

29
Jilid IV
Bil. 2



Hari Selasa
9hb April, 1974

LAPURAN PERSIDANGAN OFFICIAL REPORT

DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI PULAU PINANG
YANG KETIGA
THIRD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PENANG

PENGGAL YANG KEEMPAT
Fourth Session

MESYUARAT YANG PERTAMA
First Meeting

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PULAU PINANG

DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI YANG KETIGA

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PENGGAL YANG KEEMPAT
MESYUARAT YANG PERTAMA

Hari Selasa, 9hb April, 1974

HAZIR :

- Yang Berhormat Tuan Speaker (Datuk Harun bin Sirat, D.M.P.N.)
- Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri (Dr Lim Chong Eu)
- Yang Berhormat Penasihat Undang-Undang (Encik Abu Talib bin Othman)
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- „ „ Kawasan Tanjong Tengah (Encik Tan Gim Hwa, J.M.N.)
- „ „ Kawasan Tanjong Selatan (Encik Wong Choong Woh)
- „ „ Kawasan Sungei Pinang (Encik S. P. Chelliah, J.P.)
- „ „ Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim, J.P.)
- „ „ Kawasan Kepala Batas (Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah, A.M.N., J.P.)
- „ „ Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee)
- „ „ Kawasan Glugor (Encik D. C. Stewart, P.J.K.)
- „ „ Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar, J.P.)
- „ „ Kawasan Dhoby Ghaut (Encik Khoo Teng Chye)
- „ „ Kawasan Nibong Tebal (Encik Teoh Chung Hor *alias* Teoh Kooi Sneah)
- „ „ Kawasan Muda (Tuan Haji Abdul Kadir bin Haji Hassan, P.J.K., J.P.)
- „ „ Kawasan Tanjong Utara (Encik Khoo Kay Por, J.P.)
- „ „ Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan)
- „ „ Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap)
- „ „ Kawasan Jelutong (Encik Koay Boon Seng)
- „ „ Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin)
- „ „ Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik Veerappen a/k Veerathan)
- „ „ Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How)
- „ „ Kawasan Balik Pulau (Encik Abdul Rahman bin Haji Yunus)
- „ „ Kawasan Tasek Glugor (Encik Mustapha bin Hussain)

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DOA

USUL DI BAWAH PERATURAN MESYUARAT 30.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Mr Speaker, Sir, at this juncture, dengan izin, I like to move the adjournment of the Assembly under Standing Order 30 to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the fire in Jelutong which deprived more than 45 families of their belongings, and rendered them homeless; and to resolve to rehabilitate these unfortunate people by providing them with suitable alternative accommodation and other necessities of life, including books and uniforms for their school-going children; and also to inquire into the cause of the fire developing into one of such magnitude. Mr Speaker, Sir, I submit this particular matter as a matter of urgent public importance; and particularly so because of the fact that a small fire occurring in one house could have developed into such a catastrophe.

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat, saya telah memandang dengan teliti dan saya dapati perkara ini bukanlah *important* dan tidak *urgent*. Oleh itu, saya menolak Usul ini.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Tuan Speaker, perkara ini mengikut Peraturan 30. Sebab itu prinsip-prinsip *procedure* mesti mengikut Peraturan 30, tak boleh sahaja Tuan Speaker kata menolak, boleh ditolak, sebab Order 30 menyebut bagaimana satu *Motion* seperti ini boleh dibangkitkan di dalam Dewan ini. Saya membaca *Standing Order* 30:

“(1) Any Member may at the time appointed under Standing Order 15 rise in his place and ask leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance.

(2) A Member who wishes so to ask leave to move the adjournment of the House shall before the commencement of the sitting hand to the

Speaker a written notification of the matter which he wishes to discuss. The Speaker shall refuse to allow the claim unless he is satisfied that the matter is definite, urgent and of public importance.

(3) If the Speaker is so satisfied and either:

(a) leave of the House is given, no Member objecting;

(b) If it is not so given, at least ten Members rise in their places to support the request;

he shall call on the Member to make the motion forthwith”.

Tuan Speaker, sebelum Tuan Speaker ambil keputusan Tuan Speaker mestilah dengar apa ucapan saya, apa sebab-sebab perkara ini mustahak—important. Jika Tuan Speaker tidak beri peluang kepada saya macamana boleh tahu perkara ini *important* atau tidak atau ada “*public importance*” atau tidak. Sudah *submit Standing Order* ini benar Tuan Speaker boleh ambil keputusan, tetapi sebelum Tuan Speaker ambil keputusan, Tuan Speaker mesti dengar.

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat Ahli dari Ayer Itam, sebab yang saya kata perkara ini tidak mustahak sebab saya dapat tahu segala usaha-usaha telah diambil—tindakan telah diambil dan kerana perkara ini sudah terjadi dua, tiga atau empat hari dahulu dan segala pejabat telah mengambil tindakan terhadap perkara itu. Oleh sebab itulah saya menolak Usul itu.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Terimakasih Tuan Speaker. Itu satu bahagian sahaja—mengambil tindakan untuk menolong tiap-tiap orang yang menerima kesusahan. Tetapi ini ada satu lagi bahagian. Bahagian investigation . . . (*gangguan*).

Ketua Menteri: On point of Order.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Point of Order *apa?*

Ketua Menteri: Order 32.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Cakaplah 32.

Ketua Menteri: Saya fikir Tuan Speaker, sebab Tuan Speaker sudah ambil keputusan mengikut Peraturan di sini di dalam Dewan, mengikut Peraturan 32, Yang Berhormat Ahli Kawasan daripada Ayer Itam jika tidak boleh terima apa Tuan Speaker ambil keputusan, saya fikir ini tidak beri kehormatan kepada Tuan Speaker.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Datuk Speaker, ini bukan tidak beri hormat. Ini kata: no debate shall take place during the course of a Motion. Saya tidak beri *debate*. Jika baik saya terima, saya tentu setuju dengan keputusan. Ada dua bahagian, satu bahagian saya terima pejabat ada mengambil tindakan tetapi lagi satu bahagian (*gangguan*).

Ketua Menteri: Jika sudah terima tak payah lagi cakap banyak.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Ada mustahak.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Ayer Itam, biar saya cakap. Perkaranya ini saya sudah memberi keputusan. Saya harap jangan ada *debate* lagi.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Saya bukan hendak *debate*. Saya hendak cakap, tetapi hendaklah dengar dahulu. Oleh kerana api—apa sebab api dalam satu rumah boleh *spread—fire brigade* (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat, saya harap sila duduk. Saya telah memberi keputusan saya. Saya harap janganlah dibincangkan lagi.

Usul tidak dibenarkan.

5. RANG UNDANG-UNDANG.

(1) Rang Undang-undang Perbekalan Tambahan (1973) (No. 3), 1974.

Bacaan Yang Pertama

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Speaker, saya mohon mencadangkan supaya Rang Undang-undang bernama “Suatu Enakmen bagi menggunakan wang daripada Kumpulanwang Disatukan untuk perbelanjaan tambahan bagi perkhidmatan tahun 1973 dan bagi memperuntukkan wang itu bagi maksud-maksud yang ter-

tentu” dibacakan bagi kali yang pertama.

Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar): Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya mohon menyokong.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang pertama.

Tuan Speaker: Bacaan kali yang kedua hari apa?

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, sekarang juga.

Tuan Speaker: Baiklah.

Bacaan Yang Kedua

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya mohon mengusul supaya Rang Undang-undang yang bernama “Suatu Enakmen bagi menggunakan wang daripada Kumpulanwang Disatukan untuk perbelanjaan tambahan bagi perkhidmatan tahun 1973 dan bagi memperuntukkan wang itu bagi maksud-maksud yang tertentu” dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, tujuan Rang Undang-undang ini ialah untuk memberi kuasa berkanun kepada Kerajaan Negeri untuk mengadakan perbelanjaan tambahan sebanyak \$94,560 untuk perkhidmatan tahun 1973. Butir-butir lanjut mengenai perbelanjaan ini, bersama-sama dengan keterangannya, adalah dibentangkan di dalam Dewan ini sebagai Risalat Bilangan 1 tahun 1974.

Rang Undang-undang ini meminta diwujudkan satu Pecahan-Kepala baru dan mengadakan peruntukan tambahan bagi dua Pecahan-Kepala yang sedia ada, tetapi peruntukannya telah berkurang diadakan dalam anggaran perbelanjaan.

Pecahan-Kepala yang baru ini ialah Pecahan-Kepala 1200 iaitu di bawah Kepala 6—Hutan, untuk Elaun Bantuan Khas. Satu peruntukan tanda sebanyak \$10 telah diwujudkan untuk membolehkan Pegawai Yang Mengawal memindahkan peruntukan daripada kelebihan-kelebihan kepada Pecahan-Kepala yang lain untuk membayar Elaun Bantuan Khas kepada 25 orang kakitangan Jabatan Hutan bagi tahun 1973.

Seperti kita semua maklum, Kerajaan telah membuat keputusan untuk membayar Elaun Bantuan Khas kepada kakitangan-kakitangan Kerajaan yang bergaji \$500 dan ke bawah sebulan. Kadar bayaran elaun ini, Datuk Speaker, ialah bagi mereka yang bergaji \$300 dan ke bawah akan menerima elaun sebanyak \$30 sebulan. Bagi mereka yang bergaji antara \$301 dengan \$400 menerima sebanyak \$20 sebulan, manakala mereka yang bergaji antara \$401 dengan \$500 akan mendapat \$15 sebulan. Keputusan ini telah dibuat pada penghujung tahun 1973 dan ketika itu tidak dapat dibuat permintaan untuk mengujudkan satu Pecahan-Kepala di bawah Anggaran Perbelanjaan Tambahan Kedua yang dibentangkan pada bulan November tahun lalu. Saya harap Tuan Yang Dipertua, ini ialah satu perkara yang terus terang. Saya harapkan semua Yang Berhormat Ahli-ahli Dewan di sini boleh terima apa yang saya kata tadi dan jangan diulang balik sebab ini bagi keterangan kepada Yang Berhormat Ahli-ahli di depan saya.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Belakang juga, bukan depan.

Ketua Menteri Datuk Yang Dipertua, peruntukan tambahan sebanyak \$70,550 ialah untuk Pecahan-Kepala 1100 di bawah Kepala II—Hal Ehwal Ugama dan Mahkamah untuk memenuhi bayaran gaji bagi Guru-guru Ugama di sekolah-sekolah yang terlibat di bawah Lapuran Aziz yangmana peruntukan ini terkurang dibuat. Ini adalah disebabkan perubahan-perubahan berhubung dengan tunggakan-tunggakan gaji. Separuh daripada jumlah peruntukan yang diminta ini ialah dibayar balik oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan kerana ia adalah sebahagian daripada gaji-gaji Guru Ugama di sekolah-sekolah rendah.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, peruntukan tambahan berjumlah \$24,000 lagi ialah dikehendaki untuk Pecahan-Kepala 4100, Kepala 12, iaitu Kebajikan Masyarakat untuk peruntukan tambahan bagi Rancangan Bantuan Buku-buku Teks kepada sekolah-sekolah dalam Negeri ini untuk tahun 1973. Dengan

tambahan sebanyak \$24,000 ini, maka Kerajaan telah membelanjakan dalam tahun 1973 sebanyak \$90,000 di bawah Rancangan Bantuan Buku-buku Teks.

Saya telah menjelaskan dalam Ucapan Belanjawan yang lalu di Dewan ini, bahawa Kerajaan Negeri sentiasa bersedia untuk mengadakan peruntukan-peruntukan yang sewajarnya untuk menentukan bahawa semua murid-murid yang memerlukan bantuan mendapat faedah daripada Rancangan Bantuan Buku-buku Teks di dalam Negeri Pulau Pinang ini.

Tuan Speaker, saya mohon mengusul.

Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar): Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya mohon menyokong.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin, although you still haven't announced that the matter is opened for debate: I believe that this particular allocation could very well have come in earlier; and the approval of the House should have been obtained much earlier. But, as usual, the Honourable the Chief Minister, being very uneasy about calling sessions of the Assembly, would always wait until the last minute to get the Assembly's approval. I hope that this is the only reason; and not that it has become a matter of habit for the Honourable the Chief Minister to do as he likes with the affairs of the State, and merely come to this House just for the purpose of obtaining our rubber stamp.

Mr Speaker, Sir, it would appear that as far as presenting Estimates in this House is concerned the Honourable the Chief Minister's Government are very unsure of themselves in spite of nearly 4 or 5 years. It is only about one month before elections are held—although we don't know whether elections will be held, or whether they are going to hold on to their seats, and postpone elections in the light of events taking place in the National Front. But, be that as it may, Sir, why is it that the Honourable the Chief Minister and his enlightened, experienced Members of the Government are unable after nearly 5 years to

project clearly what are the Estimates of the State. We see here that this is not the only estimate for 1973 which has been added on. Starting from the original Estimates in 1973 of \$24,791,150 he added on another one—the first addition of \$2,744,961. He added the second one—*Tambahan Kedua*—of \$10,900. And now he comes to this House for nearly \$1 million. Nearly, I say—short of about \$5,000.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): \$100,000.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Sorry, sorry. You are awake. Good for you. I was just watching to see whether you are awake. \$94,000. You looked very sleepy yesterday.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Don't twist.

Ketua Menteri: Twister.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Well, if you look at the difference between the original Estimates and the final increments which you have asked for in the course of your 1973 Estimates you have been completely out by nearly 10 per cent, to put it mildly.

