the future". The Motion as it stands is superfluous, as neither this House nor the State Government can decide upon a matter which falls within the ambit of the Federal power. This is clearly shown in Clause (2) of Article 152 of the Federal Constitution which states:

"Notwithstanding the provisions of Clause (1), for a period of 10 years after Merdeka Day, and thereafter until Parliament otherwise provides, the English language may be used in both Houses of Parliament, in the Legislative Assembly of every State, and for all other official purposes."

Tuan Speaker, it can therefore be seen that any decision to be made with regard to the continued use of English in the future is something which can only be arrived at in Parliament.

If it is the intention of the Honourable Member that the Motion should only cover the period until which time a decision in Parliament is made then it is our view that such a Motion is unnecessary. At the present time Tuan Speaker, the Government is already issuing an English version of certain Notices and Circu-

lars. This is to ensure that machinery of Government will not be thrown out of gear. However, other Circulars and Notices are sent out in the National Language as we believe that the people have made very good progress in the study of the National Language. The Honourable Member referred to one of the statements made by the Honourable the Prime Minister in the course of his speech; and we on this side of the House stand by this statement made by the Honourable the Prime Minister.

Tuan Speaker, I have already clearly indicated that any decision with regard to the continued use of the English language in Circulars and Notices after 1967 has to be made by the Federal Parliament. It is for this reason that Members of this side are unable to accept the Motion moved by the Honourable Member for Kota. I feel that I have made our stand quite clear. And with your permission, I would like to move an amendment to the Motion which would therefore read as follows:

"That this House affirms and fully supports the view expressed by the Honourable the Prime Minister in Penang on October 21st, 1966 that—

'The use of the English Language in Malaysia must continue. If we were to substitute English altogether with the National Language the machinery of Government would be thrown out of gear',

and in consequence thereon we urge the State Government to continue the present practice of issuing an English version of certain Circulars and Notices whenever and wherever it is considered desirable and necessary to prevent the machinery of Government from being thrown out of gear."

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

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

Mr. Speaker: You cannot second it before I give permission.

Saya dapati pindaan itu tidak ada berlawanan dengan chadangan yang asal. Pindaan ini di-terima.

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

Mr. Speaker: Saya kemuka Usul yang di-pinda untuk di-bahathkan. I now put to debate the amended Motion.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this amendment because I think this is a more sensible one. I rise also with two feelings. One feeling is that none of this House regretted what Tunku has said. At least I am happy to hear that the U.D.P. fully endorsed what Tunku said. And that shows that our country is very fortunate that we have very sincere, responsible and intelligent leaders to look after the welfare of our country. And for this I do not see how people can oppose our leaders in other matters. We all believe that this is an issue which is a very, very touchy one, and which involves all of us. And for this important issue we have the support of everyone. I do not see how other issues cannot be supported. If we believe that they are intelligent, they are responsible, they are sincere, I think we should accept that they are responsible in every sense. But I do hope that our people will not adopt the silly policy. As we find here, people will say, "Do as I tell you, but do not do as I do." I make this everyday comment. We always hear that people say, "Talk

less about the language issue, and let us do more." And yet today we have this Motion before the House. And yet some Members of this House uttered, "Don't talk too much about this." We know this is a very touchy issue. And now Tunku has given us this promise. And not only Tunku. Timbalan Perdana Menteri has openly expressed support of the Tunku's statement. We expect at least the leaders of responsible Parties to support Tunku's appeal, and Tun Razak's appeal, and also Khir Johari's appeal. Instead of that a Motion is being brought up to this House to stir up the feeling on this thing again. It is most regrettable.

I support this amended Motion because the Government is already doing it. And we believe that what we are doing is correct. That is as the Honourable Member for Tanjong Utara has said. We should be grateful. Don't you think 10 years is not much time for us to pick up a bit of the language? For this I must congratulate the Members for Jelutong and Tanjong Selatan. They have done well in the national language. But unfortunately they are going beyond the horizon.

Member for Tasek Glugor (Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil): It is a pity.

Chief Minister: In my humble way I try to learn the national language because I know that sooner or later we must learn this language. We also believe that as a commercial proposition and for higher studies English must be there. And that is why, for example, now I am speaking in English. This is done for the benefit of the Members of the other side. And I regret that the Member for Kota should have mentioned that I have not the spirit at least to give him

a copy of my speech. It is wrong. I gave a copy of my speech. I spoke in Bahasa, I gave in Bahasa. You don't expect me to give him a copy in English, because I did not speak in English. To the Press I gave in English instead of giving it to them in Bahasa. That is just to assist the Press because the Press have been very helpful to me to put up my speech in the Press. So I think, not to waste time, I give them the English version. If I speak in Bahasa I do not expect to give Members a copy in English. Not to say that I don't want to; but because that is not the real language that I spoke. I do not expect Members on the other side, when they speak English, to give me their text in Bahasa.

So, as I said, I was very happy to see the Motion — the first part of it at least — accepted by many. It is also accepted by us.

Mr. Speaker: They also accept the amendment.

Chief Minister: But they go further — I don't know which horizon.

Members try to say, "Do as I tell you, but don't talk about the language business." So let us accept what Tunku has said, so that when next year comes some sensible decision will be taken in Parliament for the benefit of us. Yet a Motion is brought in this House to stir up this feeling again. So that is why, Sir, I said I support this amendment, because we will try to continue what we are doing now to issue Circulars and Notices in English whenever and wherever necessary; and also gradually to encourage our people to learn the national language.

Member for Permatang Pauh (Enche Ariffin bin Shariff): Tuan Speaker, saya menyokong pindaan yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kawasan Bagan Ajam. Uchapan Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku harus di-fahamkan membawa bukan maksud sokongan sepenoh-nya terhadap bahasa Inggeris itu, tetapi ada-lah lebel jelas bahasa Inggeris akan di-gunakan terus. Kesulitan atas menerima ucapan Tengku ini hanya-lah kesulitan yang di-buat², dengan menyalah gunakan chara saloran, penjelasan dan tujuan Tengku; tetapi jelas sebagaimana yang telah di-terangkan oleh Yang Berhormat Tun Abdul Razak bahawa Bahasa Inggeris akan di-gunakan sebagai Bahasa kedua di-atas sesuatu kepentingan. Pendapat Tengku harus menjadi porak-peranda dalam pejabat Kerajaan jika ini serta merta di-ubah dengan tidak memikir atau mengkajikan dengan sempurna tentang kerumitan² pejabat² yang tidak boleh menggunakan seratus-peratus dalam tahun 1967. Di-mana² pejabat yang boleh menggunakan seratus-peratus, hendak-lah menggunakan-nya seratus-peratus. Mana yang maseh belum chukup tentu akan berikhtiar untuk menchukupi-nya.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ada pepatah orang tua² menyatakan "sebab buah, kekenalan pohon-nya". Hari ini saya rasa sebab Usul ini munchul di-dewan ini, maka kita ketahui-lah belang-nya. Usul bermula dari wakil Kawasan Kota hanya-lah meliputi bahasa Inggeris sahaja, tetapi permintaan kedua datang-nya dari saudara Kawasan Jelutong telah membawa lebel dari itu.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sunggoh merasa senang hati waktu pada mula-nya ada Ahli² Pembangkang yang begitu memandangi tinggi kepada Tengku Perdana Menteri sebagai pemimpin Per-

ikatan kerana dengan nasehat-nya di-Penang Free School pada bulan yang lalu, sehingga di-jadikan sa-buah Usul di-dalam Dewan ini, terima kaseh. Tetapi kena apa dan mengapa nasehat ini sahaja di-pandang berat, sedangkan nasehat yang lain2 sebalik-nya tidak pula di-perhatikan. Tengku juga telah menasehatkan sebagaimana yang telah di-terangkan oleh Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri, bahawa soal Bahasa ada-lah satu soal yang rumit; serah sahaja-lah kepada pemimpin2 yang tinggi untuk memegang-nya. Tetapi, entah bagaimana barangkali Ahli Kawasan Kota terasa ia sa-orang pemimpin yang agong di-Tanah Ayer kita ini, harus boleh ber-buat demikian.

Tuan Speaker, sebagaimana pun, jika di-minta kita jangan banyak membicarakan tentang bahasa, tidak pula Usul ini di-kemukakan. Suka-lah saya menerangkan sedikit — jika di-ubah dan di-kaji tentang Usul ini, memang-lah tidak ada apa2 dan sebagai permintaan membawa Usul yang mula2 tadi menyatakan ini sa-buah Usul yang paling senang dan harus di-sokong. Jika sekali pandang, senang-lah nampak-nya tetapi kapada setengah2 manusia ini di-anggap sebagai apa yang Ahli Kawasan Kota katakan 'the back holder'. Di-sini apa sebab hanya yang gagah sahaja yang masuk ka-gulungan ini. Mula2 Usul ini di-bawa kapada Dewan ini ia-lah sebagai mengambil satu perhatian. Bagaimanakah tindakan pehak yang lain tentang penerimaan-nya? Satu lagi boleh di-anggap bahawa harus ada perasaan ragu2 tentang kebolehan Bahasa Kebangsaan — juga lebeh pasti kalau di-katakan menghina Bahasa Kebangsaan.

Tuan Speaker, soal Bahasa ada-lah menyentuh perasaan manusia, apa lagi Bahasa Kebangsaan yang telah di-terima oleh segenap pe-

hak pada masa kita mencapai kemerdekaan dahulu. Bila saya katakan perasaan, bila perasaan di-sentohi, tidak ada yang aman di-dunia ini. Saya nasehat-lah kapada pehak2 yang berkenaan, terutama-nya kapada Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Utara yang telah lebeh kurang banyak menyalahkan ke-utamaan Bahasa Kebangsaan tentang ejaan dan sebagai-nya. Tetapi mengapa-lah salahkan kapada bahasa itu sedangkan kita sendiri tidak mengambil berat. Saya rasa Usul ini sepatut-lah jangan di-bawa ka-dalam Dewan ini. Sebelum di-siasat, Ahli yang membawa Usul ini tentu-lah lebeh bijak dan lebeh tahu di-mana tempat-nya Bab 152 di-dalam Perlembagaan itu di-pinda. Kalau begitu sekali pun, penerimaan-nya di-sini, sekira-nya kita bersetuju di-dalam Dewan ini untuk bahasa yang di-chintai itu seratus-peratus akan di-perjuangkan pada bila masa pun. Tidak boleh kita membuat demikian jika perlembagaan menentang perkara itu. Yang kita merasai sedeh, di-mana sahaja Negara dan apa juga bahasa yang di-akui mengikut warga negara itu, selalu merasa megah dengan ke-adaan Negara-nya apa lagi bila di-sebut dengan Bahasa Kebangsaan, mithal-nya lagi bahasa Kebangsaan dan apa2 pun Bahasa Kebangsaan lagi; tetapi di-dalam Negeri kita ini ada orang2 Malaysia yang tidak suka setengah2 pindaan yang menjadi hak Bahasa Kebangsaan, malah sanggup menghina atau pun mengejek2 tentang apa di-katakan Bahasa Kebangsaan itu.

Kerana menerima nasehat daripada pemimpin2 atasan, saya rasa barang ini pun tidak-lah hendak saya panjang2kan, tetapi biar-lah sekali lagi saya ulang bahawa soal Bahasa ada-lah soal menyentuh perasaan manusia, apa lagi jika ini di-akui oleh semua pehak dalam masa kita mencapai kemerdekaan

an dahulu. Jika perasaan di-sentoh, ini ada-lah satu perkara yang paling susah sekali di-bicarakan dan saya harap mudah2an tiap2 Ahli yang akan di-bicara boleh di-bicara dengan bebas dalam Dewan ini. Tetapi sebagai Ahli Politik yang bertanggung jawab, saya memohon semua rakan2 saya jangan-lah hanya melepas chakap dan menyedapkan lidah di-dalam Dewan ini, tetapi akibat-nya jika berlaku sa-suatu yang tidak di-ingini, maka tanggung jawab-nya kapada Ahli Politik ini-lah.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Tuan Speaker, saya bangun menyokong pindaan yang telah di-bawa oleh rakan saya ia-itu ahli dari Bagan Ajam.

Tuan Speaker, saya berasa bangga — I am very proud — sebab ada di-dalam Perikatan yang mana Kerajaan Perikatan hari ini kita boleh nampak wakil2 bagi pehak Kerajaan hari ini terdiri daripada semua golongan bangsa yang ada di-Malaysia ini, ini menunjukkan bagaimana penerimaan ra'ayat Negeri ini terhadap dasar2 Kerajaan Perikatan yang ada pada hari ini. Tapi kalau kita pandang wakil2 pembangkang terutama Party2 sebagai UDP dan sebagai-nya hanya yang kita nampak, bukan-lah saya hendak berchakap sebagai perkauman — ini kenyataan wakil2 mereka terdiri daripada orang2 China dan Tamil sahaja baik di-Dewan ini atau di-Dewan Ra'ayat. Ini menunjukkan dengan terang bagaimana dan di-mana atau pun apa sebab-nya hanya Party2 itu di-wakili o'leh satu golongan kaum dalam sesebuah meshuarat itu. Tuan Speaker, di-sini kita nampak bagaimana penting-nya ra'ayat Negeri ini memahami terhadap perjuangan sesuatu Party seperti Perikatan yang bukan sahaja memberi kema'amoran Negeri ini

tetapi ada-lah untuk tujuan keselamatan ra'ayat Negeri ini pada hari ini dan juga pada masa2 akan datang, ia-itu pada masa anak, chuchu dan chichit kita.

Tuan Speaker, sebelum saya hendak berchakap di-atas usul yang di-bawa oleh ahli yang Berhormat daripada kawasan Kota suka-lah saya membuat (interrupted).

Speaker: Usul yang telah di-pinda.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Usul yang telah di-pinda oleh rakan saya dari kawasan Bagan Ajam, suka-lah saya membuat soalan kapada Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota. Soal saya yang pertama—dalam Negeri kita hari ini siapa dan ra'ayat mana yang telah di-sekat untuk belajar dan menggunakan lain2 bahasa selain daripada bahasa Kebangsaan? Yang kedua, saya rasa ada-kah hari ini Kerajaan Negeri kita, Kerajaan Negeri Pulau Pinang telah meninggalkan bahasa Inggeris sebagai yang di-heboh2kan itu? Kita menggunakan terus bahasa Inggeris itu walau pun bahasa Melayu menjadi bahasa Kebangsaan. Pada pandangan saya apa yang di-jalankan pada hari ini, Kerajaan akan menggunakan kedua2 bahasa. Mengikut sebagaimana yang terkandung dalam usul asal dari Ahli yang Berhormat kawasan Kota, tuan Speaker, dalam usul yang Berhormat ahli kawasan Kota beliau meminta supaya Kerajaan Negeri Pulau Pinang, manakala mengeluarkan siaran2 kapada ra'ayat Negeri ini hendaklah menggunakan di-atas bahasa Kebangsaan, kemudian di-bawah bahasa Inggeris. Pada fikiran saya, saya nampak, motive daripada kehendak-nya yang sebenar-nya usul Y. B. Ahli Kawasan Kota itu ia-lah supaya pada masa yang akan datang boleh pula di-champur lagi

dua atau tiga bahasa dalam Negeri kita pada masa Kerajaan hendak mengeluarkan siaran2. Jadi ini ada-lah satu chara atau satu jalan kepada proses untuk menggunakan berbagai2 bahasa dalam Negeri kita..... (interrupted).