Mr Speaker, Sir, why can't Government keep a stronger control over its Estimates? What are the Government officers doing? Well, as it is said, when the cat is away the mice play. The Chief Minister and his so-called State Ministers—they are known as State Ministers now—having been travelling round the world, and have no time to control the Estimates of this State. In fact they are supposed to be Ministers. They call themselves Ministers. And yet, sad to say, during question time the respective Ministers in charge of their respective portfolios have not given answers. It is the Chief Minister who does all the work. None of the State Ministers are able to stand up and answer for their individual portfolios. That is very interesting.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Barat (Encik Teh Ewe Lim): You need not teach us.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Well, never mind. It means that all this great system of portfolios is bunk. There is only one word to describe it.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as far as this particular allocation is concerned, I think to a certain degree we will accept it. Of course, this is in line with the *gaji dan upahan*, and in line with the policy of the Federal Government. We know the Government of the Honourable the Chief Minister—as the word has been used—is subservient. He will do exactly what the Federal Government does. No more, perhaps, and no less. I would have thought that when it comes to the question of special allowances we in this State can decide for ourselves what we want to give to our civil servants. We do not have to follow strictly by the rules established in the Federal capital. Why should we? Why can't we provide for our civil servants in a manner which we think is correct? Is the rule set such an absolute rule? Why should it be a ceiling of \$30? And why is it confined to only this category below \$500? Are people earning more than that not also hit by inflation? We know Government Members are not hit by inflation because their pockets are inflating. But surely we can decide for ourselves. I think the State of Penang is the one State which has suffered most from inflation, in comparison with other States because we produce very little of our own. Day-to-day requirements of this State are not produced in this State itself. And, therefore, our people are most hit by these inflationary trends, particularly in terms of land speculation. Penang is famous for its land speculation. If at all nothing else, land prices are skyrocketing. And surely we can provide for those who are not within the Federal Government policy of allowances. Are people who earn over \$500 or \$600 not affected by the reduced purchasing power of their dollar? Are they not? Is that what is being suggested? Why should we be completely blind to the plight of these people also? Surely the Rukunegara of a fair deal, a just society and fair play should apply. If the cost of living has gone up for a person earning below

\$500—which I agree—the cost of living for those earning above \$500 has also gone up. So, why are these people, for example, excluded? Or is it blindly following Federal policies? Because they cannot and will not think for themselves they will do exactly what their masters do, and no more. Sir, that is not the kind of Government the State of Penang accepts. Therefore, I would suggest that perhaps the Honourable the Chief Minister and his Government reconsider this aspect of allowances for those who are not entitled under the present provisions, so that there is an equitable provision for all, irrespective. Maybe you can put a higher ceiling perhaps. But surely you don't blindly follow Federal policy and say, "That is it. The Federal Government has set it at that". When it comes to paying people their just dues the Government of the Chief Minister is very reluctant to act. When it comes to paying the elected Members of the Government what is not due the Government acts expeditiously, and pushes through legislation to pay more and better entertainment allowances, and so forth, and so forth, including those who merely come to this House to look at Standing Orders.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat sudah terkeluar daripada apa yang kita bahas sekarang. Haraplah *confine* kepada itu sahaja. Jangan terkeluar daripada lain-lain cerita dan perkara yang mana saya tidak benarkan.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Therefore, Mr Speaker, Sir, surely this Supplementary Bill could have come to this House much earlier, and not at this late stage in the life of the Government itself, because in one month's time, God willing, the people will pass a verdict on the activities . . . (gangguan).

Tuan Speaker: Saya harap bila bercakap pandang kepada muka saya. Mesti *address* kepada saya. Jangan *address* kepada orang itu.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Terimakasih, Mr Speaker, Sir.

And this allocation here for Social Welfare is very interesting. Suddenly the Chief Minister takes such a keen interest in the school-children. All of a sudden this year there has been such a great interest in social activities. Why? Why wasn't this so last year? Why were there no allocations being pushed through the House at the last minute to help the poor students? We agree to this support. We think it could be multiplied with the multiplier of the Chief Minister, perhaps. Add a multiplier to it. Why come to this House now and do this? Because this is an election stunt! Knowing that elections are coming they come up with this kind of things—book grants. Suddenly Datuk goes all over the place to schools, and gives grants, and this and that. This is the same way the M.C.A. did it; the same way Wong Pow Nee did it—trying to claim credit for themselves for what actually is paid out of coffers of the State. And they come and tell us, "Oh, because we are concerned with the education of this State that is why we are increasing this". Let us face facts. This is an election stunt because if you say that you are following Federal policy for the allocation of these special allowances there is no reason why you could not have projected these figures when you presented your original Estimates. Why did you not project these things? After 5 years of government you still do not know how to present Estimates to this House without getting out of the target by over 10 per cent. You are allowed a margin of 5 per cent to play with. But this shows the inefficiency of the Government.

As I say, the original provision as regards the *gaji* I can appreciate, although I say that this servile following of the Federal Government is really disgraceful for the State of Penang which is faced with all these needs. But why can't you forecast the book aid grants you wanted to give to the students of this State? Why can't you? Or is it that because you know the election is near you start oiling your machinery; you start giving money. Very soon probably there will be a lot of grants here and there to farmers—this and that; distribution under the Pawah

system. All sorts of things will start. It was typical of the Alliance Party; and it is typical of the National Front now. And, Mr Speaker, Sir, as a matter of query only, I don't want to make this a point—I presume that the money that is shown in the Paper that is presented as No. 3 is part of the particular allocation. I note here that this Paper tabled excludes the \$10 allocation which is in the Bill itself. In the Paper that we have here it is \$94,550, whereas in the Bill it says \$94,560. The \$10 allocation for "Forest" has been excluded, I do not know why. Perhaps the Chief Minister can explain to us why he left it out. This particular Paper that is tabled as No. 3 is relevant to the Bill we are debating. That is why we have so little confidence in the work of the Government despite the fact that it has got its State Ministers. I do not know why they left it out. Kepala II, I know, is in the Bill. Kepala 12 is in the Bill. Kepala 6 no doubt is a Token Vote. But why is it left out? After all these years, surely, gentlemen, you should consider your Budgets more soberly. And therefore, under the circumstances, Mr Speaker, although we support the allocation for *gaji* and Social Welfare we do so with great reservations as to the manner in which the Government Members are conducting themselves. They don't seem to really know what they are doing. They are just coming to this House and trying their luck. This is what we call a lucky draw. They try and present the Budget, and say "\$24,000,000". And then they come back for another \$2,000,000; and then another \$1,000,000; and keep on trying till they finally find that they have over-spent, or whatever it is, because this is the kind of principle they apply. They come to the House during the Budget Meeting and say, "Look at us. We have got a balanced Budget." They get the publicity in the newspapers—"We have got a balanced Budget"; and they end up with an unbalanced Budget. Is that the way they are going to play? They were afraid that the elections are coming, so they presented the Budget just like that. This is the manner in which the Government does things.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya suka cakap sedikit *afterwards* tentang undang-undang yang telah dikemukakan oleh Ketua Menteri tadi. Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish particularly (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Tolonglah minta kebenaran terlebih dahulu.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Minta izin bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Tuan Speaker: Tolong cakap kuat sedikit.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Tidak boleh keluar suara.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Perlahan-lahan.

Mr Speaker, Sir. I wish to stress particularly on this allocation for the Social Welfare Department which, he has said, is for the purpose of paying additional grants amounting to \$26,000 for book aid to schools in the State during the year. I welcome this additional provision because I am aware that a large number of our students in the schools have to go without books because they cannot afford to buy books. And I think I am right that even till today, at the time of speaking, there are many schools that do not have the books. And it is surprising that the Government which is thinking of helping poor students should deliberately delay the giving of these grants just to gain some publicity at the expense of these students. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is the month of April. The students have been in school for four months—one term. One-third of the year has gone. Is it proper that the money cannot be sent to the schools themselves? Mr Speaker, Sir, I also know that there is a Federal Government Department which has suddenly decided to dish out large sums of money. And this decision was made somewhere in March or February. But that money was sent through the Directors of Education direct to the schools by post; and it was done in a matter of a few weeks. But our Government—that is, the Govern-

ment led by our Ketua Menteri here—had got the approval for the money long ago; and this has not been a matter of a sudden decision. We have been doing it every year. Why then does it take the State Government until April to distribute the money? What does the Chief Minister and his Government expect the pupils to learn during these four months? What does he achieve by withholding this money? And I would like to have a categorical answer as to the delay in sending this money. Is this the Government which the Chief Minister claims to be dynamic? Is this efficiency—just to send the money to the schools it takes four months? I do not know how many more schools are waiting for the Honourable Member from Tanjong Barat to go and hand these cheques with pomp and pageantry, and perhaps the television. Do you want this glory at the suffering of the students? Now, it is really despicable; and it shows how inefficient the Government is. That is all I wish to say.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Tuan Speaker, dengan izin bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris: I do not intend to anticipate on this question of relief expenditure which is also the subject of another Bill. But since relief expenditure is also a resort with regards to the Forest Department I would like to comment on this question of relief expenditure. At a previous Sitting of this House I did propose to the Honourable the Chief Minister—in fact I urged him, in view of the increasing cost of living in this country—that as modern employers he should agree to give special allowances to all staff employed by the State as well as local authorities and other statutory bodies in which he is the Head. However, the Chief Minister chose to ignore my plea at that time. Even the Federal Government did not think of giving relief in the form of allowances of this type. This goes to show that our Government here just cannot act on its own even though the matter is an absolutely good thing for the people as a whole. They have no idea. They are so subservient that they are afraid to act. Had they taken action at that time it would not be necessary to come here for a supple-

mentary estimate. But, nevertheless, what is of more importance is the rationale for giving these relief allowances. It is a well-known fact that cost of living in this country—and this is in accordance with the figures given by none other than the former Finance Minister, the Honourable Mr Tan Siew Sin: that inflation has reduced the purchasing power of money in this country—has been increased in the last few years from a mere 5% to over 10% last year. So on that basis costs of necessities have also increased to that level. But here we must appreciate the difference. We must realise that the poor people—those earning \$100, \$200, \$300—will still have to utilise quite a big proportion of their income to buy basic necessities. So a person earning \$200 may have to utilise as much as 50% of his income for the purchase of bare necessities for himself and his family, whereas a rich person may utilise a very small percentage. So the idea of the Federal Government in merely giving what amounts to a rough 10% increase in allowance to the lower-income group has failed to really help them to solve this problem, because if the cost of living increases to that extent surely they will need more money to assist them to tide over themselves. And this question of basic necessities is the same for everybody. Whether you are a rich man or a poor man you still need the basic necessities of life. And if the cost of living increases everybody needs that sum of money. So I submit that a flat rate of increase—and that increase should be very much more than the mere \$30 that is being given now—should be considered by the State Government. The State Government should not be so servile and just follow blindly what is being done by the Federal Government. In this particular State we have seen quite a number of our employees who are finding it so difficult to make ends meet. So in that light I would like the State Government to re-think about this particular problem, and to take the initiative of putting forward their own views or issues like that. I do not know whether the State Government was instrumental in initiating this move of introducing

relief allowances; so in the light of what I have said I would like to urge the Honourable the Chief Minister to give serious consideration to this problem, and to take positive steps to remedy whatever inadequacies there in relief allowances.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Tuan Speaker, saya minta izin bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is April, 1974; and we are coming to this House to debate a Supplementary Budget for 1973. This is what I used to call "blundering"; and this is exactly what it means—blundering. The Budget for 1973 should have been prepared towards the end of 1972; and if there is any Supplementary Budget it should be presented not later than 1973. But now it is April—that is, coming to the middle of 1974; and we are coming back to this House to present a Supplementary Budget, which should have been done 1½ years ago.

Sir, when debating the first Supplementary Budget for 1973 in this House I said that the deficit for 1973 was nearly \$2.81 million. And with this additional \$100,000 it will come up to \$2.9 million. When I took part in the debate on the first Supplementary Budget for 1973 I urged the Honourable the Chief Minister to plan carefully how to spend public funds; and not to just throw money around. For example, entertainment—\$45,000 a year.

Mr Speaker, Sir, another general point I would like to make is this: This is called inconsistency, Sir. From page 1 to page 6 there was complete absence of the English version of this Bill. Then coming to pages 7, 8 and 9, thanks to the Honourable the Chief Minister, suddenly we see the English version of explanation appearing at the bottom of the sheets. This is inconsistent. The Honourable the Chief Minister himself at one time in this House moved a Motion that all State Government documents and notices should include the English version so that the machinery of the Government would not be thrown out of gear. But for an important document like the Budget, which is the most important document in the State and

in this House, there is a complete absence of the English version. Sir, the Honourable the Chief Minister is very fond of talking about conformity with the Federal Government. Whatever the Federal Government does . . . (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam, saya nampak Ahli Yang Berhormat telah terkeluar daripada perkara ini.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): This is on the general way of presenting this Paper. I am not "out of subject"—conformity with the Federal Government. I have seen the Federal Government's Budget for 1974. Even on the cover there is the English version "Budget"—B-U-D-G-E-T. But here we have a complete absence of the English versions of the 1974 and 1973 Budgets. So, what is the stand of the Honourable the Chief Minister today, compared with the day he moved that Motion in this House?

Sir, another reason why I say it is blundering is that under Kepala 6 there is the token provision of \$10 for 1973. Sir, if we needed the money for this section it should have been spent in 1973. How can we come to this House to vote in 1974 for the provision of expenditure in 1973 with the Token Vote of \$10? Are you going to spend this \$10, or are you not going to spend the \$10? How much are you going to spend under this Head of \$10? The Honourable the Chief Minister and his Government should have known by now how much it was going to spend for 1973. And this is 1974. Mr Speaker, that is why I call it blundering. That is exactly what I mean by blundering.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I am glad that there is an additional grant for Welfare to help poor students to buy books. Sir, we the Members in this House do not wish to waste the time of the House. We are here to give the Government constructive suggestions to help the Government to run the affairs of the State. So when there is any credit that is due to the Government I shall be the first one to stand up and congratulate the Honourable the Chief Minister. I

remember the time when he increased the Scholarship Fund from \$100,000 to \$160,000. I was the first one to jump up and say "Congratulations" to the Honourable the Chief Minister. So this is another thing for which I must stand up and say "Congratulations" to all the Members of the front bench. And I say "Well done" to the Honourable the Chief Minister.

Sir, very often the Honourable the Chief Minister, in reply to our accusations or our criticism, likes to say, "Oh, the Members from the other side try to obstruct the passage of the Bill"; "the three monkeys" (*ketawa*); "Little Sir Echo", and all this sort of things. Sir, I am coming to what I mean.

Tuan Speaker: Saya harap Yang Berhormat tarik balik percakapan tiga kera itu.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): I tarik balik 'three monkeys'. The legend of the monkeys, okay? I substitute that.

Sir, in 1972 I submitted a question to the Honourable the Chief Minister asking whether or not the State Government had any plan to set up a branch from the Scholarship Fund to help poor students to buy books; and the Honourable the Chief Minister's reply which is in the records—and I can produce it if he wants it—was that there was no plan yet. So in 1973, in one of my Adjournment speeches, I called upon the State Government to set up a fund which could be called 'Book Aid Fund' to help poor students to buy books; and I am very glad that the Honourable the Chief Minister took notice of what we said here. And this too proved that we are not here to waste the time of the House, and to obstruct the passage of the Bills. We are here to give constructive suggestions and helpful criticism to help the Government to run its business.

Sir, I have submitted a question this time asking the Honourable the Chief Minister to let me know how much money has been distributed for the poor students in our State to help them to buy books. And a long list was given to me for which I am very thankful,

which shows that the total amount given up to April this year is \$113,977.72. Sir, when we look at the original provision for this Book Aid Fund, which is \$350,000 what it means is that there still remains \$188,000 unspent. And now the Honourable the Chief Minister is coming back to ask for \$24,000 more. So in the course of his reply I would like the Honourable the Chief Minister to tell the House whether or not he has spent all the \$350,000 which was allocated for 1973; or how much has not been spent. And why, if the money has not been spent, does the Honourable the Chief Minister and his Government come back to ask for \$24,000 more? Sir, I say that credit should be given to the Datuk, the Honourable Member from Tanjung Barat. He has been going round the schools—it must be over 100 schools—in the last few months to distribute these Book Aid funds. And I hope he goes to all these schools with the sincere and honest intention of helping the poor students and not for political stunts. Very often, as the Honourable Members on this side have said just now, it could be a political stunt. But I don't believe it. I think the Honourable Member from Tanjung Barat would search his conscience as to whether he goes to these schools with the sincere and honest intention of helping the poor students, or for a political stunt. Mr Speaker, Sir, when I go through the list I find certain figures which are very peculiar. Sir, if we were to refer to the answers to my written questions at Appendix "C", page 8, we would see that a school called "Sekolah Menengah Haji Zainal Abidin, Pulau Pinang" at Jalan Scotland was given \$13. And one school was given \$76; and one school was only given as little as \$111.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya ingat kalau kita mahu ber-bahas perkara ini kita mesti confine to the policy of the service for which the money is going to be provided, and shall not deal with the details of the expenditure.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): I agree with you, Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Sebab itu saya tidak benarkan terkeluar (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): I am coming to the policy now.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat benarkan saya bercakap. Ahli Yang Berhormat telah bercakap terlampau panjang. Kalau hendak ambil *detail* satu bulan pun tidak boleh habis. Policy of the services sahaja yang kita mahu.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How) Sir, I agree with you.

I was going to quote this figure as an illustration of the policy of the Government. Sir, one of the schools was given \$3,000.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat saya tidak benarkan. Saya tahu apa yang saya kata.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): So, Sir, I would say this: When the Government distributes money to different schools the Government must adopt a fair, just and honest attitude. Some schools are given \$3,000 or \$4,000; and some schools are only given as little as below \$100. Now, what is the policy in distributing these funds? I know personally that there is a school in Butterworth where most of the students are poor students; and the school's name is "Kong Wah". Another school is "Chung Wah". It was given \$28. "Kong Wah" was given \$278. Sir, "Kong Wah" has over 1,600 students, and was given only \$278. Now, this has given rise to suspicion as to whether or not the Government is fair. I would like you to explain why there is such a big difference, for example between \$4,000 and \$200. I wish to urge the Government with all sincerity, when it is dealing with these poor people, to be fair and just so that all the needy students in our State can benefit from this public fund that is handled by the State Government.

Mr Speaker, Sir, my sincere hope is that when Government is preparing for the next year's Budget—I doubt whether they have a chance to prepare for the next year's Budget. If they have the

chance to prepare next year's Budget (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Tanjung Barat (Encik Teh Ewe Lim): Wait and see.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): We have no confidence, Sir.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Then I hope that the Government will increase this part of the allocation because we want talented and skilful people in our State for the various developments that are ahead of us. And if we cannot help our students in their primary and secondary education, how can we expect them to go to college and university? So their primary and secondary education must be very, very strongly strengthened. Many brilliant students come from poor families. They do not have money to buy uniforms. They do not have money to buy books. And this is where I believe the Government can really help. And here I urge the Honourable the Chief Minister and his Government to make a much bigger allocation; to divert funds from travelling overseas; to divert funds from entertainment; to divert funds from the luxury Mercedes 280 SSS for this purpose.

So, Mr Speaker, Sir, I thank you for patiently listening to me. And I say "Thanks" to the Government for increasing the funds for these poor students to buy books. Thank you.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, sungguhpun bila saya dengar ucapan-ucapan daripada beberapa Ahli Yang Berhormat parti Pembangkang, saya fikir tidak guna saya jawab apa-apa lagi sebab *point-point* yang telah dibangkitkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari parti Pembangkang sungguhpun tidak ada lagi, tetapi saya mestilah ambil peluang di sini menjawab sedikit sahaja. Saya haraplah tidak payah lagi di dalam mesyuarat di sini dalam beberapa hari yang kita ada lagi, kita ulang balik dan buang masa Dewan ini. Ahli Yang Berhormat dari parti Pembangkang hendak jadi *hero* atau tokoh-tokoh di dalam pilihanraya yang akan datang.

Datuk Speaker, saya minta izin menjawab dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Tuan Speaker: Sebab itu saya tidak benarkan terkeluar (gangguan).

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Datuk Speaker, saya minta izin menjawab dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, first of all, the Honourable Member from Kelawei, I think, has clearly shown his quality which I hope the people will judge for themselves when the time comes. He naturally in his usual way accused us of all sorts of thing. But it is clear-cut, on the quality of the points that he raised, what nature and what quality he represents. He made a slip of the tongue when he referred to the fact that the amount requested was \$94,560, and therefore about \$100,000; and he went on to say that he was just testing whether we were awake or not. If he were an honest chap he would have said, "I made a slip of the tongue. Please excuse me", and not try to exaggerate. It is his tendency to take little points like that and exaggerate them. But obviously he was not testing whether we were awake or not. He was in actual fact attempting, as usual, to exaggerate and be labour a point in order to bluff people; to say how great a hero he is when in actual fact he has demonstrated his ignorance of the procedure. Mr Speaker, Sir, because he went on to say that this terrific request made by the Government represents about 10% of the Budget. Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member has clearly demonstrated in the last two days that he does not know simple mathematics if he were to take into account the fact that the amount of \$94,000—even if we say \$100,000—taken in conjunction with the provision of the Estimates for 1973 which was in the region of \$24,791,000 plus will, I think, on simple calculation come to approximately 0.5%. So, you see, even on this kind of simple matter he exaggerates it to say how serious a charge he has against the Government.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I had clearly indicated that the expenditure we have taken were due to factors that were beyond the control of the Government. And the Honourable Member from Kelawei agrees that what we have done is correct, and he supports it. And yet in supporting it he attacks us. Mr Speaker, Sir, that is why I always say that there is this love and hate situation between him and myself which I don't understand. It were almost as though he goes to the public and says, "You

know, I think the Government is correct. But naturally I must attack it". (*ketawa*). Mr Speaker, Sir, I give you an example of the kind of ignorance; the kind of quality of leadership of the D.A.P. for which the Honourable Member from Kelawei is now promoted, mind you, to National Vice-President.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): You are behind time.

Ketua Menteri: He was promoted soon after he had to run away from his car. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): That is quite irrelevant. If you jump up you will probably break your neck being so fat.

Ketua Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, if I am able to quote the late Honourable Winston Churchill, 'Some chicken, some neck'. Unfortunately this is not a chicken. This is a rat. (*ketawa*).

Mr Speaker, Sir, the point is that he went on to say, pointing out across to me, "You won't be here next month because the Elections can take place next month". Mr Speaker, Sir, if anyone seriously believes that the Elections are going to take place this year he must calculate things properly. Last year they went about saying, "Oh, Elections will take place early next year." And they went round shouting to people, "Elections are taking place next year. Everything that the Government does, or is presenting in the House is purely an Election stunt." Mr Speaker, Sir, now, of course, they must be more accurate. They have to tell the people, "Oh, it will take place next month." You won't even have a chance next month!

Mr Speaker, Sir, as we understand the situation, with the publication of the new constituencies, and with the period given under the provisions of the Constitution, there has to be a certain amount of time for the proposals of the Elections Commission to be considered, and to be properly laid before the House. And therefore unless the Report of the Elections Commission has been agreed upon and tabled at the next Meeting of Parliament, which cannot

possibly happen next month, I don't see how Elections can take place next month. But even on this kind of calculation the wonderful quality of the very carefully calculating D.A.P. leadership shows itself in this House. Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to take the opportunity here to go into what I call Election politics.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): You are going into it anyhow.

Ketua Menteri: When the time comes we shall do so. But clearly what happens in this House is not generally reported to the public. It is often said in actual fact that if the Proceedings of the House can be made available to the general public they will know exactly what type of Opposition we have in this House. And that is why we have very often got to consider that the Opposition does not assist Government in Government's consideration of things that are essential.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would try to lump up all the various things that are said by the Honourable Members in the Opposition, although I know that D.A.P. and Pekemas are today not very friendly with one another; and in this House they also have this one seat in between. At one time they tried very hard to come together. And I know that the leader of the Pekemas is still trying to woo the D.A.P. But, nevertheless, there are certain similarities for which the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam tried to claim credit—"I told the Government to give these poor workers a little bit more; and therefore I claim credit", so to say.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Government is a responsible Government. It works in conjunction with the Federal Government. And it is out of the co-operation between the State Government and the Federal Government that decisions are made. Particularly over the question of financial allocations related to expenditure for payment of salaries and emoluments, there has got to be understanding. There has got to be agreement between the State and Federal Governments. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is the normal procedure. And the Honourable Member then goes on to say that I am

subservient, and asks, "Why is it that we don't go further?"

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam also referred to—what he calls—the former Finance Minister, Tun Tan Siew Sin. And since he has referred to him, Yang Dipertua, I would like to take this occasion to express our opinion and our gratefulness for the yeoman service which the former Finance Minister, Tun Tan Siew Sin, has rendered to this country as Minister of Finance. I think he has done extremely well. And it is under his guidance that the country's financial position is what it is today.

Now, what are we discussing? We are in actual fact discussing a provision that was made in 1972. Mr Speaker, Sir, prior to that period in 1972 the normal economic growth rate of the country was in the region of 1.3 per cent. But by 1972 signs were beginning to appear that there were in fact normal inflationary trends that were going faster than what it should be. Even in 1972 I think Honourable Members from the other side of the House could not claim the prescience that they now claim—that there would be world inflationary trends of the dimensions that we face today. And it was in that light that the State Government also presented views to the Federal Government that should inflation take place it is very important to consider how we are to meet this inflation. And I would like this House to accept the fact that if nothing else the former Minister of Finance, Tun Tan Siew Sin, has always warned the people of this country about the dangers of inflation. And even recently his concern for the country was so great that he says that matters that involve inflation should be treated as matters of national importance, and not be dragged down to the level of partisan politics. Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Ayer Itam then said "I told you so years ago." Mr Speaker, Sir, he went on to ask, "Why should the Government be so subservient?" And he particularly referred to me—Why should the Honourable the Chief Minister be so subservient to the Federal Government?

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like first of all to point out that the matter of Special Relief Allowance was made by the Exco on 24th October, 1973. Mr Speaker, Sir, here I would like to correct another of the mischievous statements of the Honourable Member for Kelawei when he said that the Exco now consists of Ministers. Mr Speaker, Sir, no such action has been taken. And here again we see that the Honourable Member from Kelawei likes to make a statement, and bluff the people, and shout when he has got nothing else to do. He is a man who likes to build an empty can and beat it. Now, the State Government followed the Federal decision to pay the Special Relief Allowance, which was made effective from 1st October, 1973, and which was in consequence of Treasury Circular No. 6 of 1973 dated 23rd October, 1973. No provision was made in the 1974 expenditure because the Supply Bill Estimates had been published in the *Gazette* on 18th October, 1973. And in view of the fact that the Treasury Circular came in one week later it was obvious that there was a time lapse. And it is necessary for us now to bring in this Supplementary Bill. This is a straight forward matter. I do not think the Members of the Opposition need try to make themselves too big, or try to make the Government seem inefficient. That is what they said—"inefficiency".