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must dispute this clarification. My motion was very specific. There was no mention that we will introduce other languages.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Itu saya punya pendapat. Tuan Speaker, dalam usul asal yang di-bawa oleh yang Berhormat Ahli daripada kawasan Kota nampak-nya bagaimana keadaan yang ada pada hari ini bagi pihak Kerajaan Perikatan bermatian2 hendak mempereratkan ra'ayat Negeri ini daripada segala bangsa kepada satu chara berfikir supaya dapat dengan chara ini ra'ayat Negeri kita boleh hidup dalam aman damai pada masa ini dan juga masa2 akan datang. Tetapi, saya nampak, kalau sekira-nya kita membenarkan berbagai2 bahasa di-gunakan dalam Negara kita, hasrat atau niat kita untuk menyatupadukan ra'ayat Negeri kita akan musnah dan tak mungkin terhadap.

Tuan Speaker, pada fahaman saya, ucapan Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Perdana Menteri pada bulan sudah di-Penang Free School ada-lah menjelaskan niat beliau, setelah perlembagaan Negara kita di-pinda di-Parliament nanti, pada masa itu, ia-itu pada tahun 1967 manakala bahasa Kebangsaan menjadi bahasa resmi di-Negara ini, bahasa2 lain terutama bahasa Inggeris, bahasa China, dan India pun boleh di-pakai dan boleh di-pelajari di-Negeri kita. Pendek-nya maksud Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Perdana Menteri ia-lah sebagaimana keadaan yang ada hari ini bahasa

Inggeris akan di-tukar kepada bahasa Kebangsaan bahasa2 lain akan berada macham mana keadaan yang ada pada hari ini juga. Jadi sa-tengah2 orang di-Negeri kita ini yang membangkitkan soal2 bahasa ini ia-lah bukan, pada pendapat saya, bukan-lah kerana memikirkan soal kepentingan Negara tetapi memikirkan soal kepentingan persendirian. Mithal-nya saya boleh-lah membawa satu contoh dalam Negara kita pada hari ini di-mana soal2 bahasa ini yang banyak di-laungkan atau pendapat2 yang di-keluarkan berkenaan soal bahasa ia-lah di-mana kita dapat tempat2 yang orang2 yang lebeh bilangan-nya dari orang Melayu atau pengundi2 Melayu di-kawasan itu. Ini menunjokkan mereka bukan memikirkan faedah atau kepentingan ra'ayat Negeri ini tetapi untuk mereka hendak menang dalam pilihan raya dan dari sini boleh-lah orang2 itu menduduki kerusi dalam Majlis Dewan Negeri dan juga Dewan Parliamnt. Tuan Speaker, maksud atau ucapan dalam masa Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota mengusulkan serta beliau berchakap dan berpesan dan memberi nasehat kepada kita semua supaya soal bahasa itu jangan-lah di-bawa ka-dalam masa'alah politik supaya kita dapat berchakap lebeh bebas lagi, tetapi saya merasai sebenarnya maksud dan tujuan yang Berhormat itu membawa usul itu tidak lain dan tidak bukan ada-lah usul politik..... (interrupted).

Speaker: Panjang-kah lagi?

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Panjang lagi.

Speaker: Saya akan membenarkan tuan berchakap lagi bila dewan ini di-sambungkan semula. Saya suka mengatakan bahawa di-dalam amendment kita jangan-lah balek berchakap usul asal kerana

tuan2 berhak berchakap lagi ke-lak. Usul pindaan yang telah di-chadangkan oleh Ahli dari kawasan Bagan Ajam berbunyi dalam Bahasa Inggeris, oleh sebab saya menerima-nya dalam bahasa Inggeris saya bachakan dalam bahasa Inggeris — I will read the amended Motion to make it clear — dalam bahasa Inggeris-nya berbunyi:-

"That this House affirms and fully supports the view expressed by the Honourable the Prime Minister in Penang on October 21st, 1966 that—

'The use of the English language in Malaysia must continue. If we were to substitute English altogether with the National Language the machinery of Government would be thrown out of gear',

and in consequence thereon we urge the State Government to continue the present practice of issuing...."

Ini-lah yang di-panggil amendment kalau nak berchakap ini-lah amendment-nya, tolong dengar baik2 —

"and in consequence thereon we urge the State Government to continue the present practice of issuing an English version of certain Circulars and Notices whenever and wherever it is considered desirable and necessary to prevent the machinery of Government from being thrown out of gear."

Jadi pindaan ini-lah yang dinamakan amendment. Tiap2 ahli yang hendak berchakap atas amendment tolong-lah confine yourselves to the amendment; otherwise I will deprive the Honourable Member of his opportunity to speak on the amendment.

The Assembly adjourns at 4.33 p.m.

The Assembly resumes at 8.00 p.m.

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): Tuan Speaker, yang pertama sekali saya mengucapkan terima kasih kepada tuan Speaker, kerana membenarkan saya beruchap tadi menyokong usul pindaan yang dibawa oleh rakan saya ahli daripada kawasan Bagan Ajam.

Tuan Speaker, dalam membahathkan usul ini saya rasa ini ada-lah kali yang pertama yang mana kita dapat berjumpa pada waktu malam dan saya rasa ini ada-lah satu daripada session yang saya rasa panjang daripada persidangan2 kita di-waktu2 yang lepas. Jadi saya rasa walau pun kita datang waktu malam, tetapi dalam usul yang sangat mustahak ini saya rasa kita sanggup tunggu sa-hingga ka-pagi esok.

Tuan Speaker, Yang Berhormat ahli Kawasan Kota, dalam mengemukakan sokongan yang sepenohnya yang mana telah di-pinda oleh rakan saya tadi, saya suka mengulangi apa yang saya kata tadi, ia-itu usul ini ada-lah usul yang berbau politik walau pun yang Berhormat itu meminta supaya ahli2 Dewan ini mengeneipikan soal politik dan soal sentiment terhadap sesuatu masalah yang sangat mustahak, ia-itu soal bahasa. Soal bahasa pada saya ada-lah satu soal yang menjadi alat kepada kita dan kepada Negeri ini untuk kita menyatupadukan ra'ayat dalam Negeri ini yang berbagai2 keturunan. Tadi dalam mengusulkan usul tersebut ada juga di-bangkitkan ia-itu beberapa Negeri seperti Vietnam dan Korea menghadapi kachau bilau tetapi kachau bilau itu boleh berbangkit daripada beberapa perkara dan satu daripada perkara yang kita tahu benar2 ada-lah sebab bahasa. Dalam

mengemukakan usul tersebut Y.B. Ahli Kawasan Kota hendak menhadapkan bahasa Inggeris dijadikan bahasa penggunaan kita hari2 dan meminta Kerajaan mengadakan dan mengeluarkan circular supaya bersama, selain daripada bahasa kebangsaan, menggunakan bahasa Inggeris. Saya nampak tidak ada satu logik pun meminta Kerajaan kita menggunakan bahasa Inggeris. Sebab yang saya kata begitu, dalam Negeri kita hari ini kalau kita kaji bilangan orang2 yang boleh berchakap bahasa Inggeris itu bilangan-nya sangat rendah kalau di-banding dengan orang tidak tahu bahasa Inggeris, serta bahasa lain2. Jadi kalau kita keluarkan circular2 atau notis2 dalam bahasa Inggeris terpaksa pula di-chari translator untuk menterjemahkan-nya bagi mengetahui apa-kah kandungan yang sebenar-nya dalam circular2 Kerajaan. Tuan Speaker, logik-nya tidak ada, tidak ada dalam membawakan usul ini meminta mempertahankan bahasa Inggeris. Ini ada-lah untuk kepentingan Party UDP sahaja. Tuan Speaker, dengan kebenaran tuan, suka-lah juga saya membangkitkan satu chontoh yang mana di-belakang nanti kita ada satu lagi usul yang akan dikemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota-nya meminta juga supaya penggunaan dan tulisan China hendak-lah di-tulis di-pejabat2 Kerajaan. Jadi ini apa yang saya sebut dan apa yang saya telah tegaskan tadi nampak-nya ini sudah menjadi kenyataan untuk menggunakan berbagai2 bahasa dalam Negeri kita ini. Kalau saya bawa satu cherita Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota juga bersetuju dengan saya. Tuan Speaker, kita di-dalam Party Perikatan masa menghadapi pilihan raya berchakap, berjanji kepada ra'ayat ia-itu dasar kita nak menjadikan bahasa Kebangsaan atau bahasa Malaysia itu sebagai bahasa

resmi dan bahasa yang tunggal di negeri kita dengan tujuan kita nak menyatukan ra'ayat negeri ini. Itu satu mandat yang besar sekali dan saya rasa kita dapat dari pengundi2 kita, mereka memberi sokongan pada kita kepada pihak Perikatan saya merasa bangga sebab rakan2 saya yang ada di-sa-belah sini yang terdiri daripada beberapa bangsa telah di-pilih oleh ra'ayat untuk mewakili mereka dalam menyelesaikan berbagai2 problem yang terdapat termasuk-lah problem bahasa dapat menerima dasar Perikatan. Jadi hari ini saya rasa perkara bahasa ini kalau boleh, saya minta-lah bagaimana Ahli yang Berhormat itu meminta supaya kita jangan-lah membawa perkara ini sebagai perkara sentimen dan kita sangat perchaya kepada apa yang di-ucapkan oleh Yang Teramat Mulia di-Penang Free School itu ia-lah supaya orang2 atau pun ra'ayat2 yang ada dalam negeri ini tahu apa yang di-buat oleh Kerajaan kita terhadap bangsa2 lain manakala bahasa Kebangsaan kita menjadi bahasa resmi dalam negara kita pada masa hadapan.

Tuan Speaker, saya suka mengingatkan kepada Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota pada masa kita hendak menchapai kemerdekaan Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota ada-lah sa-orang pemimpin yang ulong di-Negera kita pada masa itu dan beliau ada-lah yang Di-Pertua MCA pada masa itu yang mana beliau ada-lah sa-orang yang bertanggung jawab menjalan dan menerima perlembagaan negara kita yang ada pada hari ini. Saya rasa apa yang terkandung dalam perlembagaan kita yang Berhormat itu sangat faham dan sangat tahu apa yang akan jadi kepada Negera kita dalam dengan perlembagaan kita itu yang Berhormat sedia maalom tetapi hari ini Yang Berhormat Ahli ka-

wasan Kota manakala telah keluar daripada Party Perikatan dengan satu sebab musabab, membangkitkan soal yang mana dahulu beliau sudah terima kerana macham yang saya kata tadi sebab-nya bukanlah dari segi kebaikan tetapi dari segi mendapatkan undi, tetapi bukan dari kepentingan perpaduan Negara am-nya apa yang di-pentingkan dapat memberi undi kepada beliau supaya boleh duduk dalam Majlis ini pada masa yang akan datang.

Lagi satu, dan ini suka-lah saya peringat kepada puak2 yang itu satu perkara yang kita tidak boleh nafi, yang kita menuntut penggunaan berbagai2 bahasa itu yang kita tak boleh lupa yang tidak boleh kita padam, ia-itu pada masa kita hendak menyambut atau nak menerima kemerdekaan heboh sekali dibinchangkan pada masa itu ia-lah keiktirafan keraayatan yang mana orang2 yang bukan menjadi warga negara kita pada masa itu supaya dapat menjadi warga negara kita pada hari itu dan juga akan datang. Jadi pada pendapat saya dan saya rasa Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota sangat faham kedudukan yang sebenar, ia-itu orang Melayu pada masa itu tidak dapat terima tetapi dengan sebab pemimpin2 dan ketua2 daripada UMNO telah memujuk semua orang2 Melayu supaya menerima soal ini dan undang2 berkenaan perkara ini telah di-terima orang2 yang tinggal dalam Negeri ini boleh di-terima menjadi ra'ayat negeri ini dengan syarat lain2 bangsa terima Bahasa Kebangsaan sebagai bahasa resmi, yang tunggal dalam Negara kita. Saya tahu pada masa itu betapa susah pemimpin2 UMNO memujuk orang2 Melayu supaya syarat2 yang di-buat dan kita memandang kepada kepentingan dan keselamatan negara yang ada dalam negara kita, kita terima dengan bulat supaya bahasa ke-

bangsaan itu di-terima oleh semua orang sebagai bahasa kebangsaan untuk menyatu-padukan ra'ayat di-negeri ini. Dalam Perikatan ini sendiri, Tuan Speaker, kita ada terdiri daripada beberapa kaum dan kita sendiri menghadapi masaalah bahasa ini. Kita dalam Perikatan, ada UMNO, ada MCA dan ada MIC bukan semua tahu dan faham yang sebenar dalam bahasa kebangsaan tetapi kita dapat menerima bahasa kebangsaan ini sebagai kenyataan ikrar yang dapat atau yang membolehkan kita menyatukan ra'ayat Negeri ini. Saya berasa bangga kita duduk dalam Perikatan ini dapat menyelesaikan masaalah yang besar ini bukan dari segi sentimen, satu masaalah yang membangkitkan perasaan kita, kita dapat membentokkan satu fahaman yang boleh di-terima dan boleh di-akui oleh semua ahli2 yang ada dalam Perikatan. Jadi saya rasa atas keputusan pihak2 kaum2 yang ada dalam Perikatan saya rasa ada sa-tengah daripada orang2 yang ada dalam Perikatan ada-lah orang2 yang betul2 bersemangat dan betul2 menunjukkan taat setia bukan-lah sahaja kepada Negeri kita tetapi memikirkan masa hadapan negara kita supaya negara kita selamat.

Tuan Speaker, Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Perdana Menteri biasa berchakap dan berulang kali berchakap, beliau berkata sesebuah Negara yang tidak mempunyai Bahasa Kebangsaan ada-lah Negara itu serupa tidak ada semangat, tidak ada semangat jika sesebuah Negeri itu tidak mempunyai bahasa Kebangsaan-nya sendiri. Maruah Negara ia-lah Bahasa. Jadi hari ini saya rasa apabila kita telah menerima bahasa kebangsaan ini yang mana Yang Berhormat Ahli dari kawasan Kota sendiri menerima-nya pada satu masa dahulu, sebagai pemimpin hari ini yang mana kita telah di-pilih me-

wakili ra'ayat patut kita menjaga ra'ayat untuk dudok dalam aman. Ini ada-lah satu tanggung jawab kita untuk membimbing serta menjaga ra'ayat kita kepada satu fahaman yang mana kita boleh terima dengan tidak ada lagi burok sangka atau salah faham di-antara satu sama lain. Tuan Speaker, saya rasa soal ini walau pun Yang Berhormat Ahli dari kawasan Kota tadi berkata serta menasehat kepada kita supaya jangan-lah di-besarkan kepada perasaan sentimen dan jangan-lah kita bawa perkara ini untuk kepentingan politik tetapi saya nampak daripada apa yang telah di-ucapkan oleh Yang Berhormat itu menunjukkan yang kita di-sini dalam masaalah yang sangat rumit yang kita tahu Kerajaan kita hari ini nak memberi fahaman kepada ra'ayat serta membantu ra'ayat supaya menerima tetapi jika perkara ini di-besarkan ini bukan-lah satu perkara untuk membaiki tapi itu ada-lah satu perkara yang boleh membawa atau boleh membangkitkan perasaan ra'ayat hari ini ragu2 terhadap negara kita dan ketaat-setiaan dalam negeri ini.

Jadi akhir-nya, tuan Speaker, saya suka-lah dan saya merayulah kepada Yang Berhormat Ahli kawasan Kota supaya jangan-lah kita fikir hanya untuk kepentingan diri sendiri kerana hendak dudok dalam Dewan ini, kerana berkehendakkan kerusi2 tetapi kita hendak-lah memikirkan soal Negara kita supaya kita dapat menyatakan, bukan sahaja pada hari ini bahkan juga pada hari hadapan di-masa anak chuchu kita supaya mereka dapat bersatu padu pada masa akan datang.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Tuan Speaker, the amended Motion by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam lacks sincerity. In fact it is intended from what I see, to

cause confusion only because by adopting the first part of the original Motion it endeavours to draw belief that it would be an improvement on the original Motion. In actual fact it is not so. Sir, this amended Motion urges the continued practice of issuing certain circulars 'only' to include the English language version; and it is therefore a departure from the original Motion which itself is a straightforward one. I repeat that part of the amended Motion which states very clearly 'issuing certain circulars', and not all circulars. In fact at present many of our circulars are being issued in the Bahasa Kebangsaan only, without the English version. And if we are to fall into the trap of this amended Motion, which is really a very tricky one — and I must give credit to the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam — we in the United Democratic Party would be fighting against our original Motion. If there is any sincerity in the amended Motion, Sir, then that part 'the usual practice' and 'of issuing certain circulars' should not have appeared at all, because issuing circulars in only the Bahasa Kebangsaan, without the English version, is more or less the usual practice to-day. And by accepting this part of the clause we are accepting the omission of the English version.

The second part of the clause 'of issuing certain circulars' completely reveals its insincerity, because for 'certain circulars' only the English version may be included, but not all circulars. Why the discrimination? This amended Motion must be studied very closely if one is not to fall into its trap. It does not fight at all to include the English version, for the subsequent part 'whenever and wherever necessary' puts a condition to it. In such an instance, who is to judge whether it is necessary or

not? Such amendments to original Motions, as we all fully know, not only inside this House but outside this House, are the expert work of the Alliance to confuse and to mislead the people. The whole gist of the amended Motion is nothing but just to mislead and to bluff, at which the Alliance is reputed to be experts. The Alliance is not only capable of bluffing and misleading but also to twist like a snake.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Speaker, Negara kita ada-lah satu Negara yang ada berbagai Bahasa dan saya rasa kita semua perchaya bahawa perpaduan di-antara Bangsa ada-lah yang paling penting kepada kemajuan dan keamanan di-Negara kita. Tetapi perpaduan yang sejati hanya boleh di-chapai jika tiap2 Bahasa di-beri layanan yang sama dan hak mereka sama di-hormati. Jika hak, sesuatu Bangsa di-nafikan atau ditekan, maka ini bukan-nya perpaduan yang sejati, tidak dapat di-chapai bahkan ini akan merugikan perkhidmatan dan kemajuan Negara kita.

Soal Bahasa ada-lah suatu soal yang sentimental. Soal Bahasa hari ini sudah menjadi soal boleh dikatakan ada-lah perbuatan penjajah British, kerana penjajahan British yang berpengalaman itu pada masa mereka memerintah sechara terus di-Negara kita, niat mereka bukan saja menindas ra'ayat Negara kita di-segi politik, ekonomi dan militeri tetapi juga di-bidang kebudayaan. Mereka menjalankan dasar kebudayaan penjajahan, yaitu menekan perkembangan kebudayaan 'nationalism' dengan menggalakkan kebudayaan 'imperialist dan penjajahan. Sebab itu mereka menanam bahasa Inggeris dan mengagong2kan bahasa Inggeris serta menekan pendidikan atau pelajaran bahasa2 Melayu, China dan Tamil di-Negara kita ini. Dasar Bahasa yang

di-jalankan oleh penjajahan British ada-lah semata2 untuk keperluan2 pemerintahan penjajah. Di-masa jajahan mereka, Negeri ini yang berjuang untuk kemerdekaan tetapi penjajah British tidak memberikan kemerdekaan kepada Negara kita. (interrupted).

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Tuan Speaker, on a point of order, may I have your ruling whether the Honourable for Jelutong. (interrupted).

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Sir, what order?

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): What he is speaking is not relevant to the amended Motion.

Mr. Speaker: I want to see how far he will go.

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): I have been waiting too long.

Mr. Speaker: The next time when the Honourable Member stands for order please quote to order.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Terima kasih Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Jangan-lah terlalu sayang kepada penjajahan British.

Mr. Speaker: Dan jangan-lah hantam kepada orang yang dah tidak ada di-sini.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, apabila penjajahan British mahu berikan Negara kita kemerdekaan, mereka telah mengadakan dasar2 yang menindas pelajaran2 Bahasa Kebangsaan Bahasa China dan Bahasa Tamil, dan menjalankan dasar2 yang menanamkan Bahasa Inggeris. Dasar Kerajaan Perikatan sekarang ada-lah dasar2 yang

di-jalankan oleh penjajah2. Hari ini, Bahasa China dan Tamil tidak dapat layanan yang sama di-Negara kita dan pelajaran Bahasa itu tidak juga di-layan dengan sama dengan Bahasa Inggeris. Dasar ini tidak membawa faedah2 kepada perpaduan antara Bangsa di-Negara kita, bahkan akan merugikan dan ini hanya boleh memberi faedah kepada penjajahan British sahaja. Dalam soal Bahasa, ada dua jenis fikiran yang salah. Yang pertama adalah fikiran atau pendapat yang mahu mengekalkan dasar meninggikan Bahasa Inggeris. Yang kedua, ada-lah fikiran yang mahu menchapai chogan satu Negara. satu Bangsa dan satu Bahasa. Fikiran atau pandangan yang mahu meninggikan Bahasa Inggeris ada-lah dasar yang ada di-jalankan oleh penjajahan British dan kita tahu di-masa penjajahan, Bahasa Inggeris telah di-perkembangkan dan bahasa2 lain telah di-tekan. Di-masa itu. orang2 yang mempelajari Bahasa Inggeris telah menjadi satu jenis orang yang istimewa. Mereka senang mendapat kerja di-pejabat Kerajaan tetapi orang2 yang mempelajari bahasa2 lain susah mendapat kerja di-dalam pejabat kerajaan. Hari ini maseh ada orang yang mahu mengekalkan taraf bahasa Inggeris, maseh mahu menerima bahasa Inggeris maseh mengenang2 chogan bahasa Inggeris. Fikiran ini dan dasar ini kami menentang dan kami mahu menyatakan bahawa kami tidak mahu bahasa Inggeris di-utamakan dan di-sanjong tinggi, di-angkat lebih tinggi dari bahasa2 Melayu, China dan Tamil. Walau pun demikian, kami berpendapat juga Bahasa Inggeris harus juga mendapat layanan yang sama dengan bahasa Tiong Hwa, bahasa Tamil dan..... (interrupted)

Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik): Mengikut 46(7) adakah patut kita bahathkan

selain daripada dalam bahasa Melayu dan bahasa Inggeris? Berpegang kepada Usul, tidak ada bahasa Tiong Hwa, Tamil atau Hindu boleh di-sebutkan.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kerana kami tidak bersetuju bantuan2 itu yang hanya membantu bahasa Inggeris sahaja, maka pendapat kami saya harus mengeluarkan. Tuan Yang di-Pertua,..... (interrupted).

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, mengeluarkan apa?

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): mengeluarkan pendapat saya.

Chief Minister: Bahasa China, bahasa Tamil dan bahasa Hindu dan lain2.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tadi saya telah menyatakan pendapat kami terhadap bahasa Inggeris dan pendapat kami terhadap orang2 yang mengikut dasar bahasa British. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pendapat atau fikiran satu Negara, satu Bahasa dan satu Bangsa ada-lah pendapat yang tidak realistik, kerana ini ada-lah tidak sesuai dengan keadaan Negara kita sebab Negara kita ada-lah meliputi berbagai2 bangsa. Maka tentu-lah berbagai2 bangsa ada di-Negara kita.

Mr. Speaker: Saya hendak soal. Berbagai2 Bangsa tidak bangkit. Kalau tuan ingin hendak berchakap berkenaan dengan soal berbagai bangsa, ini akan di-kemukakan di-tempat yang lain, di-masa yang lain kerana kita berada hanya-lah bagi mengemukakan bahasa Inggeris di-dalam urusan2 Kerajaan. Itu chadangan yang asal dan juga chadangan pindaan.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Terima kaseh, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Mr. Speaker: Jadi, kalau ada ingatan tuan hendak berchakap tentang soal banyak Bangsa, saya rasa tuan patut menyediakan soal yang lain yang tidak kena-mengena dengan chadangan ini.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagaimana dapat menjalankan chogan2 satu bahasa ini melainkan mengadakan dasar Assimilate terhadap lain2 bangsa dan ini rasa saya pun tidak realistik juga. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita harus mengambil pengalaman dari Negara lain yang telah timbul perkara2 atau peristiwa yang tidak di-ingini seperti apa yang terjadi di-Negara India, Canada dan lain2 yang mana telah menimbulkan perkara yang tidak baik kerana soal Bahasa. Soal Bahasa ini kita harus menyelesaikan mengikut keadaan Negara kita, yaitu kita harus juga mengambil dasar yang adil terhadap tiap2 bangsa. Dengan ini baharu-lah soal ini dapat boleh di-selesaikan dengan 'adil dan kami berpendapat Bahasa Melayu harus-lah menjadi Bahasa Kebangsaan kerana di-Negara kita ini ada berbagai2 bangsa yang harus mengadakan satu bahasa perantaraan untuk menyampaikan fikiran perasaan antara satu bangsa dengan lain. Ini ada-lah penting kepada saling-mengerti di-antara bangsa, tetapi kita tidak harus menganggap dengan adanya Bahasa Kebangsaan, bahasa lain sudah boleh di-nafikan.

Setelah mengkaji keadaan Negara kita, maka kami berpendapat sambil Bahasa Melayu harus menjadi Bahasa Kebangsaan dan Bahasa Melayu harus di-jadikan satu Bahasa Perantaraan di-Negara kita dan di-bidang diplomatik harus menjadi satu bahasa me-

wakili negara kita. Tetapi, satu peratoran berbagai bahasa juga harus di-adakan. Memberikan layanan yang sama kepada pengajaran bahasa tiap2 bangsa. Mereka akan lebih chintai, lebih hormati dan lebih menerima bahasa Kebangsaan; Saya perchaya hak bersamaan bagi tiap2 Bangsa menggunakan bahasa mereka sendiri. (interrupted).

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, on point of clarification. Saya rasa Ahli Yang Berhormat itu membawa soalan atau perkara-nya kadalam Dewan ini tidak ada fasal hendak meminta bahasa2 lain boleh berjalan, sebab Dewan ini tidak ada kuasa.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Saya suka menarek perhatian Dewan ini. Tuan bukan berchakap — dia minta keterangan daripada Ahli Kawasan Jelutong, bukan kepada tuan. Sila buat penjelasan!

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sedang memberi alasan mengapa saya tidak boleh menyokong pindaan yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kawasan Bagan Ajam.

Mr. Speaker: Sila duduk sekejap. Saya berkali2 menerangkan kepada Dewan ini, kita sekarang berada di-dalam pindaan satu chadangan. Dalam surat pindaan ini hanya atoran 'implement the motion first by reading in English' dengan menimbangkan surat2 yang saya terima dalam Bahasa Inggeris dengan sebelum chadangan itu sava bangkang 'of issuing an English version of certain circulars and notices'. Jadi, 'in English', dalam bahasa Inggeris saya

terima di-masa hadapan ini menambahkan perkataan 'whenever and wherever it is considered desirable and necessary to prevent the machinery of the Government from being thrown out of gear'; itu sahaja amendment. Kalau mengikut atoran Meshuarat ini, hendak bahathkan atas amendment — hanya itu sahaja hendak di-bahathkan. Tetapi saya telah memberi peluang kepada tuan supaya Majlis ini mengambil kesempatan membahath dengan puas, tetapi saya harap peluang ini jangan-lah di-gunakan dengan berlebeh.

Member for Jelutong (Mr. Tan Hock Hin): Terima kaseh, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kami tidak dapat menerima pindaan yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kawasan Bagan Ajam, kerana dengan pindaan itu sudah tidak ada ma'ana dan sudah tidak perlu lagi mengikut pendapat kami.

Terima kaseh.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kami tentang pindaan dari Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam. Soal Bahasa pada hari ini sudah menjadi satu masa'alah yang penting. Biar kita memandang sechara benar dan mengkaji fikiran tiap2 parti. Ada orang menyatakan..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Lagi sekali saya hendak menarek perhatian. Apabila pindaan ini akan di-terima nanti, kalau tidak di-terima chadangan Asal, chadangan kita akan menjadi chadangan yang asal. Maka boleh-lah tuan membahathkan keselurohan chadangan itu. Sekarang kita hanya membahathkan pindaan, dan apabila pindaan ini kalau di-terima, maka chadangan ini akan menjadi chadangan

asal dan di-situ juga tuan akan di-beri peluang berchakap keselu-rohan-nya. Jadi, saya minta itu masa sekarang. Sila tatap 'Standing Order'. Kita suka berchakap berikutan — kita hanya berada dalam pindaan — jadi tuan tidak boleh sentoh. Tuan tidak boleh menyentuh keselu-rohan-nya tentang menerima atau tidak — kalau di-terima, baharu-lah chadangan ini akan menjadi 'Original Motion'; otherwise this amendment will be thrown out. Jadi kalau tuan hendak berchakap, berchakap atas pindaan. Kalau hendak chakap lebeh daripada pindaan, boleh-lah chakap apabila sama kemukakan di-terima atau tidak. Atas pindaan — di-jemput.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya akan berchakap sekejap lagi. Saya membangkang Usul ini.

Mr. Speaker: Membangkang pindaan ini.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Pindaan ini.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate the advice you have given this House.

Mr. Speaker: My opinion is the Standing Orders.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Your advice on the Standing Orders in this House.

However, Sir, if you will allow me to go beyond just the debate on the amendment, because I realize that the weight of the Alliance — not jellyfish but wooden puppets — will be such that the amendment will prevail, and my original Motion will lose. Therefore, Sir, I will take the opportunity to reply

to some of the observations that were made whilst referring in particular to the proposed amendment by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam.

Sir, first of all I would like to state categorically that if the amendment goes through then my Motion is defeated.

Mr. Speaker: And the amended Motion will become the original Motion.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): We are not going to debate that again, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. That is why I asked the Honourable Member to confine himself to the amendment. Then I will put to the House the Motion as amended, to ascertain whether it is acceptable to the House or not. If the Motion is acceptable then this Motion will become the original Motion; and again will be put to debate the whole of the Motion as amended.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, if this is the procedure, Sir, then all that I need to say at the present moment is that the amendment proposed by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam effectually represents the type of political inactivity of the Alliance State Government, because, Sir, the Honourable the Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, when he made his statement over the greater and more liberal use of other languages, and the necessity of the use of the English language, and in subsequent statements indicated that the Alliance policy in so far as the language problem is concerned represented a degree of concession.

Sir, what has happened in the amendment made by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam is a very interesting one because he has accepted the first part of my Motion, and he has chopped off the second part of my Motion, and thereby emasculating the whole purpose of the Motion, and substituted something which is meaningless, as it would have been meaningful, because the amended Motion in actual fact will indicate that the Alliance State Government is willing to clap hands and applaud the Honourable the Prime Minister, but will do nothing to change the present circumstances. And all they have done in actual fact is to make the people of this country, and in particular the people in Penang, whom I had referred to earlier as being made happier and more relieved by the statement, more unhappy over the statement. Because, Sir, what the Alliance amendment to my Motion seeks to do is in fact to render meaningless the promises made by the Honourable the Prime Minister. No change; and nothing will be done from what exists today.

Sir, the very fact that the Honourable the Prime Minister and other leaders of the Alliance have indicated that there should be concessions made with regard particularly to the use of the English language, and there will be super-liberal use of other languages, indicates that the present state of affairs already creates tension; and therefore this statement of a slight review in the policy of the Alliance hitherto. But the statement made by the paramount leader of the Alliance has got to be emasculated by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam. Sir, for that reason I cannot support the amendment: not because I wouldn't like to try to come to an agreement with the

Members sitting opposite over such an important issue. As a matter of fact we have come half way. Maybe we can go a little bit further.

Sir, in view of the fact that during the course of the speeches made supporting the amendment in actual fact references were made to my speech earlier on, will you allow me to reply to some of the observations?