Now, with regard to this question of subservience, Mr Speaker, Sir, I remember the time when the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam, the Honourable Member from Sungei Bakap and the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam took great pride, and were happy—and in fact, you know, I had some confidence in them—as they sat on the same platform with me, hiding behind my leadership, on the Esplanade when at the very last public rally before the 1969 elections I made a statement that if the Gerakan were elected into power it would work in close co-operation with the Federal Government. They clapped their hands so much. And immediately after the results came they even made me Chief Minister; and they even served in the Government together with me. Now he says I am subservient.

Mr Speaker, Sir, all that I am doing is carrying out exactly what I stated for the benefit of the people, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Constitution. Wherever it is necessary, it is essential that the State Government work in close rapport, and in close understanding with the Federal Government. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is not a question of subservience. This is a question of what is right and what is proper in the administration of a State Government which is part of a Federation of nationals in the Nation of Malaysia. We are a State in a Federation, governed by a Federal Constitution. Mr Speaker, Sir, that explains again the kind of thumping which the Honourable Members from the opposite side are trying to make up. Now, who is playing election politics?

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Sungei Bakap and the Member from Bagan Ajam referred in great detail to book aid. And the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam again thanked us for having done what we have done. But, of course, being now in the Opposition he must try to act a little bit like a hero—"but search your conscience" and all that kind of thing. Mr Speaker, Sir, that is understood. How else can he thank us? In any case, from all my experience with the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam, whenever he thanks me or gives me anything I had better examine it many, many times (*ketawa*), because my experience of him, and my assessment of him are such that anything that he gives me by way of thanks or otherwise I think I better examine very, very carefully.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we had explained in this House very carefully that the system of book aid which the Government policy provides for is to build up through the period of years a collection of books in each and every school whereby the school children in each incoming year will have the textbooks to go round. The Honourable Member from Sungei Bakap, who is a little bit more experienced than the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam, appreciates the fact that there are several sources for this type of book aid. And therefore

the State Government meets the requirements from the various schools, as the various schools, through their School Boards, and in particular through the Headmaster of the school, make this application to the State for whatever aid they require. In the case of some schools they have already got enough books; or they do not have students who require the aid in particular; or they may have had grants from other sources. So the State Government complies, as soon as possible, with what requests are made by the various schools. Now, the Honourable Member from Sungei Bakap goes on to say, "Why are you so late? Why is there all this delay?" and all that kind of thing. Mr Speaker, Sir, we have in fact in the course of the last 3 years managed to reach a situation whereby the school children have the opportunity to be provided with books when the school re-opens. And we hope that the continuation of co-operation between the school Headmasters, the school Boards, the Parent-Teacher Association and the Government will make it possible for the Government to give this school aid as soon as possible. But the important thing, Mr Speaker, Sir, is this: We had stated clearly when we presented the 1974 Budget that if there was any need for any child to require further book aid the Government, in pursuance of its policy to ensure that every child who requires assistance, particularly in the form of book aid, to obtain proper educational facilities, will provide further expenditure on these school-children. And this Bill that I am moving today just meets precisely this requirement. There was an additional sum required; and therefore we need this sum. And the Honourable Members should have supported this in principle, instead of wandering around in circles, trying naturally to accept the fact that we have done right but they cannot help but oppose it. But, Mr Speaker, Sir, what is the quality of this Opposition? The Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam jumps down and says, "Oh, I have said to the Government, 'If you spend money like this the Government will turn things upside down; and the Budget will be in a terrible mess'." The Hon-

ourable Member from Kelawei said, "Well, you know, they put up a balanced Budget. Later on it will be upside down", and "They put up a balanced Budget to show how clever they are. In actual fact they cannot manage". Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam took this point up. That is why I say he is a Little Sir Echo. And he backs it up and says, "Oh, instead of a balanced budget there will be a deficit". Mr Speaker, Sir, I admit the fact that the final statement of the 1973 Budget have not been completed. And when completed they will be submitted in due course in this House. But from the preliminary reports that I have we anticipate fairly clearly that not only will we have a balanced Budget, and not only will we not have a deficit Budget, but we shall have in actual fact a surplus Budget of over \$1,000,000 when the statement come to hand. So, Mr Speaker, Sir, I hope that the Member for Bagan Ajam will not try to play the hero, particularly in matters of finance where I think he is a little weak. I think his personal experience should tell him that this is something serious, and not to be played with, because on many occasions (gangguan).

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Shame, shame; personal.

Ketua Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, here you see the Honourable Member from Kelawei termed it personal.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Personal. Malu.

Ketua Menteri: I am only referring to the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam with regard to the statements made in this House, because he has made statements in this House. And when he makes statements in this House he tries to go into detail. I think somehow or other he has probably lost the services of his *guru* because he objected to the fact that part of this was not in English. I hope that he will get his *guru* back.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): How do you know I lost the services of my *guru*? You jump to a conclusion like that. Do you want me to introduce you to my *guru* now? He is somewhere here.

This is an irresponsible statement made in this House; and it is personal. Sir, this is irresponsible. He doesn't know the facts, but he wants to say them.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): He is the Chief Minister. He can say a lot of things.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Sir, on a point of order, observations should be made direct to the (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam sila duduk. Saya bagi peluang untuk Ahli Yang Berhormat bercakap. Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam saya minta duduk.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): I am rising on a point of order, Sir. Any observation should be made to the Speaker. Now his observation is directed to me.

Tuan Speaker: Sila duduk. Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam, saya minta duduk.

Ketua Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, . . . (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): That's what we call "irresponsible".

Ketua Menteri: if the Honourable Member still has a *guru*, and I am sure that the *guru* is a good *guru* (*ketawa*) (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): It has nothing to do with you.

Ketua Menteri: then as a good student he should learn better. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Whether my *guru* is good or not has nothing to do with you.

Ketua Menteri: But it worries me considerably that you are a bad pupil. That is what worries me.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Personal-lah.

Ketua Menteri: The Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam referred to "no details". And I think that if he

reads the explanation very clearly in the replies given to him he will find out exactly the answers that he wants. So all that he needs to do is to be a diligent student.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to end up by referring to a very important matter. The Honourable Member from Kelawei, of course, tries very hard. And the harder he tries the clearer it is that his position is not one whereby by trying hard he can get an answer. And he referred to matters which come under a subsequent Bill, but which were presented in this Bill. And he says, "On this particular Motion we give \$10 to Token Vote—Hutan. And down in page 3 there is no such thing." And he infers immediately that the Government is incompetent. This is not, of course, personal—his references to me.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): On a point of order, Tuan Speaker, his observations should be directed to the Speaker. He is directing his observations to me. I do not like to see that cunning look of his.

Ketua Menteri: The Honourable Member from Kelawei, of course, refers to me, as I said, always with great affection. And he says, of course, he feels that the Government is no good; that the Chief Minister is of no use. Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to say clearly that the Token Vote of \$10 is a new sub-head, which I stated in presenting this Bill; and the expenditure which has been voted also for other existing sub-heads where it is in that same category, which refer in particular to the provision of "1200". The other additional expenditure for the 2 sub-heads has to be advanced from the Contingencies Fund. In this case the Department has insufficient funds in existing sub-heads; hence the necessity to provide for this sub-head. But the Paper that we will debate later on—Assembly Paper No. 3—is only a statement to inform this House of any expenditure which has been utilised from the Contingencies Fund in accordance with Standing Orders iii (i). So, Mr Speaker, Sir, if the Honourable Member from Kelawei aspires some day to administer the State he should learn a little more about what we call the necessary art of Government.

Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.

Rang Undang-undang dalam Jawatan-kuasa Perbekalan.

Jadual

Kepala B. 6.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, with your permission: We are in Committee Stage.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we would like to have details from the Chief Minister in connection with this allocation of \$10. What is the purpose of this particular allocation? I think he should have the necessary details for this House. Of course, if he chooses to say that Paper No. 3 now is to be debated later I think it is only a \$10 point actually. I wouldn't like to make much of it. But I think that is misleading the House. It is clearly said in the Order Paper, in connection with this particular Bill that we are debating, that the Paper under reference is No. 3. And therefore it is marked here—No. 3 tahun 1974. And I don't think that I am wrong in referring to this as the Paper concerned. But in any event if the Chief Minister wishes to teach us about financing of this State I think it is a \$10 point, as I said earlier. Talking about this . . . (*gang-guan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya tidak benarkan buat *statement* yang begitu panjang sangat.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): That's right. Itu hal sepuluh ringgit. So it is clearly stated that this comes under III of the Standing Orders where you make allocation for something that you did not foresee. And under that also you can transfer funds. Fair enough. But clearly you have left it out of the Order Paper 3. And admit it like a gentleman. That is all. It is a \$10 point; but that does not matter. Tell us what is the actual necessity for this particular allocation. What funds are you transferring for what purpose? Can you let us know? We are at Committee State.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, inilah saya ingat buang masa Dewan ini. Sebablah bila saya bawa Usul ini, saya kata dengan cukup terang dan bila saya jawab kepada bahasan sayapun sudah kata dengan terang. Apa saya kata di dalam Usul saya ialah Pecahan-pecahan yang baru itu adalah Pecahan-Kepala 1200 iaitu di bawah Kepala 6—Hutan untuk Elaun Bantuan Khas. Satu peruntukan tanda sebanyak \$10 telah diwujudkan untuk membolehkan pegawai yang mengawal memindahkan peruntukan daripada kelebihan-kelebihan kepada Pecahan-Kepala yang lain untuk membayar Elaun Bantuan Khas kepada 25 orang kakitangan Jabatan Hutan bagi tahun 1973. Ini cukup terang.

Wang sebanyak \$10 untuk Kepala B. 6; \$70,550 untuk Kepala B. 11 menjadi sebahagian daripada Jadual.

Kepala B. 12:

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: In connection with this Sub-head, can the Chief Minister tell us which are the schools involved in this book aid? Can he give us an idea at what levels—Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, and their locality? And give us the names of the schools. I hope he has the particulars. We are debating at Committee Stage. Don't expect things to rush through without the House being interested in the details. After all you say that these are additional allocations. Tell us which are the schools involved; what stages. And are there any conditions attached to these aids? What sort of aids are these? To the students directly? To schools? Tell us something about it. You should have the details. Don't come to this House empty-handed.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya fikir Yang Berhormat Ahli daripada Kawasan Kelawei tidak payahlah tunjuk macamana ia mesti berbahas di sini. Ini *detail-detail* peruntukan, saya boleh beri kepada beliau daripada pegawai-pegawai yang tersebut. Ini saya ingat tidak payahlah buang masa Dewan ini.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, we are allocating additional grants amounting to \$26,000, it says according to notes given in this particular Paper. Hence the supplementary provision of \$24,000 is required. Quite a big total sum of money. Surely the Chief Minister, as a man who says he has full control of the finances of the State, can give us full particulars of the breakdown. To what sort of schools were they given? Chinese schools, Malay schools, Tamil schools? The public would like to know what proportion of distribution. If you dare not tell us, if it is a secret, well say so. Don't hide under some Standing Orders. But that is what the people want to know.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya minta Ahli Yang Berhormat tengok *Standing Order* 110 (10) dan *confine solely to the policy of the service bukan details of expenditure*. Saya percaya Ahli Yang Berhormat faham. Saya ingat Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri tidak payah jawab perkara ini lagi oleh kerana kalau Ahli Yang Berhormat semak soalan-soalan yang dibuat oleh Ahli dari Bagan Ajam, boleh dapat semua *detail* di situ.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, we are at Committee Stage. At Committee Stage we are entitled to ask for details in this House. Unless there is a new type of ruling that I do not know, at Committee Stage we are certainly entitled to ask for details. This is not at the Second Reading. We are at Committee Stage. We can ask for details, unless you make a ruling that details cannot be gone into. Fair enough. Just now when the Member for Bagan Ajam was asking about details you said he cannot. Now this is the time to ask for details. If you wish to make your ruling that way let it be a matter of record. But I say that the Ketua Menteri should give us the details now.

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat, apa saya kata biarlah muktamad. Saya faham. Saya ingat Ahli Yang Berhormat tidak payah ajar saya perkara ini.

Yang Amat Berhormat telah menjawab kepada Yang Berhormat dan saya puas hati.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, then I ask (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya tidak mahu Ahli Yang Berhormat berbahas dengan saya.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Tuan Speaker, dengan izin:

Just now I posed a question which has not been answered—that allocation for 1973 which was made at \$350,000. And from the answer given to my written question the total amount spent up to now is only \$113,977.72; and there is a balance, of course, of \$237,000. And now we ask for \$24,000 more. So I would like to ask the Honourable Chief Minister to explain whether this balance is to be spent within the next few months, or it has already been spent but not included in the answer to this question.

Sir, the next question which has not been answered is with regard to the Government's policy of distributing these book aids. Some schools got only a little over \$20; and some schools got \$3,000 to \$4,000. And will the Honourable the Chief Minister tell the House (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, kenapa Ahli Yang Berhormat beri satu statement? Mula-mula tadi Ahli Yang Berhormat sudah bertanya berkenaan dengan soalan ini, saya tidak benarkan, lagi berbalik kepada perkara itu. Saya ingat tidak ada lain. Ahli Yang Berhormat bolehlah duduk.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): No, Mr Speaker, I was asking the Honourable the Chief Minister to explain to this House the policy of the Government as regards to distribution of book-aid funds.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): That is not policy. What do you want? You are neither here nor there.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, tadi bila saya jawab ucapan Yang Berhormat Ahli dari Kawasan Bagan Ajam—jika dia sungguh-sungguh baca apa yang ada di dalam senarai jawapan bertulis dia boleh tahu dengan terang. Tetapi sebablah dia pun telah tunjuk yang dia sendiri tidak boleh baca dengan terang, saya minta izin bercakap dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as the Honourable Member can read through Sub-head 4100, Head 12, Social Welfare, is for grants and subsidies. And this would include such items as monthly aid to the poor and needy; and also in fact Textbook Aid grants.

Now, with regard to the policy of Government, that I think we have replied in full. If the Honourable Member cannot follow it, it was because he was so impatient and so angry. He was walking out just now. But I hope that he would understand, therefore, that this provision of \$350,000 does not deal only with the Textbook Aid scheme. It deals with the whole allocation of Social Welfare; and it deals with other grants and subsidies.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin, atas serupa itu: Since the Chief Minister says that it does not deal only with this aspect, can he give us a breakdown under this heading? What are the respective allocations, if he has it? If he hasn't let him decide.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, dengan izin: This was a matter which was debated fully in the House when the House passed the Budget. Now, if the Honourable Member continues to want to waste time I think we should refer back to what was discussed in the House. It is not because I don't have the answer. But I don't think we should waste the time of this House in this way.

Wang sebanyak \$24,000.00 untuk Kepala B. 12 menjadi sebahagian daripada Jadual.

Jadual menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Fasal 1 dan fasal 2, dan tajuk penuh dan fasal yang mengundang menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Dewan bersidang semula.

Bacaan Yang Ketiga

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya mohon melapurkan bahawa Rang Undang-undang Perbekalan Tambahan 1973 (No. 3), 1974, telahpun dipertimbangkan sefasal demi sefasal dalam Jawatankuasa dan dipersetujui tanpa pindaan. Oleh itu, saya mohon mencadangkan supaya Rang Undang-undang ini sekarang dibacakan bagi kali yang ketiga serta diluluskan.

Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang ketiga dan diluluskan.

Dewan ditangguhkan pada jam 11.15 pagi.

Dewan bersidang semula pada jam 11.35 pagi.

(2) Rang Undang-undang Perbekalan Tambahan (1974) (No. 1), 1974.

Bacaan Yang Pertama

Ketua Menteri: Datuk Yang Dipertua, saya mohon mencadangkan supaya Rang Undang-undang bernama 'Suatu Enakmen bagi menggunakan wang daripada Kumpulanwang Disatukan untuk perbelanjaan tambahan bagi perkhidmatan tahun 1974 dan bagi memperuntukkan wang itu bagi maksud-maksud yang tertentu' dibacakan bagi kali yang pertama.

Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar): Datuk Yang Dipertua, saya mohon menyokong.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang pertama.

Tuan Speaker: Bacaan kali yang kedua hari apa?

Ketua Menteri: Datuk Yang Dipertua, sekarang juga.

Tuan Speaker: Baiklah.

Bacaan Yang Kedua

Ketua Menteri: Datuk Speaker, saya mohon mengusul supaya Rang Undang-undang yang bernama 'Suatu Enakmen bagi menggunakan wang daripada Kumpulanwang Disatukan untuk perbelanjaan tambahan bagi perkhidmatan tahun 1974 dan bagi memperuntukkan wang itu bagi maksud-maksud yang tertentu' dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.

Tujuan Rang Undang-undang ini ialah untuk memberi kuasa berkanun kepada Kerajaan Negeri untuk mengadakan perbelanjaan tambahan sebanyak \$996,845 bagi perkhidmatan tahun 1974. Butir-butir lanjut mengenai perbelanjaan ini, bersama-sama dengan keterangannya adalah dibentangkan di dalam Dewan ini sebagai Risalat Bil. 2 Tahun 1974.

Rang Undang-undang ini memberi peruntukan tambahan bagi 22 Pecahan-Kepala yang mana peruntukan baginya telah berkurang diperuntukkan dalam Enakmen Perbekalan (1974), 1973 dahulu. Sejumlah \$988,055 daripada peruntukan yang diminta ialah untuk 21 Pecahan-Kepala 1200, iaitu "Elaun-elaun dan Lain-lain Habuan Wang". Peruntukan Tambahan ini ialah untuk membayar Elaun Bantuan Khas kepada 2,781 orang kakitangan-kakitangan bagi 21 buah Jabatan Kerajaan Negeri, iaitu bagi mereka yang menerima gaji \$500 dan ke bawah sebulan. Keputusan untuk membayar Elaun Bantuan Khas ini telah dibuat oleh Kerajaan Negeri pada penghujung tahun 1973 selepas Kerajaan telah menyiapkan Anggaran Belanjawan tahun 1974. Oleh itu peruntukan ini tidak dimasukkan dalam Anggaran tahun 1974.

Peruntukan Tambahan sebanyak \$8,790 pula, ialah untuk Pecahan-Kepala 1100—Gaji dan Upahan untuk Jabatan Hal Ehwal Ugama. Jumlah ini ialah untuk membayar gaji tambahan kepada Setiausaha Jabatan Hal Ehwal Ugama yang baru. Pegawai ini, sebelum dilantik ke jawatan ini, berkhidmat sebagai Pegawai Kerja di Kementerian Luar Negeri dan menerima gaji yang lebih tinggi daripada gaji yang diperuntukkan bagi jawatan Setiausaha dalam Anggaran tahun 1974. Mengikut dasar perkhidmatan, seseorang pega-

wai yang sedang berkhidmat dengan Kerajaan dan menjawat jawatan baru tidak seharusnya menerima gaji rendah daripada gajinya dalam jawatannya dahulu. Untuk membayar gaji tambahan inilah maka peruntukan ini diminta.

Rang Undang-undang ini, oleh yang demikian, meminta kuasa berkanun untuk mengadakan jenis-jenis perbelanjaan sebagai tambahan kepada peruntukan-peruntukan yang telah diadakan di bawah Enakmen Perbekalan (1974), 1973.

Datuk Speaker, saya mohon mengusul.

Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar): Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya mohon menyokong.

Tuan Speaker: Dewan dibuka untuk dibahas.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: This Supply Bill is to a very great extent similar in principle to the one that was passed just before we adjourned. With the exception of Kepala 11, most of what we have said earlier applies with equal force with what observations we have to make now. But I would like to stress again that the principle involved in providing for these assistance allowances could very well be looked into as to why we should stop at \$500, and as to why people who earn \$600 or \$700 should not be entitled to some sort of relief at all. As I said before, this was in accordance with the Federal pattern of doing things. But I do not think there is any law preventing the State of Penang from considering its own circumstances when applying those circumstances to do justice to our civil servants, because the Chief Minister must to a great extent bear responsibility for the inflationary situation in the State of Penang, because, aside from the so-called national and international trends, as we on this side of the House have said 4 years back, 3 years back, there were policies implemented by the State Government which gave rise to Penang's own inflationary trends policies like the imposition of fantastic increases, in

some cases running to 1,000 per cent, of quit rents in the State; policies like the increase of water rates, increase of land fees, and the abuse of the Land Acquisition Act leading to excessive speculation on land in the State. These are some of the things that brought about inflationary trends in the State of Penang, never seen and never experienced throughout the history of the State, whether colonial or post independence. Therefore for the Chief Minister to come here and dismiss inflation in the State and to say that it is a world trend is trying to pull the wool over the eyes of the people. It will not carry any water. The State of Penang more than any other State has been hit by inflation because our servants here and our working class are very underpaid in view of the fact that we are supposed to be a free port. And our free port erosion has been going on continuously. I think that even in terms of relief allowances for civil servants in this State—correct me if I am wrong—they are less than for civil servants of other States. Therefore we should look in terms of the circumstances because we are day by day not even coming to par with the cost of living in other States—cost of living in places like Kuala Lumpur. We are coming to that stage. And therefore at the wage level that our people are receiving they are hit the most. Penang is no more, to all intents and purposes, a free port. Things are no more cheap in Penang. They are very expensive in Penang. And during the last 5 years under the Government of the Gerakan and the Coalition, and so forth, things have become very, very expensive in this State. Therefore the Government could do well to consider whether the ceiling of \$500 as set out in page 46 should be accepted, or whether we should really go at least up to \$800 to provide a fairer rate of allowances and relief to our employees. In view of the decreasing purchasing power, what is \$500 today? And therefore those who are earning above \$500, \$600, \$700, \$800 perhaps should be taken into consideration, instead of blindly following the policies of the Federal Government.

Another point in connection with this other exceptional allocation is Kepala 11. I do not wish to go into details because pursuant to Order 70 of the Standing Orders—

“The principle of the measure shall not be discussed in Committee of the whole Assembly but only its details”.

So I won't deal with the details. I will only just deal with the principle. First of all, this particular Head was not foreseen. If you are going to appoint an officer, why did you not make the allocation when you applied to this House for the Budget to be approved? Why wasn't it considered? Surely there was a policy made to appoint a person of higher rank than the normal occupant of this position. So why wasn't this allocated for? Fair enough, in the other allocation you say you were following Federal policy in terms of special allowances. We do not pick bones with you. But for this one why did you leave it out? Why couldn't you allocate? Why couldn't you forecast? Here again no doubt, according to this thing, the amount involved is not that huge. But still the principle of the matter is involved. And here again it raises an interesting point on the policy of this State. Why are we still appointing officers who are Federal officers? This man apparently comes from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Why can't we appoint our own people in this State? And that is where the question of a State P.S.C. comes in. We should be appointing our own people instead of appointing a person from outside the State—an executive officer from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I assume that if we did not do that we wouldn't even have to come to this House for this additional allocation. Therefore, Mr Speaker, Sir, although again here we say that we agree in principle to accept this, we do not agree with the principle whereby this has been brought to this House.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Tuan Speaker, saya minta izin supaya bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris. Mr Speaker, Sir, in fact there is very little to say about this Bill because the whole amount asked for

in this Bill is for COLA for Government servants earning below \$500. And this is another part of the Government's gesture to think of the Government servants in the lower-income group. Mr Speaker, Sir, in the past months inflation hit Penang very hard. And, of course, it is good of the Government to think of the Government servants who are earning below \$500. And this money should in fact have been given to them last year. This Bill should have been put up earlier. When the Government presented the 1974 Budget inflation had already hit Penang; and this should have been included in the 1974 Budget.

Sir, the Honourable the Chief Minister made a very personal remark by saying that my financial position is weak; and therefore I should be the last one to talk about finance.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Shame, shame.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Sir, in that case do you expect everybody to be as rich as the Honourable the Chief Minister or his colleagues before he can talk about the financial position. My personal financial position has nothing whatsoever to do with this House. Perhaps the Honourable the Chief Minister thinks that one must be a Doctor in order to be a Chief Minister or a Minister of the State. But the Prime Minister of Japan is only a graduate of a Primary School. And do you think everybody has to be as rich as Dr Lim Chong Eu before he can talk about the financial affairs of the State?

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, kita sudah dengar. Saya tidak benarkan disebut lagi perkara ini.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): That was a remark just now made. You yourself have heard it So I must comment on that also.

Mr Speaker, Sir, inflation hit Penang And this COLA given to Government servants is to tackle the problems of inflation. I believe there are various ways to help the people of the lower-income group, and also to help the Go-

vernment servants drawing salaries below \$500. One of the things I would like to suggest to the Honourable the Chief Minister—and I hope that he will take it in good faith—is that the State Government looks into ways and means of forming Co-operative Stores to sell essential goods like rice, sugar, milk, and so on, direct to the Government servants of the lower-income group. The Co-operative Stores should be able to draw the supplies from Class I wholesalers who can draw supplies from the sugar mills or rice mills direct. In this way it doesn't have to go to Class I wholesalers, Class II wholesalers, and Class III and IV wholesalers before it can get to the sundry shops. If the goods have to go through all these Classes—Class I, Class II, Class III wholesalers—each one will make a little profit of say 10 or 15 per cent. Then the essential commodities will be dearer by about 30 or 40 per cent. If the Co-operative draws rice from the rice mill then I believe the cost of the rice sold direct to Government servants of the lower-income group will be very much lower. Here I must say that although the Government is in conformity with the Federal Government I believe this is what is in the mind of the Chief Minister in seeking conformity with the Federal Government. The COLA is given to our own Government servants here. In this respect I am urging the Honourable the Chief Minister to help all those people in the lower-income group in statutory bodies and in the industries promoted by the Honourable the Chief Minister. I know the Honourable the Chief Minister is very good in influencing people to do things. I believe it would be a very good thing if the Honourable the Chief Minister could approach those factories in Bayan Lepas, Prai and Mak Mandin, and ask the factory-owners to give COLA to the employees in their factories. Similarly, Sir, there are people in the commercial sector drawing very low salaries who find it hard to tackle the increasing costs of essential commodities.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Like lawyers' firms. They are paying very low.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): How do you know? Can you provide figures to the House. Which lawyer's firm? Substantiate it.

For example, you can say that Service Stations pay very low salaries. (*Ketawa*). I did not say it. I take it as an example. And hotels, and so on.