Mr. Speaker: You will have a time, as I said; and I will put it back. There is a lack in the Standing Orders. It always goes back to Section 117(1) — In the case of doubt you can always refer the proceedings of this Assembly to Parliamentary procedure — our Parliament and other Commonwealth Parliaments. And it is the actual procedure which I have been following. On the amendment of a Motion only the amendment is to be discussed; after which, when the amendment is put to the House, if the amended Motion is won by vote then it becomes the original Motion, and the mover of the original Motion will reply to anything. But he can speak on the amended Motion as the original Motion again. I think the time will come for you to reply, even to overthrow the amended Motion. You are free.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I must therefore oppose the amendment to my Motion, first of all because it virtually seeks to negate it. This is not the direct method of opposing my Motion, but the more powerful, more massive, more arrogant, more united method of eliminating my Motion. Sir, I have already said that if the amended Motion is carried it means in effect that the Alliance Government will make a mockery of the promise. The Alliance State Government and the

Members of the Alliance Party in the Assembly will have made a mockery of the promise and the statement made by the Honourable the Prime Minister to the people of the country on the occasion of the Sesqui-centenary Anniversary of the Penang Free School.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on the amendment, and I reserve the right to reply to the points raised on the original Motion.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think the Honourable Member understood the ruling of the House. If the amended Motion, after being put to the House, is accepted the amended Motion will eventually become the original Motion of the House; and the original Motion moved by the Honourable Member for Kota automatically is defeated. It is no more back for discussion.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I ask for clarification? Once the amended Motion is approved, it then becomes the original Motion? Could then we refer to comments made on the original Motion by various speakers?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Thank you, Sir. I will now restrict my comments merely to what has been said on the amended Motion.

The Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat has called the amended Motion a trap. I am afraid we can't accept that because — I don't know whether it is permissive — it seems to us that the whole Motion was a trap. The original Motion itself was a trap. But with respect to you, Sir, I

am not commenting on that at this moment. But I will reserve my comments for a later occasion.

The Honourable Member for Jelutong talked at great length on this question, and suggested in his speech that the language question is more or less a British legacy. I find it very difficult to understand this because, if I remember correctly—and I think most Members in this House will support this — the English were not particularly keen that we should learn their language. It was the Japanese who tried to ram down their language during their four years of occupation down our throats. I know that the British did give a modicum of education; but they never made any great efforts for us to learn their language. If people did take to English, at least during the early decades of this century, it was because they thought it was worth their while to learn English. And therefore I can only think that the Member for Jelutong talks out of ignorance. He also had suggested in his amendment which you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, very rightly turned down, that multi-lingualism should be adopted in the State of Penang, and I suppose in the whole country. Well, this is a very old question. But what really I would like to point out is this: The learning of a language itself is no indication of the loyalty of a person. I think this was mentioned—I suppose I am out of bounds now, referring to an earlier speech — by the Honourable Member for Tanjong Utara. Very often I had found in my studies on the spread in Communism in various countries that the Communists instruct their followers and their front men and their stooges to learn the language of the country because they think that gives them an entry into the inner circles of Political Parties. Therefore the idea that because somebody knows the national

language of the country that makes him automatically a patriot and a very faithful follower or very faithful nationalist is all wrong. And I think we must keep this in mind when we listen to the advice of either the Honourable Member for Jelutong or the even more honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan who has very complex ideas on this subject.

The Honourable Member for Kota has also opposed the amendment. He went on to categorize our amendment as representing a type of political inactivity of the Alliance Government. What he means by this I do not understand.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Doing nothing.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Well, if we are doing nothing why make such a rumpus? It is because we are doing something that there is all this shouting from the other side. He says that the amendment emasculates the original Motion. I am sure all the Honourable Members of this House understand the word 'emasculate'. At least I hope they do. But Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you look carefully at the amendment you will find that it is very correctly worded, and that it does not — and I repeat, it does not — negate the original sense of the Motion. But it does make certain very clear changes in the original Motion. For example, the Honourable Member for Kota in the last lines of his Motion says, 'include an English language version of all its circulars and notices in the future'. Now, I want particularly to draw the attention of this House to the phrase 'in the future'. What does that mean? Well, it may mean 'into infinity' — in the future. But here again I am at a little loss because I like to refer to what he said when he proposed his original

Motion. But I will come to that later when I speak on the original Motion, because it is very clear that the Constitution has already laid down that it is Parliament which has the right to decide about what is going to happen to this question of language after 31st August, 1967. But if this House approves this Motion as it is, with the phrase 'in the future' then we are doing something for which we will be responsible in the future. And 'in the future' means a very long, indefinite period of time. That is one reason why that phrase is being amended in the amendment which the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam has brought forward; and I will have something more to say about it when I discuss the Motion as an original Motion.

But referring to the last part of this amended resolution the phrase — where necessary and when necessary — we on this side of the House feel it is a desirable change because I think by and large the Circulars and other material issued in the national language are beginning to be understood. But where it is necessary, and where it is desirable that there should be an English translation, as a matter of fact even now it is being done. All that this Motion or even the amended Motion will achieve will be that perhaps it will be done on a bigger scale than before. And therefore I thought that this amended Motion is a very sensible and reasonable one; and it avoids the horns of the dilemma. Very, very cleverly and skilfully the Opposition Party on the right has tried to pin us on this side on one of the horns. We support what the Honourable the Prime Minister has said. We also accept that translations in English should be attached to Circulars and various other important notices connected with administration of the Government. But we feel that this should be

done wherever it is necessary and wherever it is desirable. I therefore feel, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that this amendment is a very reasonable and very satisfactory one which will be in accord with the spirit of what the Honourable the Prime Minister said in his speech on October 21, 1966. Thank you Sir.

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): Tuan Speaker, in point of fact I made the amendment because I found that the Member for Kota was right in the first part, but he went astray in the second part. That was the reason why I amended the last portion of the Motion.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Oh, you took instructions.

Member for Bagan Ajam (Mr. Phee Joo Teik): I chopped off a large chunk; but I did not chop it up. However, the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat said that the amended Motion is not only confusing, but we get the same phraseology again — bluffing, misleading, twisting. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I moved the Motion, in my speech in support of the Motion I very, very clearly indicated that we on this side of the House stand by the statement which the Tunku made on the 21st of October, 1966, at the Penang Free School. We stand by his statement; and, as the Tunku has said, and which we support, the use of the English language in Malaysia must continue. If we were to substitute English altogether with the national language the machinery of Government will be thrown out of gear. We support that. We stand by what he said. I think that should be sufficient enough to convince the Members on the opposite side to support the amended Motion. You

ask for something. We agree to give it to you. Why be on the opposition? I do not understand. And I don't see why I should be accused of twisting, and so on, and so forth.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our friend the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat has indicated that if this amended Motion is accepted in no time you will find that the Circulars and Notices will all be in the national language. But if you could spare the time to check up you will find that where the English language is necessary to be used we use the English language. Where the national language should be used we use the national language. I am sure you will all agree that at the moment the official language of the country is English and Bahasa Kebangsaan. So I don't see why the Honourable Member for Tanjong Barat should be worried why certain Notices are in English and some are not.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of all the assurances which I have given just now I hope that the Opposition will forget the sentiments which they ask us not to have with us, and support the amendment.

**The Assembly adjourns
at 9.07 p.m.**

**The Assembly resumes
at 9.29 p.m.**

Question put and amendment agree to.

Mr. Speaker: Chadangan ini dipersetujui dan chadangan ini sekarang menjadi chadangan 'asal'.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri ada menya-

takan tadi tentang soal bahasa ini jangan di-timbulkan. Tetapi, pada hari ini soal Bahasa ada-lah satu soal yang penting mahu atau tidak bahasa Inggeris terus di-gunakan dalam Pentadbiran Jabatan Kerajaan, dan bahasa2 lain maseh terus di-tekan. Dalam keadaan ini mesti timbul fikiran yang berlainan di-antara tiap2 rakyat. Maka kita harus fikir dan timbang fikiran2 daripada parti mana pun. Saya berpendapat sekira-nya ada pertentangan atau 'controversy' di-kalangan ra'ayat atau fikiran2 yang bertentangan harus di-kemukakan dan di-binchang. Kalau tidak di-binchangkan dan tidak di-atasi, maka fikiran bertentangan itu akan menjadi hebat dan lagi susah di-atasi.

Bahasa Inggeris telah lama di-guna dalam Pejabat Kerajaan kerajaan Negara kita di-jajah oleh penjajah dahulu dan oleh kerana penjajahan, bahasa2 lain di-Negara kita termasuk bahasa Melayu telah di-tekan. Apabila Negara kita mencapai kemerdekaan, Bahasa Kebangsaan boleh di-guna dalam Dewan dan juga dalam Pentadbiran Kerajaan. Pada masa pemerintahan penjajahan, hanya di-utamakan atau di-gunakan bahasa Inggeris. Walau pun sekarang bahasa Kebangsaan telah di-jadikan bahasa Kerajaan, tetapi dalam beberapa tahun ini, di-atas nama memperkembangkan bahasa Kebangsaan, Kerajaan sebenarnya utamakan bahasa Inggeris dan meneakan bahasa2 lain. Oleh kerana ini, maka usaha2 yang di-buat untuk memperkembangkan bahasa Kebangsaan itu tidak begitu memuaskan. Saya perchaya dalam Perikatan sendiri pun, tidak berapa yakin terhadap Bahasa Kebangsaan seperti apa yang telah di-katakan oleh Y.A.B. Tengku Perdana Menteri di-Free School itu. Kami tidak membangkang menggunakan bahasa Inggeris dalam Pejabat pada masa sekarang ini, tetapi mengapa

bahasa2 lain tidak di-gunakan di dalam pejabat? Kalau bahasa Inggeris sahaja di-gunakan tetapi bahasa lain tidak di-benarkan di-guna, maka kami merasai ini adalah tidak 'adil — dan apa yang saya kata bahasa2 lain itu ada-lah bahasa rakyat kita boleh di-katakan kebanyakan ra'ayat kita maseh menggunakan bahasa sendiri. Oleh kerana bahasa Inggeris telah dipelajari atau di-terima oleh satu golongan ra'ayat dalam Negara kita, maka harus kita guna — kegunaan-nya juga dalam pejabat dan dalam Dewan. Saya merasai hanya melalui chara yang bebas ini dan tidak menggunakan chara yang menekan, maka ini akan menchapai perpaduan dalam golongan ra'ayat. Kami tidak bersetuju juga kalau Kerajaan tidak membenarkan bahasa Inggeris bahasa2 lain di-gunakan.... (interrupted).

Member for Bayan Lepas (Enche Ismail bin Hashim): On point of order. Saya rasa masa'alah bahasa lain tidak timbul dalam Dewan ini dan perkara ini akan dapat di-bentangkan dalam parlimen dan kuatkuasa untuk membenarkan kegunaan bahasa lain itu ada-lah hak dan bukan-lah..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Saya telah berkali2 memberi chadangan yang berbunyi 'boleh-kah bahasa Inggeris di-masokkan dalam notis Kerajaan'. Kalau tuan2 berchadang hendak membahath soal bahasa, sila kemukakan satu chadangan baru. Tolong fahamkan.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menjelaskan berkenaan dengan masa'alah yang..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Kalau ada satu2 perkara, tuan harus minta kebenaran dari saya untuk membentangkan sebagai-nya.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mohon menjelaskan. Pada pendapat saya..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Kalau ada apa2 perkara yang tuan hendak jelaskan keluar daripada Usul asal ini..... (interrupted).

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tidak keluar.

Mr. Speaker: Maka tuan kena minta kebenaran daripada saya. Bila Tuan Speaker beruchap, sa-orang Ahli itu hendak-lah dudok.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Terima kaseh.

Mr. Speaker: Kalau tuan hendak mengemukakan satu2 — kot ada kena mengena dengan Usul ini, maka tuan boleh minta kebenaran daripada saya.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau Perikatan menyatakan hanya bahasa Melayu boleh di-gunakan dalam pejabat Kerajaan, bahasa Inggeris tidak boleh di-gunakan, kami juga menentang, alasan kami ia-lah bahasa Kebangsaan mesti benar2 di-gunakan dan lain2 bahasa juga di-gunakan. Tetapi sekarang mengapa bahasa Inggeris sahaja yang di-sebut, bahasa2 lain tidak disebut?

Mr. Speaker: Harus membenarkan semua bahasa ada-lah satu masa'alah yang lain daripada Usul ini.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Alasannya..... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Saya bachakan balek Usul ini kepada tuan. Usul ini berbunyi "That this House affirms and fully supports the view expressed by the Honourable the Prime Minister in Penang on October 21st, 1966, that:-

"The use of the English Language in Malaysia must continue. If we were to substitute English altogether with the National Language the machinery of Government would be thrown out of gear",

and in consequence thereon we urge the State Government to continue the present practice". Ini Usul yang telah di-pinda, yang telah di-terima. Kalau tuan hendak berchakap tentang ini 'of issuing an English version of certain Circulars and Notices whenever and wherever it is considered desirable and necessary to prevent the machinery of Government from being thrown out of gear', biarlah kalau tuan hendak membahathnya saya terangkan sedikit daripada kandungan chadangan ini — ia-lah menyokong ucapan Y.A.B. Perdana Menteri supaya 'English' itu di-gunakan di-dalam Notis2 dan Circular2 sebagai di-kehendaki oleh chadangan yang telah di-pinda.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia begini. Tetapi saya perchaya kami harus mempunyai peluang untuk mengemukakan alasan mengapa kita menentang Usul ini. Kalau tidak di-beri peluang untuk kami mengemukakan alasan kami, itu tidak boleh jadi.

Mr. Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya tadi tahankan tuan memberikan alasan. Saya ini, hokom saya ini membuat keputusan dalam Majlis ini, tolong ambil perhatian sedikit. Kalau tuan hendak membuat alasan, saya tidak membuat sebarang alasan yang

berkenaan dengan Usul ini. Selama2-nya alasan itu keluar daripada Usul yang di-bahathkan. Kerana atoran dan peratoran, kita mesti jalankan.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, mithal-nya saya kata begini — kami menentang Usul ini kerana bahasa lain tidak di-benarkan di-guna dalam pejabat Kerajaan. Boleh-kah di-katakan begini?

Mr. Speaker: Itu, saya nanti beri keputusan.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Nanti ganggu lagi. Dalam Negara kita, bahasa Melayu di-jadikan bahasa Kebangsaan dan bahasa Perantaraan — ini ada-lah perlu dan sesuai.

Chief Minister: Itu tipu sahaja.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Benar.

Chief Minister: Mulut berchakap, hati itu lain.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Mr. Khor Peng Seah): Serupa. Tiap2 ra'ayat mempunyai kewajipan mempelajari bahasa Kebangsaan dan mempunyai kewajipan menguasai alat bahasa ini untuk mendorong perpaduan ra'ayat. Semua golongan ra'ayat dalam Negara kita harus mempunyai sikap yang betul terhadap bahasa — ya'itu yang pertama, menyokong bahasa Melayu menjadi bahasa Kebangsaan atau pun bahasa Perantaraan untuk mendorong perpaduan ra'ayat.