Sir, here I must repeat what I said just now. I urge the Honourable the Chief Minister to look into ways and means of helping those employees of the lower-income group in the commercial sector, in our industrial estates, and in some quasi-Government Authorities. Thank you, Sir.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, sungguhpun sebagaimana yang dikatakan tadi apa-apa yang dibawa oleh Yang Berhormat Ahli-Ahli Pembangkang di dalam perbahasan ini langsung tidak kena-mengena. Tetapi saya minta izin bercakap sepatah dua kata untuk satu dua, atau tiga perkara.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Kelawei, as is now his style which has become quite clear, takes the matter back again to quit rent, and so on. Mr Speaker, Sir, we have indicated in this House that the first responsibility of this Government was to meet a situation where there was a problem where more than 39,000 people were unemployed, and the economic situation was in a position of inertia in 1969. It was necessary for us therefore to resolve the problem of poverty; and to continue to resolve this problem, although much has been done to eliminate it. And under the circumstances when we presented the Supply Bill for 1974 we did say that we had reached a stage in our development whereby we can now begin to look at the problems of those who are not completely and absolutely poor—the poor being defined as those who do not own any property, who do not have any jobs, and who do not have any means of livelihood at all. And we have turned our attention to this situation where we are now beginning to provide for those who have land but are unable to make a good livelihood out of the land they own because the land is not

of good quality, or because of lack of know-how, or the land being not big enough; or those who have jobs, but whose jobs do not provide them remuneration that is adequate. So in His Excellency's Gracious Address we have now taken the State to a new stage of development whereby we have to meet problems which are due not to this basic social economic problem which I had referred to but to the problems of inflation.

Now, the Honourable Member for Kelawei, of course, because of his little know-how—as we say, a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. He is always apt to jump in where angels fear to tread—begins to talk of rent in circles, not knowing exactly what he is trying to get at. But the main point is this: That if he had taken any trouble at all to look through the almost-weekly publications that are made in the newspapers on the cost of essential items or food that prevail in different parts of our country he will realise that although in actual fact the cost of living in Penang has gone up commensurate with the general going up of prices, not only in our country but throughout the world, Penang still enjoys a substantially lower standard of living, and a substantially lower cost of commodities that affect the household than elsewhere.

The issues that are taken up with regard to inflation are those with regard to those particular items which are labelled as essential commodities, and which have reached inflationary trends due to profiteering, hoarding and speculation which the Government is dealing with through the three Committees that have been set up to control inflation. So, for the Honourable Member from Kelawei to refer to this particular Bill, and talk about things which he himself brought up I think is quite unnecessary. Being a master of opposition for opposition's sake no matter what, naturally when we say that the Special Relief Allowance is to refer to those earning \$500 or below he wants to make it applicable to those who earn a little bit more. Mr Speaker, Sir, this is a matter which has been

gone into with considerable care. And as the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam himself has said, those who are in the lower-income level are likely to suffer more; and therefore the Special Relief Allowance is definitely going to have more significance and more application for meeting the cost of living due to inflation, rather than those whose incomes are of the higher level. So here we see the difference again between the D.A.P. thinking and the Pemas thinking. And, Sir, if it were raised to \$600 the Honourable Member from Kelawei will raise it to \$700. And if it goes on to be \$900 he will raise it a little bit more.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Kelawei, however, because he had nothing else to talk about, referred to this question of why the Government cannot forecast what the salary structure for this new officer for the Religious Affairs Department should be. I had stated very clearly, Mr Speaker, Sir, that this is a case where the officer was selected and appointed by the Federal Public Services Commission; and he is a serving officer. And under the circumstances we have to follow the general provisions to be fair and to be just to this officer so that he should not get a salary which is lower than what we had previously obtained as a member of the Civil Service. Furthermore, the Honourable Member from Kelawei should be fully aware that we have taken this matter up with the Legislature because the Constitution of the State of Penang, Article 5, states clearly that the Yang Dipertuan Agong shall be the Head of the Muslim religion in the State. And 5 (2) goes on to say that the Legislature shall by law make provision for regulating Muslim religious affairs and for constituting a Council to advise the Yang Dipertuan Agong in matters of religion. This officer is the officer who will be in charge of this Religious Affairs Department; and therefore the appointment is a very important appointment. And seeing that the Public Services Commission had appointed this officer the State Government considered it only proper action for the

State now to provide the necessary increase in the salary expenditure. It was not considered at the time when the 1974 Budget was prepared that the previous officer—to whom I would take this opportunity to say 'Thanks' because he did a very good job in resolving many existing problems in the Religious Affairs Department—would want to retire from the post at that time.

With regard to the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam, I must honestly and sincerely apologise to him because he appears to hear me wrong. I had no personal intention to cast aspersions upon him at all. And he can clearly refer to the record. What he said was his personal experience in referring to Budgets in this House showed him that his comments were usually wrong, and had nothing to do with what his personal fortunes may be. And I only indicated that his personal experience in referring to the Budget in this House was wrong. It is clearly indicated, Mr Speaker, Sir, I hope that the Honourable Speaker will make available to the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam the draft copy of the statement which I made. And if the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam does not listen to things carefully, and is incapable of understanding simple straight-forward words I cannot help it.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Twisted, cunning, crooked words.

Ketua Menter: But, Mr Speaker, Sir, the position was this: I clearly proved that even in this particular instance, when he was predicting that the Budget would end up in a deficit. I showed to him that in actual fact the draft statements that we had indicated a surplus of about a million dollars. And this has been consistent. Our personal experience of the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam in his statements with regard to the Budget in this House does not show him to be a person who is capable of making statements properly, far less be it twisting. It is difficult to understand whether the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam is twisting or otherwise because he is

so incapable of even making a proper statement. For example, we have been referring to a special relief allowance. And this special relief allowance is designed specifically to meet the problems that are caused by inflation at the present time; and he persistently calls it COLA. So, Mr Speaker, Sir, if the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam can't even distinguish the difference between special relief allowance and COLA then I am afraid, Mr Speaker, we are talking at two different levels completely! And the Honourable Member from Bagan Ajam should really go back to his *guru* and prepare himself. (*Ketawa*) to come and participate with any kind of accuracy in this House.

*Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.
Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.*

**Rang Undang-undang dalam
Jawatankuasa Perbekalan.**

JADUAL.

Kepala B. 1:

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Tuan Speaker, dengan izin: Under Standing Order No. 70 the principle of the measure shall not be discussed in the Committee of the whole House, but only its details. So I am now asking about the details. Can the Chief Minister enlighten the House—out of this allocation, if he wants to give an answer he can give an answer for the whole allocation which we are dealing with at the moment—what proportions; or even in terms of number if he can, are for those who come under the rate of \$30, those under the rate of \$20, and those under the rate of \$15. He can give us percentages, or he can give us specific figures. We shall accept it. He can tell us, under that particular Head of his, what are the percentages of civil servants who benefit under the three categories.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I see the Honourable Member goes beyond what is provided for in the Standing Orders. The

break-down and the details and Heads are shown here. Now, if the Honourable Member wants even more direct details of the matter discussed I would be glad to supply them to him at a subsequent Meeting if he raises the question in detail. But it is obviously not possible for me to go into detail of a matter of this type. And I would not believe that discussions in the debate today takes the issue right up to details of this nature.

Wang sebanyak \$30,000 untuk Kepala B. 1; \$9,940 untuk Kepala B. 2 menjadi sebahagian daripada Jadual.

Kepala B. 3 (a):

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Tuan Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: I think this Head needs explanation. This additional provision of \$14,675 is more or less 12 times more than the original provision. I know I am very weak in these things; and the Honourable the Chief Minister is very rich and he certainly knows more about these things. So, would the Honourable the Chief Minister kindly reply to this query: Why is it twelve times more than the original provision? Are there more people to be employed under this Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah?

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin. Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not know how to equate weak with rich.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Go to the point, man.

Ketua Menteri: But it is quite clear that what I have stated here recently. This provision is made purely for special relief allowances. It's obvious that the more officers there are who are below \$500 the more will be the allowances. This is the reason why this provision is greater.

Wang sebanyak \$14,675 untuk Kepala B. 3 (a); \$11,880 untuk Kepala B. 3 (b); \$7,800 untuk Kepala B. 3 (c); \$9,000 untuk Kepala B. 3 (d); \$5,040 untuk Kepala B. 3 (e); \$9,100 untuk Kepala B. 3 (f); \$9,360 untuk Kepala

B. 3 (g); \$18,000 untuk Kepala B. 4; \$189,300 untuk Kepala B. 5; \$20,500 untuk Kepala B. 6; \$8,700 untuk Kepala B. 7; \$30,600 untuk Kepala B. 8; \$17,600 untuk Kepala B. 9; \$483,000 untuk Kepala B. 10 menjadi sebahagian daripada Jadual.

Kepala B. 11.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: On Kepala 11, I would like to enquire from the Honourable the Chief Minister whether he is able to give us these details. Of course, if he says he is not equipped to give us these details I would perceive he wants us to ask him during question time openly if any more questions are to be asked. There is, I understand, a vacancy in the Ministry of Finance. So the performance here could very well reflect on that vacancy.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on what basis have we increased the allocation the salary for this particular post? What is the break-down of this salary? Can he tell us in this House? In what way has the State got to change its salary structure in connection with this particular post in view of this special appointment? Is there anything you can enlighten us? Clearly he is asking us to vote him \$8,790 without telling us anything about any structural change in the allocation of the gaji that has been taken into account by the State.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya percaya Ahli Yang Berhormat telah dengar Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Menteri telah menjawab dengan panjang lebar berkenaan dengan soal itu. Saya ingat Yang Amat Berhormat tak payah lagi menjawab berkenaan dengan soal ini.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Tuan Speaker, saya minta izin. On this Public Works Department, may I put a question on Kepala 10?

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam, sekarang Kepala 11.

Wang sebanyak \$52,170 untuk Kepala B. 11; \$7,080 untuk Kepala B. 12; \$9,600 untuk Kepala B. 14; \$30,460 untuk Kepala B. 15; \$22,990 untuk Kepala B. 16 menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Jadual menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Fasal 1 dan Fasal 2, dan tajuk penuh dan fasal yang mengundang menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Dewan bersidang semula.

Bacaan Yang Ketiga

Ketua Menteri: Datuk Yang Dipertua, saya mohon melapurkan bahawa Rang Undang-undang Perbekalan Tambahan (1974) (No. 1), 1974, telahpun dipertimbangkan sefasal demi sefasal dalam Jawatankuasa dan dipersetujui tanpa pindaan. Oleh itu saya mohon mencadangkan supaya Rang Undang-undang ini sekarang dibacakan bagi kali yang ketiga serta diluluskan.

Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang ketiga dan diluluskan.

(3) Rang Undang-undang Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang (Pindaan) 1974.

Bacaan Yang Pertama

Ketua Menteri: Datuk Yang Dipertua, saya mohon mencadangkan supaya Rang Undang-undang bernama "Suatu Enakmen bagi meminda Enakmen Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang, 1971" dibacakan bagi kali yang pertama.

Ahli Kawasan Dhoby Ghaut (Encik Khoo Teng Chye): Tuan Speaker, saya mohon menyokong.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang pertama.

Tuan Speaker: Bacaan kali yang kedua hari apa?

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Speaker, sekarang juga.

Tuan Speaker: Baiklah.

Bacaan Yang Kedua

Ketua Menteri: Datuk Yang Dipertua, sepertimana yang Datuk sedia maklum, satu Akta Persekutuan yang bernama Akta Perbadanan (Kelayakan Badan-badan Perundangan Negeri) (Pindaan), 1973 telah diluluskan oleh Dewan Rakyat dan Dewan Negara pada 7hb Disember, 1973 dan 8hb Februari, 1974 dan telah diperkenankan oleh Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Dipertuan Agong pada 11hb Mac, 1974. Akta ini telahpun diwartakan sebagai Akta A 244 bertarikh 14hb Mac, 1974. Akta ini telah membuat beberapa pindaan tertentu kepada Akta Perbadanan (Kelayakan Badan-badan Perundangan Negeri) 1962, termasuk perkara-perkara yang berikut:

- (a) Penubuhan perbadanan-perbadanan oleh Kerajaan Negeri untuk membangunkan kawasan-kawasan bandar dan desa tertakluk kepada apa-apa arahan oleh Yang Amat Berhormat Perdana Menteri atau Menteri yang berkenaan yang dicalunkan oleh beliau;
- (b) perbadanan ini bolehlah melakukan apa-apa tugas sesuatu pihak berkuasa Persekutuan;
- (c) ianya boleh menjalankan apa-apa tugas yang diserahkan oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan atau Negeri atau mana-mana pihak berkuasa berkanun kepadanya;
- (d) ianya boleh menerima bantuan-bantuan wang daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan.
- (e) 3 orang wakil daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan hendaklah menjadi ahli perbadanan ini;
- (f) ianya tidak boleh meminjam wang-wang tanpa kebenaran oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan;
- (g) ianya hendaklah mengemukakan anggaran-anggaran perbelanjaan dan tambahan kepada Ketua Menteri untuk kelulusan; dan
- (h) ianya hendaklah juga mengemukakan penyata kira-kira yang telah dioditkan dan laporan tahunan kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Perdana Menteri atau Menteri yang dicalunkan oleh beliau dan kepada

Ketua Menteri; Ketua Menteri hendaklah menentukan bahawa satu naskah penyata kira-kira dan laporan itu dibentangkan di atas meja Dewan Undangan Negeri.

Oleh kerana Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang telah diperbuat undang-undang menurut kuasa Seksyen 3 Akta Perbadanan (Kelayakan Badan-badan Perundangan Negeri), 1962, maka sekarang ini adalah perlu untuk mengemukakan pindaan-pindaan yang serupa untuk menjadikan Enakmen Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang, 1971 ini selaras dengan peruntukan-peruntukan Akta 1962.

Datuk Speaker, saya mohon mengusulkan bahawa Rang Undang-undang Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang (Pindaan), 1974 dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.

Ahli Kawasan Dhoby Ghaut (Encik Khoo Teng Chye): Tuan Speaker, saya mohon menyokong.