Yang kedua, tidak menentukan bahasa2 lain termasuk bahasa Inggeris. Oleh kerana bahasa Inggeris telah di-terima oleh satu golongan ra'ayat di-Negara kita, maka dengan bahasa ini-lah mereka dapat mengeluarkan fikiran2-

nya. Kalau dalam Dewan, kita bemarkan bahasa Inggeris dan bahasa2 lain itu digunakan kerana dengan bahasa2 ini mereka menggunakan mengeluarkan fikiran2 mereka dengan mudah. Jadi, kalau Kerajaan menggunakan bahasa Inggeris di-dalam Notis2 dan Circular2, saya perchaya lebeh senang mereka memaham keputusan Kerajaan. Begitu juga terhadap gulungan ra'ayat yang mempelajari bahasa yang lain. Ada orang menganggap kalau selain daripada bahasa Kebangsaan juga dapat digunakan seperti bahasa Inggeris dan lain2 maka akan halang perkembangan bahasa Kebangsaan. Tetapi saya anggap ini ada-lah salah kerana kalau Kerajaan dapat mempunyai satu sikap membenarkan penggunaan bahasa yang lain — maka ra'ayat yang mempelajari bahasa2 lain itu, akan mempelajari juga bahasa Kebangsaan untuk kepentingan perpaduan ra'ayat. Saya perchaya kalau melalui chara begini, chara yang tidak menekan bahasa lain, maka bahasa Kebangsaan akan kembang lebeh chepat dan lebeh berkesan — kerana kita tidak dapat memaksa sa-sa-orang itu menerima sesuatu faham. Dengan chara tekan dan paksa tidak dapat mengubah sesuatu faham manusia. Dalam Negara kita ada juga anasir2 penjajah pada hari ini — maseh mahu mengokohkan bahasa Inggeris untuk menekan bahasa Kebangsaan dan bahasa2 lain. Peristiwa yang begini adalah anasir yang merbahaya kepada Negara kita, harus kita awasi dan membasmi mereka.

Member for Glugor (Enche Aziz Ibrahim): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to say a few words on the Motion as it stands, after amending it, in supporting the Prime Minister's speech made at the Penang Free School on 21st October. I was there in the school. The use of the national language in the future because of its importance, as

stated by the Prime Minister, is very true. To me, what he actually meant at the Penang Free School on that day was to use wherever possible the English language because, let us all agree, the English language is an international thing. And support should be given, as we have agreed to do, because it is used in many spheres in many parts of the world as regards commerce and every way of life where the English language has been found to be necessary.

Now, in today's Motion as it stands it does not mean to me that the national language, bahasa kebangsaan — as we have put that 'wherever and whenever necessary to use English also' — which we have built, not now, not after Merdeka, but many, many years back, even before Merdeka, should continue to be supported. So therefore I would like Members, my colleagues — of course, on this side the Motion has been amended and agreed to — all the Members on the opposite bench to give fuller support to this national language, bahasa kebangsaan, that is, Malay, because it has been used in the country very widely in many other States. Of course, in Penang the language was only used more after Independence. But many other States have used Malay as the national language in many Government proceedings. That we cannot deny. I do not agree that the national language will be difficult to use or to implement after all we have done in our State and in the country, where thousands of dollars have been used in its campaign and its publicity, and where many races and communities have learned the language. We have this bahasa kebangsaan, Malay language, well spoken not only in our country, but it is being used by nearly 100 million people around us. It is understood, conversation takes place; and many places have been

using it around us; even in parts of Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia. And therefore it is a language important to our side, and many other foreign countries too, including Australia, New Zealand and Germany. Even in India, in some of the Universities they want to know the language. They are picking up. They are studying the language, and they have got classes going on to study our language. So therefore I would like to appeal again, let us all join hands and see that this national language, bahasa kebangsaan, Malay, will be widely used. And treasure the bahasa kebangsaan because it is not, as I say very difficult to implement it. In fact we have already done it. It is only to study more and master more, so that by 1967 all of us can be ready for the language. That is all.

Member for Tasek Glugor (Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil): Tuan Speaker, chadangan yang di-kemukakan dalam Dewan ini ia-lah oleh Yang Berhormat Ahli Kawasan Kota; sepatutnya Yang Berhormat Ahli Kawasan Kota itu hendaklah menimbang dengan seluas2-nya.....(interrupted).

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker Sir, I thought we had already amended the Motion.

..Mr. Speaker: Chadangan Ahli Kawasan Kota tidak ada sekarang: chadangan yang di-pinda sekarang.

Member for Tasek Glugor (Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil): Tuan Speaker, tiap2 sa-orang daripada kita tentu-lah bersetuju bahawa soaln bahasa ini ada-lah satu soaln yang rumit, bukan sahaja keamanan Negara akan terancam tetapi jiwa juga telah menjadi korban di-setengah2 Negeri, apakala soaln Bahasa ini di-perdebatkan.

Sebagai sa-orang Ahli Majlis Dewan Undangan Negeri yang dipilih oleh ra'ayat, maka saya rasa ada-lah jadi kewajipan saya untuk menghindarkan masa'alah yang boleh membangkitkan soal salah faham. Tuan Speaker, ada-kah Ahli Dewan Undangan ini telah membawa dalam pertimbangan yang sewajar-nya apabila mereka2 itu hendak mengemukakan satu2 chadangan di-hadapan kita ini? Masa'alah2 yang harus di-timbangkan bukan sahaja masa'alah yang Bahasa Inggeris itu hendaklah di-kekalkan atau tidak, tetapi jalan yang sebaik2-nya, Tuan Speaker, ia-lah memikirkan bagaimana kita hendak membentokkan perasaan2 ra'ayat daripada meliputi perasaan daripada Crisis2.

Tuan Speaker, sudah sepuluh tahun semenjak Tanah Ayer kita ini Merdeka dan kita telah membuat beberapa perchubaaan dan berusaha untuk menghadapi soaln bahasa ini. Tetapi, alangkah malang-nya bila sahaja perasaan melonjak daripada urat ada pula gulungan yang chuba menghapus-nya. Ada pula gulungan2 yang chuba menghapus dan menghindar soaln masa'alah2 ini. Tadi konon-nya ada sa-orang Ahli2 daripada kita ini chuba hendak menyokong di-atas perchakapan Yang Amat Berhormat Tengku Perdana Menteri di-sekolah Penang Free itu, tetapi saya maseh churiga lagi sama-ada sokongan yang di-buatkan oleh Ahli itu tadi ada-kah untuk hendak meninggi atau pun hendak merendah. Sesiapa-kah diantara kita ini yang tidak ketahui atas kepentingan Bahasa Inggeris itu sebagai suatu bahasa di-permainkan dalam Dewan Ra'ayat? Tuan Speaker, kita sebagai satu Bangsa yang Merdeka lagi berdaulat, kita harus menerima apa yang di-katakan oleh Perdana Menteri 'Bahasa Malaysia' sehingga menjadi satu bahasa yang penting kepada apa bangsa juga di-dalam

dunia ini. Tetapi, alang-kah sedehnya bila di-pekerja dengan sun-goh2-nya untuk melangkah beber-apa langkah ka-hadapan bagi me-ngembangkan Bahasa Kebangsaan, ada Ahli yang chuba hendak me-langkahkan ka-belakang. Tuan Speaker, sebak-nya Ahli yang telah mengatakan kita di-dalam hujah2-nya supaya kita meletak-kan sebelah soal2 sentiment dan politik, tetapi, Tuan Speaker, Ahli2 itu sendiri yang menjadi sa-orang yang terpelajar di-dalam Bahasa Inggeris telah mengemukakan cha-dangan2 itu dan tahu-lah saya ka-lau ia sa-orang pelajar Bahasa Tiong Hwa atau bahasa lain dari-pada bahasa Inggeris. Tuan Speaker, memandang kepada Ahli itu, dengan chadangan yang telah di-letakkan, saya tidak mahu menganggap chadangan2 itu sebagai dari perasaan sentiment-nya dan saya tidak ada nampak lain sebab dengan mana chadangan yang di-kemukakan itu ada-lah soalan daripada perasaan sentiment dan juga politik-nya.

Pada akhir-nya Tuan Speaker, jangan-lah hendak-nya ada ahli2 di-dalam Dewan ini chuba 'mem-baling batu dan menyembunyikan tangan' dan 'sambil memancing di-ayer yang keroh'. Akibat-nya Tuan Speaker, pada masa yang di-tuju ta' kena, yang di-pancing ta' dapat.

Member for Kepala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah, A.M.N.): Tuan Speaker, saya per-bati bahasa yang sama tidak ada lagi; apa yang sudah di-akui yang sudah di-beri timbangan, maka se-mua-nya itu tidak ada bangkit lagi, chuma masa hendak melaksanakan, waktu-nya — ada perkara yang tidak boleh di-jalankan. Bukan-kah begitu Tuan Speaker? Saya tidak perchaya-lah. Dalam menjalankan tugas, Y.T.M., apa juga perkara2 yang telah dan yang akan di-buat, ia tidak menghindar, ia mesti buat

terus. Takut kalau tidak sampai waktu-nya ada perkara2 yang tidak boleh di-buat, kalau hendak di-buat, di-buatkan dengan di-luah itu tidak baik; maka sebab itu-lah sehingga sampai waktu kita hen-dak mendapatkan ke-Merdekaan ini pun mesti hendak bersungut, mesti di-perintah. Jadi begitu-lah keadaan-nya yang kita pandang pada malam ini. Saya sokong ke-rana timbul daripada puncha-nya ia-lah ucapan Tengku manakala ia beruchap tempoh hari; kalau di-jalankan terus dengan Bahasa Ke-bangsaan, kalau ada perkara2 yang tidak dapat di-jalankan, boleh jadi ini-lah timbul-nya Usul kemudian datang-lah pindaan. Maka kese-mua pindaan ini jadi pula Asal. Jadi, saya rasa tidak ada perkara yang rumit pada kita, bahkan perkara ini tidak menjadi satu ke-putusan yang mutlamat betul2, apa yang di-buat di-Parlimen ka-lau-lah putus di-sini mesti di-beri jadi kalau bagaimana sekali pun, tentu manakala ucapan2 Yang Teramat Mulia itu di-Penang Free School itu tentu-lah ucapan-nya itu penting di-masa hadapan, dan ini tentu sahaja saya sokong penoh.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier on this evening when I was introducing my Motion, which is now defeated and no longer exists — and we are now discussing the amended Motion (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: Which became the original Motion. It is no longer your Motion.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): It is no longer mine. It is now the Government's Motion.

I was attacked by the Honour-able Member for Bayan Lepas. And I think the Honourable Mem-ber for Tasek Glugor, although he

spoke after the amendment, and the Honourable Member for Ka-pala Batas also speaking, had not changed directions.

I urged this House earlier not to be emotional, not to be senti-mental. They said, 'Don't lose heart over this case.' But don't lose your head over this case. You have changed the whole situation. Sir, this present amended Motion is — the only words I can use, with your permission, quickly. I think the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam can translate it bet-ter than I can; but the Hokkien says — '*Kuak yeoh tao bay kow bah*'. It means..... (interrupt-ed).

Mr. Speaker: That is not the language of the Standing Orders.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, the nearest I can translate it, of course, is 'humbug', because what has happened is they have taken off the head and then put the head of a goat, which is the first part of my Motion, over the meat and the body of a dog.

Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik): Diamond cuts diamond.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): So, Sir, every single remark that has hitherto been referred to as I suppose we could if we were emotional, talking about *jus soli* and all that kind of thing, turn back on the Government because this is now the State Govern-ment's Motion. Sir, however, we are merciful. The hour is getting late. I promised you. It was not my fault. But if the Honourable the Chief Minister had taken his own advice to us earlier in the day over the Motion brought by the Honourable Member for Jelu-tong, when he asked us not to be a jellyfish, and said 'oppose', and

opposed our Motion we would have all gone to bed by now. But because we couldn't do it we *golek* round and *pusing* all over the place until now I don't think many people know what is what. We on the Opposition more or less predicted. (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: I must correct one thing, when you said 'not every-body would know what that is. I think I know it. That is why I approved it.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I have great de-ference to you; and I am sure this Assembly could not possibly have gone on without your direction. Sir, otherwise really we would have steered right into Chain Ferry Road by now.

Sir, we on this side of the House almost predicted every single step that has happened this evening. But we did not know, of course, it had to be the Honourable Mem-ber for Bagan Ajam to make the amendment, and the Honourable Member for Butterworth to second the amendment. Sir, it proves one thing. The Honourable the Chief Minister earlier said he had two feelings; and I hope now he has only one feeling; and that is that it is all to the good for us to air a very important and very ticklish subject in this House; and with a certain amount of humour you give and take, because, Sir, if we do not allow the people to talk about such a delicate subject in this House what will happen, of course, is that you are closing the door of democracy to the people. And what will happen will be that having denied the people the chance by true democratic process to discuss this question of langu-age we may well reap the revolu-tionary prepared by those who tionary whirlwind prepared by those who speak better *bahasa*

kebangsaan than some other language. So, Sir, another thing too: Having discussed this matter I personally am very happy to find that all the members of the Alliance now must vote for the amended Motion.

Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin che Chik): No wooden puppets.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Yes, Sir, this time it is a wooden puppet; but unfortunately I pulled one of the strings.

Sir, I am going to oppose this Motion although it was an amendment of my Motion because I have said that the amendment makes a mockery of my original Motion; and it makes meaningless the words and the promise made by the Honourable the Prime Minister. Sir, I am sure the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang is left behind as a master of semantics to take care of what I am going to say.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): You need somebody to look after you.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): But, Sir, I am surprised that the Member for Bagan Ajam did not consult the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang, because, Sir, the amended Motion is in actual fact meaningless and a mockery. On the first part they used the words which I used. They were too tired to think of other words, or too tired to look at the speech made by the Tunku where they could choose other references —

"That this House affirms and fully supports the view expressed by the Honourable the Prime Minister in

Penang on October 21st, 1966, that the use of the English language in Malaysia must continue — must continue"

But it goes on to say —

"and in consequence thereon we urge the State Government to continue the present practice of issuing an English version of certain circulars and notices whenever and wherever it is considered desirable and necessary to prevent the machinery of Government from being thrown out of gear."

Sir, there is a world of difference between the words "must continue" and the words "whenever and wherever it is necessary". So it goes to show, Sir, that in amending this Motion the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam did honestly carry out what the Tunku in actual fact meant. Therefore, Sir, that is why I stated that the amended Motion — I have only one word, and the only proper way — is *Kuak yeoh tao bay kow bah*.

Mr. Speaker: What is that?

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Hambug.

Sir, it is a pity. And this is another instance. The Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang asked me earlier, "What do you mean by 'not active'?" Sir, if the Government had taken the initiative and moved this Motion on its own, instead of trying to attack my original Motion, twisting it, and using it because they saw something good in my Motion so they must adopt it. But because it is my Motion they cannot adopt it. They have to change it but make it worse and make it into a mess. I cannot help it. But if the Government sincerely and honestly had taken it up in the spirit of the

speech made by the Tunku and had made a Motion of this type we on this part of the House would have made certain amendments to make it possible for us to accommodate ourselves to move ahead.

But, Sir, I am very happy to see now that the Honourable Member for Bayan Lepas supports that English must continue. That is very good. He would prefer, I am sure, to oppose it. But this is now a Government Motion. Sir, it is because of this inconsistency in the amendment, and it is all this deliberate misleading of the public that the Government is now really supporting the purpose and the intention of the Honourable the Prime Minister, that we on this side of the House, in spite of the fact that the amended Motion looks almost the same as the Motion that we used but has not got the same sentiment, nor the same purpose, and certainly not the same sincerity, that we cannot support it.

Chief Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, who is making a mockery of the Tunku's speech is for the public to judge. It is most regrettable that the Honourable Member for Kota should have missed the most important part of Tunku's speech. I am not reading the mind of Tunku; but I am sure that if we were to read very carefully what Tunku meant to say was — that is the second part — that if we were to substitute English altogether with the national language the machinery of the Government would be thrown out of gear. We are not dropping English altogether, and that is why we support the amended Motion. And this is where the Opposition always — particularly the Member for Kota, an eloquent speaker — are able to twist the minds, fortunately not here but over there.

Mr. Speaker: And he even used the Chinese language.

Chief Minister: Yes, 'yeoh bah' atau 'kow boey'. Anyway, Sir, we are not running away from what the Tunku has said. In fact I think we are very close. The unfortunate part is that the Member for Kota is trying to make a mockery of Tunku's sincerity and Tunku's intention that because he fears the machinery of the Government may be thrown out of gear if we totally substitute English with the national language. And that is why our amended Motion, which is now the original Motion states that we would like to continue the present system because we felt that there are quite a number of matters where we must use English, for example, Gazette Notifications, our Land Code, and also pertaining to judicial matters. We have to use English until such time that it is to be decided at Parliament next year. So to say that we here are making a mockery of Tunku's speech is most unfortunate.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Oh, terrible.