Tuan Speaker: Dewan dibuka untuk dibahas.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: To a great extent we support the provisions that are before the House now. But before I go into the Bill proper I would like to seek clarification from the Legal Adviser who has been for the last two days sitting there quite bored with the proceedings, and not having had the opportunity to participate at all. In actual fact he is a Member, although without voting powers. What I would like clarification on from the Legal Adviser is this point that was raised by the Ketua Menteri with reference to the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) (Amendment) Act, 1974. I would like—before I go into this, since he is our Legal Adviser although we do not pay him—to know from him whether the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) (Amendment) Act, 1974, is in effect at the moment—that is, in operation. And which Article of the Federal Constitution now applies—Article 75 or 76?

It would appear now that there is some inconsistency between the present P.D.C. Enactment and the Federal provisions as under this particular Act of 1973. There is now this conflict. For example, under our P.D.C. Enactment, now and as interpreted as I understand by the Government—for instance; just an instance—the Accounts need not be tabled before the Assembly. Under the present provisions that are before us, and under the Act that was passed by Parliament in 1973 these Accounts have to be tabled. So, could the Legal Adviser, based on that principle, clarify to this House? And I am sure you will also be interested, Mr Speaker, as to whether right now at this very moment, the law that applies is the Federal law or the State law. In other words, as I stated, under Article 75 there is an inconsistency between the Federal and State law at the moment. So, does Article 75 of the Federal Constitution apply? It says, “If any State law is inconsistent with a Federal law, the Federal law shall prevail and the State law shall, to the extent of the inconsistency be void”—have absolutely no effect, in other words. So, do we at the offset of this debate in fact have a law passed by Parliament saying that these amendments are already in effect? Or does it come under Article 76 whereby this House will have to adopt whatever laws are passed by Parliament to bring about uniformity? So, which one of these? Can the Legal Adviser advise us whether right now the Federal law is prevailing on these issues, and in fact it is law? In other words, these provisions which we are attempting to incorporate in our P.D.C. Enactment are in fact law? Can the Legal Adviser advise us?

Penasihat Undang-undang: Article 75 is quite clear. Where there is a Federal law and a State law on the same subject matter, and the State law is inconsistent, the Federal law prevails over the State law. The matter is quite clearly stated in Article 75. I do not think any further clarification is necessary in view of the very clear words of Article 75.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Thank you very much.

I brought this up because I think you will agree with me that there are certain laws which the Federal Government cannot just amend. And these laws will have to be adopted by the State Legislature pursuant to Article 76. Only certain categories. For example, it says in 76: “No law shall be made in pursuance of paragraph (a) of Clause (1) with respect to any matters of Muslim law or the custom”, and all that, and so on. I am in reference to that view. But if you say that this is the category where the Federal law prevails absolutely it is okay with me.

Penasihat Undang-Undang: It all depends on the subject matter. Not all laws.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): That's right. Not all laws. Thank you very much. So I have got over that matter.

Mr Speaker, Sir, in other words, the law as it prevails now. And what in fact we are just attempting to do is to make amendments here so that our law in the State complies wholly with the Federal provisions. Mr Speaker, Sir, the question arises as to why in fact these provisions were never put in the P.D.C. Enactment. Why is it that the Federal Government had to intervene in a matter of such insignificance? We have been told that there is cordial rapport between the Federal Government and the State Government. Surely, if I am not mistaken—the Legal Adviser will correct me if I am wrong—it does not come within the State list actually; but the provisions are there for the State Government to enact this law. No consultation was had between the State Government and the Federal Government as to these provisions. Was it because the Federal Government was forced into taking this step in Parliament, in passing these provisions, to ensure that the State Governments incorporate these provisions because there has been abuse? One of the most important amendments, to our mind, in this particular Bill is this principle—and I am dealing with the principle that the

Accounts shall be tabled in the Legislative Assembly—on which we on this side of the House give 100% support to the Federal Bill and to the Bill today, because for the last 4 years and 11 months of the life of this Government one of the greatest tussles in this House and in the Public Accounts Committee if I am not wrong, has been the question of the State Government accounting to the House for the millions and millions of dollars that have been expended under the P.D.C. And we are very happy, and we want to go on record. And I did issue a statement when Parliament passed the law that we wholly and fully support the provision because this is not only in accordance with the Constitution; but what had taken place 4 years and 11 months ago had been in direct contravention against the Constitution, because every cent of public funds must be accounted for in this House. And for the last 11 months and 4 years that has not been done. And we would not obstruct the passing of this amendment one minute if we visualize the day when the Accounts of the P.D.C.—the millions of dollars spent by the P.D.C.—are tabled in this House so that we can not only debate them but we can ask questions, and we can look into them. The Public Accounts Committee will have a chance now to look into all these Accounts. These are very serious matters involving millions of dollars of State funds. The Government must be seen to be above suspicion. Right now there is a great deal of suspicion about the handling of the finances of the State in respect of the P.D.C., because the Chief Minister will admit that the P.D.C. is one of the biggest money-spenders of the State—much bigger than what the P.W.D. was. And how is it that he could have the conscience to refuse to discuss these Accounts? And now the Federal Government has acted. And the law, according to the Legal Adviser, that prevails, today is the Federal law. And on this point I would like to know why on this important issue the Public Accounts Committee did not understand the law. Why did they not refer this matter to the Legal Adviser, and find out from him that in 1973 a law had been passed

requiring Accounts to be examined? If I am not mistaken, the first Accounts of the P.D.C. were tabled in this House—according to the Government by mistake. But they were tabled. That is a fact. And the Public Accounts Committee has every right to look into it. But it refused because it claimed ignorance. It is here a Paper of the House. This point was raised by the Honourable Member for Jelutong, as to whether now, in view of the Federal law, the Public Accounts Committee should in fact call for those particular Accounts that were tabled, brief as it was. But sad to say, the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee at that time claimed ignorance of the law and said, “We better defer this matter”. I understand that ignorance of the law is no excuse. And now the Legal Adviser has told us that we do not need to await amendment. The law is what it is already. Mr Speaker, Sir, we are therefore very disturbed that the Federal Government has deemed it necessary to “wholesale” intervene in the affairs of the State in connection with the P.D.C. especially when this is also a Coalition Government. Why is it now that under the provisions that we are faced with at the moment the Federal Government wants greater participation in the Board that really controls the P.D.C.? It is some food for thought. Obviously all is not so well in the P.D.C. We want to know what sort of payments are being made to P.D.C. officers—whether the Chairman is being paid; whether the Vice-Chairman being paid. All these matters, Sir, will have to come out. And that is why we support this Bill. And that is why the Government perhaps waits till the end of its life to allow this Bill to go through.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, tidak payah diulang-ulang 2 atau 3 kali perkara itu. Saya sudah dengar panjang lebar berkenaan dengan itu. Jangan diulang lagi.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, we also support, in principle, the requirements, for example, under Clause 7 of the Rang Undang-undang that a member having any interest in any Company

shall disclose his interest in the undertaking, because we know, Sir, that there was a Company by the name of "Intan Utara" that was established to have business transactions with the P.D.C. And on the Board of Directors of Intan Utara were 2 Gerakan Members. And one Gerakan Exco Member was the Secretary—the Member for Tanjong Tengah. That sort of thing I believe will not happen now because of the new amendment to Section 9 whereby they must disclose their interests. And that will save them the embarrassment of Members of the Opposition applying to the Registrar of Companies for certified copies of the names of Directors of these various shadow Companies that have been established to have business dealings with the P.D.C. I say that this kind of thing must not happen. And the amendment to Section 9 if it is passed, will perhaps go some way—perhaps not all the way—to prevent abuses of this nature.

Mr Speaker, Sir, although on this side of the House we have stated time and again that there is nothing on the reading of the P.D.C. law as it stood preventing the Chief Minister from presenting Accounts because the Annual Report has to be tabled. And anybody with any common sense would know that the Annual Reports of any Association or Company incorporates the Accounts. It is as simple as that. And that is why I say that it is a sad day that the Federal Government has to pass a law whereby the provisions of a State law have been rendered inconsistent. This is not a case where the Federal law was already there. The Federal Government gave the State of Penang an opportunity to run its affairs properly—the P.D.C. is one of the most important vehicles—and yet they have abused this trust; and the Federal Government has had to intervene.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, tidak payah diulang lagi perkara ini. Kita sudah dengar panjang lebar. Ahli Yang Berhormat sudah bahas perkara ini. Jangan diulang-ulang lagi. Kalau tidak ada lain, sila duduk.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): And, therefore, I say, Mr Speaker, Sir, that in principle—and we will come to the actual provisions later—we support this Bill that is before the House. And I urge the Honourable the Chief Minister to take note of the words of the Penasihat Undang-undang Negeri—that it is already law. Do not mislead the State of Penang, or the Members of this House that it is not yet law. It is already law pursuant to Article 75 of the Federal Constitution. Your provisions are inconsistent with the Federal provisions; and therefore it is already law. And, please, as the Ketua Menteri, apply the laws of the land.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Tuan Speaker, saya minta izin bercakap dalam bahasa Inggeris.

It is true to say that this particular legislation is necessary to conform with the amendment that is being made to the Federal Act. And in fact it incorporates most of the provisions of the amendment. While agreeing that the provisions for audit of Accounts, and the Section with regard to pecuniary interests are measures which we in the Pekemas will support, we would like to point out that as far as the Amendment Bill as a whole is concerned, being people who are conscious in safeguarding State autonomy, as far as the Corporation is concerned we say that the Act, to the extent that it has taken away the autonomy of the State Development Corporation, is not worth supporting. I do not go all the way with the Honourable Member for Kelawei in saying that we will support this particular Bill just because it makes provision for audit, and it makes provision for pecuniary interests to be disclosed. Those are only two things. What is of more importance is that there are other amendments which make the Federal Government, through the Prime Minister the most powerful person as far as the running of the Corporation is concerned. Let me cite the appropriate Clauses. Clause 2 of the Amendment Bill brings in a new personality in the Minister. It says, "Minister" means the Prime Minister or such Minister as may

be nominated by him." And Clause 3 goes on to appoint three representatives of the Federal Government appointed by the Minister. And Clause 5 says that 'The Minister may, from time to time, give directions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Enactment and the Corporation shall, as soon as possible give effect to all such direction'. In other words the Prime Minister or the Federal Government, through the Minister, can at any time give directions to the Corporation; so, thereby, the whole autonomy which the Chief Minister was proud of when he incorporated the P.D.C. is no longer there. And apart from that it even goes so far as to say that upon the dissolution—Clause 14—of the Corporation the assets shall, after payment of all liabilities, be disposed of in such a manner as the Minister may after consultation with the State Authority determine. So the ultimate power, as far as the Corporation is concerned, rests with the Minister. As the Honourable the Chief Minister claims that he has been working in very close co-operation with the Federal Government in this respect, we would like to know whether there were any conferences between the State and Federal Governments before the promulgation of this particular amendment. Despite the empty boasts that have been made by the Honourable the Chief Minister about the necessity of having an autonomous body like the P.D.C. and in fact the P.D.C. was incorporated with that in mind—the functions of the P.D.C. are deliberately taken up from the State Government so that they will have the flexibility of private enterprise in pursuing any venture. But here we have this reversal. Is it because—and this is very important—during the 2 or 3 years of performance by the P.D.C. it was discovered by the Federal Government that the P.D.C. has abused the autonomous powers that had been given to it under the Penang Development Corporation Enactment to such an extent that they felt that something must be done to curb the activities of the P.D.C.? These are facts which the people of Penang must know. It is all very well to say that we have to pass this particular Bill today because of the

Federal Government's amendment of the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) Act of 1962; and just because of conformity we have to agree to all this. There are quite a number of things that are unresolved. The people do not know. They can only hazard a guess as to what is happening; as to the reasons why all of a sudden this particular legislation was passed by the Federal Government, so much so that we have to conform if we are to abide by the provisions of the Federal Constitution. This appears to me to be a complete change of attitude by the Honourable the Chief Minister. In the course of his speech to this House today in introducing this particular Bill not a word has been said as to the views of the Government with regard to this amendment, apart from saying that it is done for conformity. It is a well-known fact that when the Bill was first introduced what was uppermost in the mind of the Chief Minister was to secure autonomy for the P.D.C. And he carried his enthusiasm so far that he even refused to submit the Accounts of the P.D.C. to this House for scrutiny. And here we have a complete somersault. May we ask what are the reasons for this complete change of attitude on the part of Government, and on the part of the Chief Minister? Is it because there are legitimate reasons for this particular change? Is it because the P.D.C. has disregarded the procedures that should be applicable to them? Though there is no provision in law they may have blatantly disregarded what is considered to be proper procedure. Is it because the P.D.C. has embarked on expenditure of such a nature that news of this blatant dissipation of public funds has got into the ears of the Federal Government, so much so that this particular legislation was put forward? These are very serious matters. We have heard of trips abroad by members of the P.D.C. We have heard of expenditure during the year in the Auditor-General's Report of millions of dollars. And until today the P.D.C. and the State Government could not decide whether that particular expenditure should go into the Accounts of the P.D.C. or into the Accounts of the

State Government. These are matters found in the Auditor-General's Report. And here today we have before us this very legislation. So I think this is a matter which the Honourable the Chief Minister must clarify. If he fails to do so the people of Penang will be compelled to hazard a guess as to what are the real reasons for the passage of this legislation today; and in particular for the passage of this Bill today.