Chief Minister: Terrible; very terrible. And it is up to the people to judge who is making a mockery. And this is a very common practice of the Opposition. They always choose the better part of the flesh and then forget the others, making a mockery of the whole matter. So here the important part is that Tunku is worried that if we were to substitute altogether the English language by the national language the machinery of the Government may get out of gear. So what we say is, 'Continue the present system because there are matters where we feel that we have to use English'.

So we are not going away from what Tunku is telling us. So I think, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amended Motion is a very sensible one.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in favour of the amended Motion. I would start off by asking what were the motives that impelled the Opposition Party on the right to bring forward this Motion. And I would refer especially to the introductory remarks of the Honourable Member for Kota. He asked us to forget the undertones and the overtones, and the political implications of this Motion of his which he put forward, and which has been subsequently amended by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam. And he also pointed out that this issue is charged with emotion, which is quite correct. I in fact appreciated the words of caution that he uttered in debating this subject. Then he went on to touch on Article 152 with which we are all very, very familiar. And he referred to the Committee of Review's Report, and touched especially on paragraphs 174 and 176. and went on to castigate it as an iniquitous Report. And he accused the Honourable the Chief Minister of having been a member and a party to that Report. Of course, it is a fact that the Honourable the Chief Minister was a member of that Committee of Review. But I would like to recall some earlier facts about what has been happening to education in this country. I would also like to recall to the memory of the Members in this House that our change in education policy did not—I repeat 'not'—start with the Committee of Review's Report. It started with the Razak Report in 1956. And I believe I am not mistaken when I say that the Honourable Member

for Kota was a member and a party, and subscribing party, to that original Report.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): A good one.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): What has been happening in this country since 1956 is a development of the ideas contained in that Report. Well, maybe there have been a few changes. I see the Honourable Member shaking his head. It is possible. We must remember that politics is not a stable or stagnant matter. Politics is always in a continual state of flux, though our honourable friend here thinks that he is like a tree rooted to his seat. I believe that he has more sense than a tree. Now, as I said, politics is a matter of change. Ideas changed; circumstances change. The Honourable Member for Kota laughs very loudly; but if I am not mistaken he has changed already three times. How many more times he is going to change, I do not know. But then I did not account that to him for discredit because it is only very small minds that are incapable of change. And change is a condition of human existence. And change can be for the better if we are intelligent.

Now, I was pointing out that the Honourable Member for Kota was himself a member of the Razak Committee which reviewed education, and which formulated policy which is now beginning to have its effects. If in 1967, the coming year, we are thinking of making a full use of the national language it is partly because of the recommendations contained in that original Report by Razak, of which the Honourable Member for Kota was a member. Then why is it that at this moment he has chosen

parts of the speech from the Prime Minister to bring in a Motion here? It is my view—and I think it is the view of the Members of this part of the House—that this is a political Motion, which he is fully entitled to make. But we must be aware, and we must fully understand the consequences of that Motion. And it is precisely because we understand every move of his that we on this side have decided that the Motion as it stands is not worthy of getting our support, but it needs amendment. And that is why the amendment has been made by the Honourable Member for Bagan Ajam in a way that is acceptable to us. I have earlier, when I spoke on the amendment, pointed out that that all-important phrase 'in the future' is very dangerous—a future to which we in this House should not commit ourselves because that is something which is not within our jurisdiction. It is something that is in the jurisdiction of the Dewan Ra'ayat. And if they are going to decide something there we will be bound by it. That is one reason why we decided to throw out that phrase 'in the future'.

Now, the Honourable Member for Kota has also pointed out that the amendment emasculates the original Motion. To some extent it is true because he uses the word 'must', and we use the words 'whenever it is desirable and necessary'. This we consider to be a very necessary amendment.

Now, some of the other comments on this Motion have been, I must say, a little uninformed. Malay has always been a national language in this country—always. Whether it was statutorily defined or not, it was the language that we all spoke when we spoke to

other people. When an Indian went to a market he spoke Malay. When a Malay went to a Chinese shopkeeper he spoke Malay. It has always been a national language. But this is important to remember: in half the country it has always been also an official language. In the former non-Federated States Malay was the official language. I am sure no Honourable Members of this House will care to contradict that in Perlis, Kedah, Trengganu and Johore Malay was always the official language. It was only in the Federated Malay States and the former Straits Settlements that for historical reasons English was the official language.

Now we come to the purpose of this amendment, and even the original Motion, which is merely that English should be used in certain circulars and notices, and so on. We differ from the Opposition on the right that it must always be used. But we agree that it can be used whenever it is desirable and whenever it is necessary. And I am sure many Members on this side, as at least the Opposition from the right, have placed an importance on the use of English, which the Motion in its original form tries to quote from the words of the Honourable the Prime Minister. Well, it is not understood, at least by Members on the extreme left here, that English is not a language of only yesterday or today. It has been here, for example, in Penang, used for the last 180 years. So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to quote a short passage:

"English by virtue of its international importance will not be neglected by the Malaysian Government as well as, I believe, by either Indonesia, Singapore or the Philippines. In Malaysia English is

taught in all schools, and it will remain one of the principal media of instruction in the University of Malaya for many years to come."

Who says this? Tuan Syed Nasir who is one of the chief apostles of Malay. And he says that. Therefore, I would ask the Honourable Members of the more responsible and reasonable Opposition to realize that we are not trying to just throw out their Motion completely. But we want to preserve the better part of their Motion. And we made the amendment here itself because we think that the amendment is really what is good for the State of Penang. And we must in this House not commit ourselves to a course of action which may become *ultra vires* after August 31st 1967. That is why, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the amended Motion is the only one that can accept.

I started by asking what were the motives of the Opposition in proposing this Motion at all. I find that in this House we have a new language. I will try to read it as well as I can — *Lu tiaw yeoh tiaw bay kow bah*.

Mr. Speaker: I think this is out of order.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Alright, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I won't continue with that because I remember an Indian friend of mine who prided himself. . . . (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: That is also out of order.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Sir, I am still using English.

An Indian friend of mine who prided himself on his knowledge of Chinese went to a coffee shop and ordered coffee in Chinese. And

the shop-keeper looked at him and said in Malay, "What do you want, a cow? We don't supply cows in this coffee shop", because it seems the tone of the voice was: he asked for a cup of coffee, and it sounded as if he was ordering a cow. So I will stop my reading of Chinese. But I am reminded of a little proverb in the Indian language which I will not put into Indian, but I will just translate into English:

"It seems that when somebody wants to cause mischief he goes and pinches the baby and makes it cry; and when the baby cries he goes and takes up the baby and tries to soothe it. But at the same time as he is soothing it he continues pinching it, so it cries louder."

I am wondering now if the Honourable Members of the U.D.P. Opposition are not precisely trying to create a similar situation here. They say, 'Let us be calm. This language question is very dangerous. Don't touch it.' Then they bring it here and they debate it at full length. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not opposed to it because I think there is some justification in what the Honourable Member for Kota said last of all — that even in issues of this nature it is better that there should be some kind of a form of expression, what they call safety valve, so that the thing gets expressed, than sort of allow it to be compressed and then have revolutionary winds from the extreme left wing to suddenly burst open the whole problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully support the amended Motion.

Question put and amended Motion agreed to.

(G) Motion by the Honourable Dr. Lim Chong Eu.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, very frankly, whereas the previous Motion was a simple straightforward Motion, but unfortunately became very complex and complicated by the interpretations put to it, I must admit at the very outset that this Motion is, unlike the first one, complex, and it is touchy, and it is emotional. The motive, Sir, is to separate the men from the boys. The motive, Sir, is to separate those who will continue to bluff the people and at the same time talk nice to others from those who are honest and who are sincere.

Sir, for many years I have carried personally the burden of the attack levelled at me by — I wouldn't say extremists — those who are less informed in the U.M.N.O. as the *hantu* — the man who fights for Chinese language. And this idea has been perpetuated, and it has been built up by opportunists in the M.C.A. wing of the Alliance. The M.I.C. have been very fair, and they kept very quiet. For example, Sir, last Sunday the M.C.A. sent two of its important officials to Penang to talk to M.C.A. members and leaders in Penang over this language issue. And they were telling the members of the M.C.A. that the present policy advocated by the M.C.A. Central Working Committee to attain a more liberal use of Chinese in selected fields such as Government Notices, forms and announcements is the correct policy, and a fair policy. And if my information is correct they used terms which can frighten people if they were used in public.

Sir, this present crisis in the language situation in the country is not engineered by me in particular, nor by my Party, nor in fact by any of the Opposition Parties, but by the partner of the Alliance itself, namely the M.C.A.

The present controversy over the Chinese language, and the feelings over language which the Honourable Member for Bayan Lepas referred to earlier are being fanned, not by us in the Opposition but by certain members in the M.C.A. Sir, that will clearly indicate that the fault or the fears, and the dangers that are inherent in the language issue do not necessarily lie outside the Alliance, but they can be found inside the Alliance.

Sir, the Honourable the Chief Minister in the course of this meeting of this House has weathered many storms. We on our side have thrown all sorts of things at him. I think it is not fair for him to say that we twist him, in my eloquence I twist him. Even a man like Churchill says that 'I have not always been wrong.' But I have actually, as in the game of cricket, bowled him some crooked balls. And I must say he has batted very well.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Straight bat.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Oh, not quite. Sometimes cow stroke too. But he has batted well. And in the process of batting he has managed to get his team of front-benchers and back-benchers all in a nice position. The back-benchers prefer to stay at the back; won't come forward. The front-benchers are happy where they are, and won't go backwards. They are all quite happy. So I must say the support given to the Honourable the Chief Minister by his colleagues has been one of the interesting demonstrations of this meeting of the House. Therefore, Sir, it is with this knowledge that I bring a very complex and delicate Motion to this House for debate.

Sir, properly speaking, of course, the M.C.A. members of the Alliance should be moving this Motion; just as with the last Motion, the Alliance should have moved it. But as usual they are a little bit slower, a little bit less active, and a little bit more reluctant. To their friends they like to tell them, 'We are nice chaps, all'. To their enemies they say, 'We are not too bad.' But generally speaking in the back rooms they talk very big. They put big headlines. If I translate it—otherwise you will rule me out of order—'We are fighting.... (interrupted).

Mr. Speaker: You must ask my permission if you want to speak any other language.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, I ask your permission.

I mean this quotation you see—big headlines: "*Ma hua kung hui ch'eng — chin hua-wen chiao-yii*" — M.C.A. fights for Chinese language; things like that.

However, Sir, after all that talk to win the support of the community, this is the expert way of winning a seat, my honourable friend from Bayan Lepas; not my method. My method: people get confused. The way to win a seat is to bluff in a big way; not to bluff in a small way; or to tell the truth as I do.

Chief Minister: Gospel truth.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Gospel Truth?

Sir, for me I speak the truth. And for other people they can judge whether it is true or not by any other religion which they profess. But as far as I am concerned

I speak the truth; and specifically I think that is how the record stands.

Sir, after all the deliberations that have been made by this powerful body of the M.C.A. they have come out with what I assure you large sections of the Chinese community are not happy about. They have come out from this with a tiny little mouse. And this tiny little mouse is a statement and a policy that they will work to attain a more liberal use of Chinese in selected fields such as Government notices, forms and announcements.

Sir, my Motion is complex. I admit it because I ask that this House fully support the Honourable the Chief Minister in his speech which he made as a member of the M.C.A. Central Working Committee on 18th October, 1966, to attain a more liberal use of Chinese in selected fields — in Government notices, forms and announcements. And in consequence thereon we call upon the State Government to make more liberal use of the Chinese language in the notices, forms and announcements of the Penang State Government as from today.

Sir, as I had mentioned earlier, the Honourable Minister of Education is also going around the country assuring people that other languages will not suffer, and they will not be made to suffer if and when the time comes for Malay to become the sole official language. This assurance has gone on. The Honourable the Prime Minister has said it. And he also allowed the term 'liberal use'; hence this idea was taken up by the Central Working Party of the M.C.A. And I feel, Sir, that if the Members of this House really support the Honourable the Chief Minister they

should give him face in the Chinese way, and support him and allow him to carry on in what he has pledged. Otherwise you will put the Honourable the Chief Minister in a very difficult position. Sir, it is not much. I think the Honourable the Chief Minister was wise until this Motion was adopted. In his reply to a question I asked him at the beginning of this House he had not found out what the feeling of the House was, and he told me that it was not necessary for him to put his name and post and address in the Chinese language, as has already been done by the Honourable Minister of Finance and his Political Secretary. But if the Honourable Minister of Finance can do it, and the Alliance Party have no objection, I am sure in the State Government the people will have no objection. But it is only proper that the support of the House should be obtained before the Honourable the Chief Minister replies to me in the affirmative. However, if the Honourable Members of this House cannot support the Honourable the Chief Minister then the Honourable the Chief Minister will be put in a very difficult position, and he must review this opinion.

Sir, the position is very complex and very difficult, because the Honourable Member for Sungai Pinang tried to interpret or insinuate my motive. As I said, this Motion is a direct Motion to test the sincerity and honesty of this House towards a very delicate subject. Sir, it is important for us to know that the future will be much more complicated, and very much more volatile when the language issue really begins to be taken up.

I myself quite frankly find the Resolution made by the M.C.A. Central Working Committee insi-

pid and quite useless. But even so it is an effort on their part. And even if this little effort on their part cannot be allowed to live, and cannot find any support at all, then I think that the future of the M.C.A. will be very bleak indeed; and the whole question of voting in the future will become very volatile because the M.C.A. will no longer be a champion of the language issue. And the opposition will not be taken up by us. But I am sure the opposition will be taken up much more vigorously in *bahasa kebangsaan* by our friends on the left.

So this Motion, Sir, is one which is highly charged, but at the same time one which gives this House a great chance to show that all these words professing the Alliance's desire to sustain the use of the other languages are true and honest, because if this House does not support this Motion then it will be an indication that the promises that are now made by the Alliance are just so many empty promises.

Sir, earlier on in the debate in this House one of back-benchers told me that the Tunku has already made this promise, and "why don't you just accept it." I tell you the difference between our Party and some of the Opposition Parties. Sitting next to me is the Honourable Member for Bachok. And in the last Session he very openly stood up in Parliament and said, "The difference between us and you is that we do not believe anything that the Tunku says at all. But you stupidly go on believing what he says." There is a big difference. So this type of policy statements made by responsible leaders of the Alliance, if they do not find support in prominent leaders in the

State here, means that everything is hollow, empty, meaningless.

Sir, in view of this fact, and in view of the fact that it is necessary at this stage to assure the people that what you promise them is true, and what you assure them is true, especially when it is made by so prominent a member as the Chief Minister who has every support on his side of the House, I think he has in part assured himself that he would find support from this House, and by Members of this House.

I admit, Sir, that our support is qualified, because we feel that more should be done. We find that just this little bit is being done. We are prepared to support it. We would support more. Although it is not enough, a little bit is good enough. But we would want to see what the response to this Motion is going to be, because, Sir, to amend this Motion will not only emasculate it and make it meaningless; but to amend this Motion, Sir, will mean that you are going either to face the issue and say 'Yes' or 'No', and don't go on bluffing the people, or pretend to be good to one side, and bluff the other side.

Member for Tanjong Tengah (Mr. Teh Geok Kooi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in seconding this Motion, I fully concur with my colleague. The Honourable Member for Kota is perfectly correct in bringing up this Motion which has no political motives. A wise Government always prefers that the people understand all Government notices, forms, and announcements. Our country is a newly-born country. There are still many non-Malays who are only educated in their respective languages. Should Government notices forms and announcements be only in the Na-

tional language or English, these people will be much confused, resulting in much inconveniences or complications caused to them. As a responsible Government it should try to solve this problem for the non-Malays.

Sir, I have seen in the newspaper of the 15th November that a Member of the State Assembly of Kedah, who is also an Alliance Councillor, recalled his experiences during his tour of Europe and America where he saw that in the airports, in public places, and even on advertising boards, the Chinese language was also used. In these countries the Chinese population, in comparison to our country, is very much lower. And yet their Government has seen fit to include the Chinese language; whereas in our country where one-third of the population is Chinese, our Government does not think fit to include the Chinese language on its notices, forms, and even announcements. This is indeed unfair to the non-Malays who have played a major part in getting the independence of our nation. So I urge the State Government to accept the public views by making more liberal use of the Chinese language, as it is a good thing for the Government to do. Sir, I strongly second this Motion.

Thank you.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya merasa hairan keputusan yang di-buat oleh Jawatan Kuasa Kerja MCA sekarang di-bawa oleh pemimpin UDP ka-Dewan ini. Pada masa saya melihat susunan urusan Majlis ini saya maseh berfikir ini barangkali ada-lah salah satu usul yang di-bawa oleh sa-orang Ahli dari MCA tetapi sa-telah saya bacha semula baru saya dapat tahu usul ini bukan-lah di-bawa oleh Ahli De-

wan Negeri dari Party MCA tetapi ada-lah dari bekas pemimpin MCA. Kita tidak tahu ada-kah UDP sudah mengadakan understanding dengan MCA. Kalau kedudukan bagaimana keputusan MCA yang telah di-buat pada 18hb Oktober telah di-bawa oleh Ahli dari kawasan Kota sechara usul. Pendirian MCA telah di-ketahui oleh orang ramai tetapi baru2 ini dengan keputusan mereka, mereka sudah menunjukkan lebeh jelas lagi mereka telah menjual bahasa China. Pada beberapa bulan yang lalu chawangan2 atau bahagian2 MCA telah membenarkan soal menjadikan Bahasa China bahasa kegunaan resmi atau mahu mendapat sokongan dari kalangan orang China, tetapi apabila melihat Party UMNO tidak bersetuju atau membangkang fikiran itu maka mereka tidak-lah berani lagi menyokong usul chawangan2 MCA. Pada 18hb Oktober Jawatan Kuasa Kerja Persatuan MCA telah mengadakan satu meshuarat tergempar dan meshuarat itu telah mengambil keputusan tidak mahu menyokong Bahasa China menjadi Bahasa resmi atau bahasa kegunaan resmi dan di-dalam meshuarat itu juga MCA telah mengambil ketetapan bahawa akan menentukan supaya Bahasa China dapat di-gunakan dengan lebeh luas lagi di-lapangan yang tertentu seperti notis2, borang2 permohonan2 Kerajaan dan ini telah menunjukkan pendirian MCA yang sebenar-nya. Pendirian itu ada-lah berlainan daripada apa yang telah di-katakan atau yang telah di-chakapkan dalam Pilihan Raya oleh tokoh2 MCA itu. Usul yang di-bawa oleh Ahli kawasan Kota itu ada-lah sama dengan keputusan yang di-buat oleh Jawatan Kuasa Kerja MCA. Itu telah menunjukkan pendirian terhadap bahasa di-antara ahli kawasan Kota dengan MCA tidak ada perbezaan. Pada masa lalu ahli kawasan Kota maseh menjadi pemimpin MCA

pada masa itu sebagai yang telah di-sebutkan oleh ahli dari kawasan Sungei Pinang Ahli kawasan Kota telah menjualkan bahasa Tionghua, Bahasa China. Kemudian setelah beliau keluar dari MCA beliau pun menyokong soal Bahasa China untuk memenangi undi2 di-kalangan orang China tetapi pada hari ini.....(interrupted.)

Member for Sungei Pinang Enche D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I never said that the Honourable Member for Kota has sold the Chinese language down the river, or anything like that. I never made any statement to that effect.

Member for Jelutong (Enche Tan Hock Hin): Just now he said that the Member for Kota is one of the Signatories of the Razak Report. Am I right?

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, nampaknya hari ini sudah terang pendirian ahli kawasan Kota kerana perbezaan konon-nya terhadap bahasa di-antara Ahli kawasan Kota dengan MCA sudah tidak ada lagi maka nampak-nya Ahli kawasan Kota sudah boleh pergi kepada MCA dan menjadi tokoh MCA lagi. Baru2 ini chawangan2 UDP telah meluluskan usul ia-itu Bahasa China menjadi bahasa resmi dan pada hari itu juga kita melihat Pejabat2 UDP kita akan dapati kain di-gantung di-pintu pejabat2 UDP yang berkata mahu berjuang kepada layanan yang sama terhadap berbagai2 bahasa. Tetapi pemimpin2 mereka menyokong ketetapan MCA di-Dewan ini. Saya tidak tahu bagaimana perasaan anggota2 UDP yang mengusulkan bahawa Bahasa China harus menjadi bahasa resmi. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya merasa sangsi terhadap kejujuran ahli kawasan Kota yang membawa usul ini. Dengan usul Ahli kawasan Kota ini beliau menuntut

bahasa Tionghua di-gunakan dalam borang permohonan dan lain2 sahaja. Itu hanya satu maksud sahaja ia-itu mahu memancing pengundi atau mendapat sokongan daripada kalangan ra'ayat tetapi sebenarnya itu tidak dapat menyelesaikan soal2 bahasa. Kami berpendapat soal bahasa harus diselesaikan dengan memperhitungkan keadaan di-negara kita ini dan kami menyokong dengan sepenoh2nya bahawa Bahasa Melayu harus menjadi bahasa kebangsaan tetapi selain daripada itu Bahasa China, Bahasa Tamil dan Bahasa Inggeris haruslah di-beri layanan yang sama dengan itu-lah perpaduan ra'ayat yang sepatutnya baru dapat di-chapai dan tidak-lah timbul lagi soal2 bahasa dan tidak ada orang boleh mengatakan itu menjadi modal pilihan raya. Terima kaseh.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak mahu berchakap banyak tentang soal bahasa dalam usul ini. Tadi telah pun saya katakan, tetapi saya mahu memberi tahu kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat dari kawasan Kota saya tentang habis2-an terhadap usul yang di-bawa oleh Ahli itu. Saya merasa terperanjat masakan UDP boleh menerima keputusan MCA, boleh menyokong penoh keputusan MCA. Keputusan MCA itu ada-lah satu keputusan yang lapok dan satu keputusan yang di-tentangi oleh pemuda2 MCA dan rakyat terbanyak. Tetapi sa-orang yang menanggap diri-nya sebagai pemimpin yang berjuang untuk bahasa Tionghua, ia-itu Yang Berhormat Ahli dari Kawasan Kota, ia mengambil keputusan MCA itu seperti emas dan menyuarakan menyokong sepenoh2-nya terhadap keputusan MCA ini. Saya tidak tahu ada-kah anggota2 UDP itu juga menyokong keputusan itu dan kalau pendirian UDP itu bagini

kita tidak-lah tahu yang mana MCA dan di-mana UDP..... (interrupted.)

Chief Minister: MCA di-sini.

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Mungkin, mereka kedua2 party ini sedang menjalankan dasar demokrasi, ia-itu satu badan membuat undang2 dan satu badan menjalankan undang2. UDP ada-lah sebenarnya membuat jual-beri terhadap pendirian-nya tetapi saya harap anggota2 UDP dapat memberikan satu pendirian yang lebih tegas terhadap soal ini. Kalau keputusan MCA dapat di-sokong oleh UDP saya tidak tahu apa-kah tidak boleh di-sokong-nya terhadap MCA. Mengenai soal bahasa pada hari ini..... (interrupted.)

Speaker: Bahasa apa itu? Bahasa Kebangsaan atau bahasa apa?

Member for Tanjong Selatan (Enche Khor Peng Seah): Saperti apa yang saya katakan tadi kita mempunyai satu sikap menyokong Bahasa Kebangsaan, ia-itu Melayu sebagai bahasa Kebangsaan untuk mendorong perpaduan tetapi jangan menekan bahasa2 lain. Bahasa2 lain juga harus di-beri layanan, dan pada hari ini bahasa yang lain bahasa dari ra'ayat negara kita sedang menghadapi tekanan yang hebat dari Kerajaan. Keadaan ini mungkin orang2 Melayu tidak begitu sedar kerana dalam surat2 khabar Melayu kurang kemukakan masa'alah ini. Dasar pelajaran sekarang di-setuju pada masa dahulu oleh pemimpin UDP ia-itu Yang Berhormat dari Ahli Kawasan Kota. Penekanan terhadap bahasa2 lain pada hari ini, saya merasa ia juga mempunyai tanggung-jawab. Saya perchaya kalau Kerajaan dapat memberi layanan yang sama kepada bahasa2 yang lain dan tidak mengamalkan chara yang menekan baharu-lah

dapat terchapai satu perpaduan di antara pelbagai bangsa dan membentok satu negara, yang bersatu padu. Tidak dapat kita menyatukan bahasa atau pun kebudayaan melalui paksaan. Hanya melalui proses perkembangan sejarah baru dapat terchapai. Oleh yang demikian saya menentang usul yang di-bawa oleh Ahli daripada Kawasan Kota itu. Terima kaseh.

Member for Tanjong Barat (Mr. Teh Ewe Lim): Tuan Speaker, this Motion is one very glaring instance in which we in the Opposition are capable of supporting the Honourable the Chief Minister and his Government if the actions and deeds of the Honourable the Chief Minister — and for that matter that of his Government — could convince us that they are doing things in the interest of the people. This, as any one can appreciate is so much contrary to what the die-hards and extremists and ultras within the Party in power would endeavour to paint of the Opposition that it opposes just for the sake of opposing.

Sir, I am quite sure that not only all of us, but the people throughout the State of Penang accept the Honourable the Chief Minister as the number one person in the State of Penang, apart from His Excellency the Governor. He is also the chief executive of the State Government of Penang. And certainly for such an important man no-one in the State of Penang, or outside Penang, would dare to take lightly of his pledges, assurances and promises — assurance made by the Honourable the Chief Minister you know. Further, for the respect of the Honourable the Chief Minister by the people they will certainly expect him to fulfill and to honour his pledges, assurances and promises.

Tuan Speaker, in view of the pledge made by the Honourable the Chief Minister on 18th October, 1966, to attain a more liberal use of the Chinese language from this very day — now if possible — the Chinese language can be used extensively on all notices, forms and announcements of the State Government. We on this side of the House would certainly give the Honourable the Chief Minister support because we realise a large percentage of the people in the State of Penang are Chinese-educated. This large portion of the people should on no account be denied the knowledge of information and notification from the Government. Whereas in matters of collecting taxes and other dues the Government has not hesitated to use the Chinese language, the same should therefore be applied to all Government notices, forms and announcements. For this reason, Sir, we hope to see the Honourable the Chief Minister will as a great and important man who fulfils his promises.

It should be borne in mind by all, whoever is against the usage of all languages, that the liberal use of the Chinese language on all notices, forms and announcements by the State Government is in conformity with the Constitution of the country. Any attempt to prevent such usage would be contrary to the Constitution, and would therefore be illegal and wrong. Sir, mere majority and control of the Government does not permit any Party to do things contrary to the Constitution. Until and unless true and real acceptance of the Constitution is shown in deeds, and not through sheer meaningless utterances, and also tolerance of any community over the usage of languages of other communities is upheld, then peace and harmony in our country can

really be in grave danger. We have seen such things happen in India, and in some of the newly-independent countries. And I am quite sure, very sure, that none of us inside this House, or outside this House would want such things to happen to our country.

Tuan Speaker, Sir, any one with a suspicious mind must bear in mind that there is no attempt whatsoever to reduce the importance of the Bahasa Kebangsaan through the liberal use of the Chinese language. In fact, Sir, throughout the country the people have come to accept the Bahasa Kebangsaan as the official language; and there is not the slightest doubt about the acceptance of the Bahasa Kebangsaan as such. With the acceptance of the Bahasa Kebangsaan as the official language, however, it does not permit any one or any community to suppress the languages of other communities. In fact, Sir, it is the duty of the Government to implement the pledges, promises and assurances made time and again by their own leaders, that is, the Honourable the Prime Minister and other Ministers of his Cabinet and to implement them into actions and deeds.

Sir, the usage of the other languages, including Chinese, in the past has served the country very well. And there had never been any suspicion of one community over the other. Can any one in this House prove that the usage of the Chinese language, both now or in the past, had or has ever attempted to usurp the place of any official language in our country? In fact, Sir, in the past there was never any attempt of one community to impose their likes or dislikes on another community. Our country is a multi-racial one, with all enjoying freedom of edu-

cation, religion and belief. And such freedom is enshrined in the Constitution of the country. The liberal use of the Chinese language and other languages has been prevailing in this country long before Merdeka, and long after Merdeka. Any attempt, Sir, to curb the usage of other languages is an attempt to bring in a new order to replace the existing order now prevailing under the Constitution.

If any of us care to trace the history of our country, one would be proud of the tolerance existing among the various communities and the very cosmopolitan way of life prevailing in the country. I am sure our country is one of the few countries where you find one community living next to another, and the different races mixing freely. There was no instance of suppression of one community's language by another, and there was no such thing as being branded as disloyal when one speaks his own language. Why couldn't the same spirit of tolerance and friendship prevail now? After all, let us be very honest about it. Merdeka was not sent down to us from Heaven. The three main communities, through their joint efforts, and their manifestation of unity managed to induce the colonial masters to depart from our country, and to allow us to run our own affairs. The three main communities are therefore equal partners in the birth of our young country which, as all of us are aware, later expanded to form the new nation of Malaysia. The interests of all are safeguarded and enshrined in the Constitution. It was agreed that the official language would be the Bahasa Kebangsaan; and the second language would be English, while the other languages would be given due respect and permitted to develop by themselves.

Sir, the pledge of the Honourable the Chief Minister on 18th October to attain a more liberal use of the Chinese language is certainly in conformity with the Constitution. But mere empty and hollow pledges and promises will not do. Let us put such pledges, promises and assurances into actions by immediate implementation. The best way to prove the sincerity of the Alliance is to give wholehearted support to this Motion, and to, as you know, implement all pledges, promises and assurances into action. This is more effective than sending liars all over the country to once again try to bluff and deceive the people who after all these years are now fully awoken to the true colours of the Alliance especially the M.C.A. If the M.C.A. really possess guts and sincerity, and are not spineless and leaning upon others, then they should not fear to vote for this Motion.

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, the Motion moved by the Honourable Member for Kota as it stands now indicates a certain amount of confusion in his mind. He refers to a pledge which was made by the Honourable the Chief Minister as a member of the M.C.A. Central Working Party. Surely he must appreciate the fact that the Honourable the Chief Minister is not a member of the M.C.A. Central Working Party in his official capacity. Rather he sits on the Central Working Party as a member of the M.C.A. — a partner of the Alliance Party.

Now that my position with regard to the membership of the M.C.A. Central Working Party has been clarified, I would suggest that such a motion is untenable. Any decision arrived at the Meeting of the Central Working Committee of the M.C.A. does not bind the Chief Minister in his official capa-

city. It is in fact a Party decision subscribed to by its members. In this instance this was a decision arrived at by the members of the M.C.A. Central Working Committee.

To understand my dual position it is necessary to appreciate the structure of the Alliance Party which forms the Government. The Alliance, as the name signifies, consists of three constituent parties — the UMNO, the MCA and the MIC. Each is a constituent partner of the Alliance; and as such proposals made by each Party are submitted to the National Alliance for consideration. The mere fact that a matter has been discussed by one of the constituent Parties does not necessarily mean that it has automatically become the policy of the National Alliance. In this instance the proposal came from the M.C.A., and has to be considered by the National Alliance. Therefore it would be incongruous for the Honourable Member to suggest that this House should support a decision made at a meeting of a constituent Political Party of the Alliance.

I am surprised that the Honourable Member should make such a suggestion. I have already mentioned that the Alliance consists of three partners, namely, MCA, UMNO, and MIC. As such if this House were to accept the Motion then it would necessitate a commitment on the part of the other two constituent Parties of the Alliance which did not participate in the meeting of the Central Working Committee of the MCA.

Tuan Speaker, the people in this country have supported the policies of the Alliance Party under the leadership of our beloved Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman. The three Parties have co-operated with one another, and

have developed a harmonious working relationship. It is this spirit which forms the basis of the functioning of the Alliance Party; and the policies formulated have been translated into the national objectives of the Alliance Government. Various leaders from abroad who have visited this country have often commented upon the harmonious relationship existing between our diverse people. Our ability to project this image abroad has certainly won us many friends.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clearly the intention of the honourable mover to embarrass members of my Government by introducing this Motion. I have already clarified that the decision referred to in the motion was made at a meeting of the MCA Central Working Committee; and it would therefore not be in keeping with the spirit of the Alliance to commit the other members of the Government and this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is therefore not possible at this moment to support this Motion.

Member for Tanjong Utara (Mr. Khoo Kay Por): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, in supporting the Motion moved by my colleague, the Honourable Member for Kota, I endorse what he has said. I wish to take the opportunity to speak further with more facts to substantiate the Motion.

Malaysia is a newly-independent country made up of people of various races, and Chinese are fairly predominant. The Alliance Government has often claimed that Malaysia has made a name abroad as a multi-racial society where the Government practises religious, cultural and language

tolerance. The Chinese culture has been existing more than five thousand years; and it has its valuable traditions throughout the world. To substantiate my point, the United Nations, which is the world body, recognises the Chinese language as one of five official languages to deliberate in their business. The five languages are English, Chinese, Spanish, French and Russian. It is therefore a great pity that the Government is not using Chinese as one of the official languages — a language acceptable to the world body in which Malaysia is a member nation. And she is also so much attached to this organisation, and always gives it strong support.

The M.C.A. partner of the Alliance has also openly stated the necessity of using the Chinese language at least liberally. The M.C.A. apparently does not want to hurt its senior partner. It truly suffers from considerable lack of courage and guts, and would therefore not dare to negotiate with its so-called ruling partner to allow Chinese to be used as one of the official languages. I only say 'official language' because Malay has already been accepted as the National language from time immemorial. Because the M.C.A. is inveterate in this respect their ruling partner regards them as very co-operative. In view of this the top leaders of the M.C.A., only after having been pressurised by their rank and file, would like to appeal rather nervously to the Central Government for more liberal use of the Chinese language.

The majority of the public are illiterate. And that is why the Government has spent millions of dollars for education by conducting adult classes for the citizens in order to improve their knowledge.

Our education is not so advanced, compared to that of Western countries. Most of the Universities in the Western countries are gradually setting up Chinese classes. Even though the population of Chinese in those countries is very small, yet the Governments of these countries consider it desirable to encourage the learning of the Chinese language.

In view of what I have said, Sir, there is no doubt that this language in question is a burning and complex subject. Therefore the Government has to think very carefully and seriously with regard to this issue of the Chinese language. We certainly, Sir, do not wish the language issue to become an issue so dangerous as to destroy our country. We also certainly have learnt a good lesson of the consequences from other countries. Therefore, in the interest of the public, Government forms, notices and other documents of primary importance at least should be printed in Chinese. As a matter of fact, Sir, it will give the people a lot of convenience. And the Administration will be even more efficient if Chinese is also included in the forms. If this is done it will certainly obviate a lot of unnecessary work. People literate in Chinese won't have to refer to other people for interpretation or translation. This would lighten the burden of the people who are literate only in Chinese. And we must accept the fact they form quite a majority.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in conclusion it is my earnest hope that the Government will give its sympathetic consideration to this issue, having regard to the circumstances surrounding the welfare of those people.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D. S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in rising to oppose the Motion, I think we should be clear in our minds about what is the matter that we are now debating. It is not the question of the liberal or super-liberal use of the Chinese language that we are really debating. It is the question, as the Honourable the Chief Minister has pointed out, whether this House is competent to move a Resolution on something brought up at a meeting of one of the constituent members of the Alliance.

We have no reason to doubt the facts as put up in the Resolution by the Honourable the Member for Kota. But it had already been clarified by the Honourable the Chief Minister that this was a matter brought up for decision at a meeting of the M.C.A. And it is in view, Mr. Speaker, Sir, highly improper for this House to move a Resolution on a matter brought up at a meeting of one of the parties of the Alliance. If the whole Alliance had gone through the same matter and had made a decision on it then if it comes up here for a Resolution it would be completely in order. I yield to nobody in my respect for the Chinese language — the oldest language in the world. But it is not the use of that language that we are now discussing. The Honourable the Member for Kota has put us in an invidious position. He has taken a Resolution passed at an M.C.A. meeting. He now says, "Give support to your Chief Minister: otherwise you have no faith in him." It is not so at all, because it is not in his capacity as Chief Minister that he attended the meeting there. And that has been very clarified by the Chief Minister himself.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, many years ago I read a book called "The

Prince" by Nicolai Machiavelli. I was a great admirer of that book, and used to wonder whether I would ever find a person so clever, so brilliant, and so adept in his tactics as the Prince. And I think today I have found him in the leader of the U.D.P.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, any compliment to me by the Honourable the Member for Sungei Pinang is usually a backhanded slap, because anybody who appreciates the term Machiavellian when applied to a politician is one who crosses the floor to his advantage, or to change his ground to his own advantage. Sir, that I must say is one definition which I on my own hand say that whilst not attributing to him the same extravagant praise I would without any hesitation return the compliment without the same kind of ill intent which he had in giving it to me.

Member for Sungei Pinang (Mr. D.S. Ramanathan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not understand at all. I put that as a genuine compliment. The crossing is a bit of Machiavellianism. I say that even in that he has the advantage of me.

Member for Kota (Dr. Lim Chong Eu): Sir, what advantage I have the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang will understand if he can compare. However, Sir, this debate is interesting. It has brought up and aired certain issues.

Sir, first of all I deny that this House is incompetent to discuss this issue, or to take a decision on this issue. After all, Sir, we all abide by your decision and by your rule. I submitted three Motions, and one was ruled out of order; and two of the Motions were accepted. The fact that this

Motion was accepted by the House, I think, means that it is competent to debate it.

Sir, the Honourable the Chief Minister in this House is trying very earnestly, I must say — this is one of the real strong characteristics of the Honourable the Chief Minister—to dissociate himself. This is another word which the Honourable Member for Sungei Pinang used in his psychiatric endeavours — ambivalence. I did not refer to the Honourable the Chief Minister in his official capacity because if so I could have written down 'We support the Honourable the Chief Minister in his speech which was made in his official capacity as the Chief Minister.' It was not so. So there are two persons involved. It is the person and not the officer to which this is referred. The Honourable the Chief Minister is trying to dissociate the office from the person. He himself agrees it is a very difficult position, and therefore says it does embarrass him. I agree it embarrasses him.

But this debate is also important because it gives us a chance to measure our friends on the left. We started three years ago saying that there should be a period of quarantine because we did not know whether the kapala lembu at that time was the head of a local national buffalo, or taken away from another organization at that time fighting against us. Sir, it does appear to us that in spite of the fact that the kapala lembu has been removed this period of quarantine will still have to go on because in their speeches the Honourable Member for Jelutong and the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan were trying to associate me with the Honourable Members of the M.C.A. on the other side. And they, I find, feel embarrassed to be associated with

me. Sir, let me assure the Honourable Member for Jelutong and the Honourable Member for Tanjong Selatan, who apparently go to inspect my U.D.P. Branches and see the slogans that we put up, that they should learn a little bit more of the general policies of my Party. Sir, they are using this as an old cry of theirs. Here on the one hand they say I sell the Chinese language; and on the other hand they say that here I put them into an embarrassing position.

Sir, I assure you that my Party knows exactly what we are fighting for with regard to the position of the Chinese language. In this multi-racial society it is our belief that every language should be given an equal opportunity to promote the advancement of the community which speaks and uses that language. Sir, this position is the position which we hold. I do not expect at any moment that the M.C.A. Members could ever take the attitude of supporting the policy of the U.D.P. Therefore, Sir, we have taken the step of making a compromise. Sir, if the M.C.A. Members and the Honourable the Chief Minister cannot accept what we want in full it does not necessarily mean that what they do is entirely wrong. If they do make any step which is correct, though not necessarily fulfilling all our hopes, we should give them every encouragement and support to stand firm.

Sir, the importance of this debate is due to the fact that the Press, particularly the Chinese Press — because this is one of the unfortunate things in our country, in that the different vernacular Presses play up issues in a slightly different manner and not because the Presses are reporting things wrongly — have in actual fact been given commendation by many people as being far more accurate

and far more courageous in publishing of the things they get. However, Sir, the M.C.A. publicity propaganda chiefs have been going all round the country ever since October telling the people through the Chinese Press, through the medium of their propaganda machine, that this is what they are fighting for. As a matter of fact they include the clarification as such — that soon after October 20th the Honourable the Prime Minister was induced to make a statement to support the Minister of Finance, who is the President of the M.C.A., that in actual fact more liberal use of the Chinese language is being carried out. Sir, this is being propagandized day in and day out by the M.C.A. officials and by members of the Alliance, saying these M.C.A. members are good chaps. Those who speak any more are bad chaps—subversives. But these people say these are good fellows; the propaganda has been bad; this is what the M.C.A. has been doing to fight for the Chinese language. So much so for Members like the Honourable Members for Jelutong and Tanjong Selatan. I do not call them subversives from this point of view. But the M.C.A. propaganda, having launched itself on this basis, to obtain a more liberal use of the Chinese language, immediately launched itself and called our honourable friends subversives. And they go to the extent of calling me a coward.

This is why I said this particular Motion is a complex one, and one which will separate the men from the boys, and those who are honest from those who are not quite so, because if the members of the M.C.A. and the members of the Alliance really fully support this as a real measure of what they are fighting for then in this House they must vote for

this Motion. If they do not vote for this Motion it means they are continuing to bluff the people. And that is what we want to show. We want to clarify for the people whether or not this new statement is true or not true. We knew all along that it is bluffing. The Honourable the Chief Minister — unfortunately, my old good friend — is put in an embarrassing position. But embarrassing to him or not, Sir, this is an old issue which goes beyond this House, and goes beyond him.

Sir, I ask the Members of this House to support the Honourable the Chief Minister when he made his speech because I believe that he in promising honestly believed that this is a compromise position. Therefore in so using the terms of the pledge he associated himself with 'We are tying up

the members of the Alliance to what they are now telling us'. They have been telling us 'National language; one national language in 1967; English will be used; other languages will have liberal use.' When it comes down to the proper place for us to show what our colours are and what we stand for I am sorry it is not the time for us to be embarrassed.

It is nearly twelve o'clock, so we will have to take a vote on this. Whether the other Members on the other side try to run away and not vote, that is their business. However, Sir, we are asking this House to support this Motion. And in division under Standing Order 114, I would ask you Sir, to ask the House to divide.

Question put.

AYES.

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

4

NOES.

Chief Minister
Enche Aziz Ibrahim
Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik
Mr. Kee Yong Chin
Mr. D. S. Ramanathan
Mr. Tan Khim Hoe
Enche M. S. A. Zachariah
Mr. Cheah Seng Khim
Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah
Mr. Phee Joo Teik
Tuan Haji Sahid bin Hassan
Enche Ahmad bin Haji Jamil
Mr. Williams David
Enche Ismail bin Hashim
Mr. Khor Peng Seah
Mr. Tan Hock Hin

16

ABSENT.

Enche Ariffin bin Shariff
Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Mohamed Taib
Mr. Lim Kean Siew

3

The Motion is defeated.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, saya mohon menandatangani supaya Dewan ini ditangguhkan sekarang.

Member for Muda (Tuan Haji Ismail bin Che Chik): Tuan Speaker saya menyokong.

Member for Butterworth (Mr. Williams David): Tuan Speaker, about 80 buses, 50 taxis and trishaws are operating for hire at the parking area in front of the Butterworth Passenger Terminal. Though I have given the total number of vehicles operating around this area, only about 10 buses and some 80 taxis are parked here at any one time, while the buses are away on their journey and the rest of the taxis on hire.

This place is used by passengers going to Penang, and from Penang to the mainland. It is from here that people come from other parts of our country to go to Penang and vice versa. There are bus services direct to Alor Star and Kuala Lumpur besides the taxis service.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have here figures of passengers who have used the Ferry both ways for 3 months in 1966:

In July	—	803,513 passengers.
In August	—	851,963 passengers.
In September	—	771,379 passengers.

These figures do not include cars with passengers, and cyclists as they use the Vehicle Terminal.

Sir, you will note that a total of 2,426,856 passengers have been using this place for the three months. So, working out the figures on a daily basis, it amounts to about 25,837 passengers daily.

This parking area in question was formerly the seashore; and in view of the construction of the Ferry Terminal it was converted to a parking area. This area is similar to a hump. The road in this area which is near the side of the seashore is almost level with the seashore, while at the centre it is raised.

During tides the water from the sea seeps to this area, and it is flooded. Sometimes it even rises to about 18 inches high. Buses, taxis and trishaws are in water. The water, being sea water affects the vehicles very badly. This becomes worse when it rains heavily.

While this area is flooded the passengers encounter great difficulties and hardships to alight and get into vehicles.

The Penang Port Commission who financially benefit have very cunningly camouflaged the issue by erecting a walking plank which serves no purpose at all, as passengers have still to wade in the water to go to the vehicles.

The porch in the Passenger Terminal was under water. The Penang Port Commission raised the floor level of the porch to about two feet high, but even this did not solve the problem as the place was insufficient to hold the passengers during the flooding season. There is no sea-wall to prevent the sea water from coming in.

Sir, the roads in this area were full of pot holes, and the roads were in a bad state.

An approach was made to me by bus operators and taxi operators to take up the matter. I did take up this matter with the Chairman, District Council North, and through his help and co-operation the pot holes were covered, though

according to the Council the property is not theirs, and about one-third of the total area has been re-surfaced. This is something better than what it was.

Tuan Speaker, I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman, District Council North, for this.

Sir, I understand that the Road Tax paid by the buses concerned is about \$672,000 per year, and the taxis about \$20,000, thus totalling about \$800,000. This amount does not include other vehicles which come in and drop or pick up passengers.

I do not know as to who is the owner of this area, and under whose control it is; but my great concern is to eliminate the difficulties and hardships encountered by the passengers and operators of vehicles.

With all the facts I have given, may I suggest, in my humble opinion, that there are two things to be done to solve the problem. I am not an authority, but I ask that I be excused if my suggestions are wrong —

1. With regard to the area being constantly flooded, a sea-wall about three feet high, similar to the one existing in the old Mitchell Pier, be erected to prevent the seepage of water from the sea.

2. The present roads in this area to be in level with the existing level of Pier Road.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel and I contend that this job should be undertaken by the Government, in view of what I have said, and request that the Honourable the Chief Minister and the Government give full consideration to this request without any further delay; and when completed, to hand over to the Authority concerned for maintenance.

Thank you.

Chief Minister: Tuan Speaker, I wish to thank the Honourable Member for Butterworth for bringing up the question of improvements to the Parking Area in front of Butterworth Passenger Ferry Terminal and roads in this area.

The Honourable Member will appreciate that this parking area is situated on reclaimed land, and that there has been a certain amount of sinking.

I assure the Honourable Member that his comments have been noted, and that the matter will be referred to the relevant Departments for investigation.

The Assembly Adjourns

at 12.03 a.m.

24th November, 1966.