The Honourable the Chief Minister in the course of his speech took great pains to tell us—in fact it is also in this Bill—that this particular Bill is to be enacted by virtue of Section 3 of the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) Act, 1962, giving the impression that the only reason for doing so is conformity. So I must urge the Honourable the Chief Minister, in the course of his reply, to tell us whether he did make any strong representations to the Federal Government to safeguard the autonomy which he spoke about when introducing the original P.D.C. Enactment in this House. And is he convinced that the present legislation as it stands is actually in the best interests of the P.D.C. as far as the autonomy of the P.D.C. is concerned? Of course, we agree wholeheartedly that the furnishing of Accounts, the audit of Accounts, and the approval of the Budget, which are also provided for in the Bill are matters which are of importance; and we support those provisions. But we have reservations about the provisions that destroy the autonomy, and render that the Federal Government, in the person of the Prime Minister, will have the ultimate say in the running of the Penang Development Corporation.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya suka ambil bahagian dalam perbahasan Rang Undang-undang ini dan minta izin bercakap dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to seek clarification, and point out certain inconsistencies in this Bill. One clarification which I like to have is whether the Government is prepared to submit the Accounts of the past years to this

House. This Bill says in the Explanatory Statement. "The main purpose of the amendments proposed by this Bill is to bring the Penang Development Corporation Enactment, 1971, into accord with the provisions of the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) Act". And earlier on it says, "The Penang Development Corporation Enactment was enacted by virtue of Section 3 of the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) Act, 1962. Article 75 of the Federal Constitution provides that if any State law is inconsistent with a federal law the federal law shall prevail and the State law shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void." Now, I understand there was a Federal law way back in 1971; and that one was the Emergency Ordinance No. 87 of 1971. And what I like to know is whether, if that was so, the State Government has been acting in conformity with that law. Does that Emergency law override laws that are made by the State? And if it does then it must have been inconsistent. And therefore the Government should let this House have all the past Accounts.

My second point, Mr Speaker, Sir, is that the Corporation will have to send the Budget to the Chief Minister; and the Budget will have to be approved by the Chief Minister; And it has to submit a copy of the statement of Accounts at the end of the year to the Chief Minister; and the Chief Minister will have to table it in the House. Mr Speaker, Sir, as you all know, the Chief Minister is also the Chairman of the Penang Development Corporation. Now, how is he going to submit his own Accounts to himself? In this dual capacity definitely there will be a conflict of interests. Therefore he prepares his own Account and says, "I want to spend so much;" and he approves that Account himself. Isn't that a conflict of interest? Isn't that a mockery of the provisions that are made by Federal law? Of course, Federal law says that the Accounts shall be submitted through the Chief Minister. I agree that this is in conformity with that. But then the Chief Minister in holding the position of Chairman of the Development Corporation is wrong. He cannot act in both

capacities. And I would therefore say that if he wants to honour Federal law and his own law he should give up the post of Chairman of the Penang Development Corporation. I am sure there are many able Members on the other side of the House who could sit equally well. There is not only one great man—one know-all, as we have always said. And this proves that even to the extent of acting against the law he would still want to hold on to the post.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Hang on. Cling on to it.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Mr Speaker, Sir, even if there are no able Members on that side of the House there are many able persons in Penang. And, you know, he is one of the great men who knows that Penang always leads. And I hope that we have a man who can be Chairman of the Penang Development Corporation from among members of the public. There is nothing wrong in that. And I think he might even do a better job than what the Chief Minister is doing. And therefore I hope he will graciously give up the post, since the Bill is going to be passed.

Dewan ditangguhkan pada jam 1.00 tengahari.

Dewan bersidang semula pada jam 2.32 petang.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, sekali lagi saya katakan ini satu Rang Undang-undang yang senang sekali. Tetapi di dalam perbahasan ada Yang Berhormat Ahli-ahli dari parti Pembangkang semua ulang dan pusing beri lagi keterangan macamana mereka selalu suka hendak kata yang terus; di mana mereka suka hendak bagi *crooked* apa yang *straight* dan sebab itu saya minta izin lagi berucap kepada 1, 2 atau 3 perkara yang berbangkit.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the point for us to note is that the amendment to the Federal Act, which is the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) (Amendment) Act, 1974 was passed by the Federal Parliament at the Dewan Negara. And the Act was assented by His Majesty in March, 1974, in consequence of which—now, this is the

9th of April, 1974—we can say that the State Government has responded to this amendment at the earliest possible opportunity in order to make it possible for the Accounts of the Corporation to be tabled in this House, very much in a manner whereby the Members from the Opposition had been shouting for in the last two years. When we don't do it because there is no law they shout. Now that we accord it to make it possible they also shout. Mr Speaker, Sir, it is obvious that they will go on shouting just for the sake of shouting. And they will go on opposing for the sake of opposing. And because they haven't got very much to say they twist round and refer to the Development Corporation, and use the same old insinuating, cavalierly, malicious, subversive manner which they always use by first saying, "Well, because we don't know therefore everything must be wrong." Mr Speaker, Sir, this is the kind of attitude which I feel. And I must consider that the Honourable Members of the Opposition who at one time strove to share responsibility did not have the capacity to hold on, shirked that responsibility, and ran across to the other side; and now turn back and pretend to be men of stature. These are warped men; men whose lives have made it impossible for them to distinguish that which is right and that which is wrong. Mr Speaker, Sir, if one were to use the analogy made by the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap and say, "Well, because I don't know exactly what was the story about so-and-so having lost his car therefore actually what happened was that that person was not in actual fact forced to give up his car, but virtually gave it away in order to get cheap publicity."—a symphony, he said, where we don't know exactly what happened to somebody going along the Trans-Krian Road. And because it was possible that the Trans-Krian Road had a pot-hole therefore this fellow fell inside it because he was drunk—Mr Speaker, Sir, it is this type of insinuating pre-suppositions which the Honourable Members from the Opposition are experts on. They like to twist what is not there. Now, they have been

clamouring for a legal method whereby the Accounts of the Corporation should be placed before the House. We have acceded to this request. And what are the implications? The implication of this was that the Federal Government considered that the Development Corporation was possibly corrupt, incompetent, and otherwise; and therefore they were forced to bring a Bill to subjugate the Penang Development Corporation. Mr Speaker, Sir, I am sure that the Federal Government have got far more important business to do than just look over the shoulders of the Penang Development Corporation. And the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap, who is also one of the more distinguished members of the Opposition in the Dewan Rakyat, has himself participated in this particular debate, though, I must say, not with very great distinction. He did make a few comments, but did not quite say what he said here. If he had wanted to say anything at all he should have said it in Parliament, and asked the mover of the Bill then, "Are you moving this Bill because the Penang Development Corporation is badly run?" He never asked that kind of question up there. Mr Speaker, Sir, so you see that when a fish which is slightly bigger than a small fish, and which flaps around in a very small little pool like our Dewan, goes up to the Dewan Rakyat he sneaks around and says nothing very much.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): You are not around also.

On a point of clarification, if the Honourable the Chief Minister would give way: Were you around when I spoke? And have you gone through the whole of the Hansard to see what I have done and what I have not done? You are hardly there.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): He has been playing truant all the time. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): True. (*ketawa*)

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Should be expelled.

Ketua Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, I have given the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap his thrust back, and naturally must parry.

Mr Speaker, Sir, there are occasions when I look around me and behind me; and I don't see the famous Member from Seberang Selatan because he is not always there either. But I don't jump to the conclusion that he doesn't read Hansard, and he doesn't follow what I say or what I do. As a matter of fact, I think his heart still burns at some of the things I have to say. And the important thing is not that one sits there and be seen, and tries to speak, but that what one sees carries effectively.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the position as we understand it is that the Honourable Members from the Opposition attempt to impute a lot of mischievous connotations on the presentation of the Bill—even to the question of whether the P.D.C. accounts are not properly rendered.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the fact that Government is ready to move this Bill at the earliest possible opportunity means that the Government will, in accordance with the provisions of the law, table all the accounts that the Honourable Members have sought for. Mr Speaker, Sir, where is the intention on the part of Government to hide anything?

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam goes on to ask, "Is it because the Honourable the Chief Minister has turned round? Where goes this famous autonomy that he speaks about?" Mr Speaker, Sir, often enough in this House we have stated and restated again and again that whatever is achieved by way of social economic development in Penang will be done not only for the benefit of the people of Penang but for Malaysia as a whole. Mr Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt whatsoever in the minds of the people in this country, and the people in the State of Penang in particular, that the achievements of the Government in the field of development have been enormous. The position is so clear that the activities of the Development Corporation have been such that

they have been taken at times to be models for activities of other Development Corporations elsewhere. As a matter of fact it is a matter of pride for us to realise that the Penang Development Corporation in particular has been asked to work in conjunction with our neighbouring State Development Corporations, namely the State Corporations of Kedah, Perak, Pahang and elsewhere, because of the functions that it has carried out so effectively. Under the circumstances also, by virtue of the fact that it is very necessary that development taking place at all levels and in all States should be co-ordinated under the National Action Council, which is under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister himself, or in his absence any Minister nominated by him, and by virtue of the fact that Development Corporations of the various States frequently hold meetings to co-ordinate their activities for the sake of the nation, in order to carry out the economic policy in a more effective manner to serve the interests of the nation as a whole, the provisions that are made in the amendments are clear-cut. There is no implication here that the autonomy of the Penang Development Corporation has been taken away.

Mr Speaker, Sir, herein we see the kind of insinuation which the Honourable Members from the Opposition, particularly the Honourable Member for Ayer Itam, often use when a very simple, straightforward matter is presented. This Bill is straightforward. It meets the demand that has been made in this House. It fulfils it in accordance with law. It fulfils it in a constitutional manner.

With reference to Article 75, the Honourable Member from Kelawei should have known that in particular the Development Corporation of Penang was first instituted under Emergency law under the N.O.C. and the S.O.C. And seeing that the Enactments under Emergency rule had to be put into effect when Parliament met, until this amendment to the Incorporation (State Legislatures Competency) Act was

made recently we have followed suit in order to keep ourselves in line with the changes that have taken place in Parliament and in Federal law.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Sungei Bakap has referred to a very important point, namely this question of the Corporation having, under the proposed new Section 11, to refer the expenses of the Corporation to the Chief Minister. And I would like to read this clause very carefully for the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap so that he can take it back and read it carefully also, I hope.

- (1) "The expenses of the Corporation shall be defrayed out of the monies in the Fund in accordance with such estimates as may be authorised in subsection (2)."

Now, subsection (2) says:

- (2) "Before the beginning of September of each year, the Corporation shall submit to the Chief Minister an estimate of the expenses for the following year in such form and with such particulars as the Chief Minister may require; and the Chief Minister shall before the beginning of November of each year notify the Corporation of the amount authorised for expenses generally or of the amount authorised for each description of expenditure."

And

- (3) "The Corporation may at any time submit to the Chief Minister a supplementary estimate for any one year and the Chief Minister may allow the whole or any part of the additional herein."

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Penang Development Corporation Act as it stands does not necessarily infer that in the case of the State of Penang the Chairman must be the Chief Minister. But I certainly, for one, would be much more humanely generous than the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap to say that it is well within the competency of one man to fulfil both the role of the Chief Minister as well as that of the Chairman of the Penang Development Corporation, with the words so incorporated in Section 11 to which he has referred. Mr Speaker, Sir, after all ordinary persons are not persons with a twisted or warped kind of attitude who are afraid of their inner conscience, or afraid of their own

selves. They do always have to ask somebody to sit beside them and look over their shoulders in case they have done anything wrong. Mr Speaker, Sir, furthermore I can say quite clearly that the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap has caught at a fleeting moment of truth because it is very likely that the Chief Minister may not like or may not want to continue as the Chairman of the Development Corporation. And it may not be necessary for the Chief Minister to continue as the Chairman of the Development Corporation.

Now, speaking as the present incumbent of the Chair of the Chief Minister of the State, I would say that it is a matter of great pride to me that during my tenure of office I have instituted organisations such as the Penang Development Corporation from nowhere; and I have instituted organisations such as the State Water Authority. And it has been an onerous task to try and integrate and restructure the Local Authorities. But these are jobs that have to be taken over and above the normal duties of a Chief Minister. So it may be possible, and it may be true also, that a time will come when the Chief Minister need not necessarily serve as Chairman of the Development Corporation, although the practice in all the other States has been that the Ketua Menteri or the Menteri Besar of these States is also the Chairman of the Development Corporation. And this introduction of the Prime Minister and the Minister into this clause begins to look at a situation whereby development in the State's overall will contribute to the national development as a whole. And under that circumstance, if we read paragraph 13 of the Bill it says: "The principal Enactment is hereby amended by substituting for section 23 thereof the following new section 23—

- (1) "The Corporation shall not later than the 30th day of June each year cause to be made and transmitted to the Chief Minister and the Minister,"—namely either the Prime Minister or the Minister so designated by the Prime Minister—"a report dealing with the activities of the Corporation during the preceding year.

- (2) The Chief Minister shall cause a copy of every such report to be laid on the table of the Legislature of the State".

In consequence, Sir, the position is that the function and the authority of the State over the Development Corporation is still kept within the Legislature of the State. We have not surrendered one wick of our control over the Development Corporation to any other person, except that we have co-operated; similarly as the Prime Minister or other Minister designated by him will co-operate with the State. Hence we say that the benefits that have accrued to the State of Penang have been due to the mutual co-operation between the State and the Federal Governments. This is a fact particularly when developments of the nature embarked upon by the Penang Development Corporation touch upon social and civic aims. And several of these items that have already been mentioned, I am sure, will be discussed in this House.

Mr Speaker, Sir, it is not really necessary for me to refer to the malevolent and old record of the Honourable Member for Kelawei in referring to this question of section 7 on disclosure of interest; and again referring to Intan Utara, and so on; and insinuating again that Members of Ex. Co. have not carried out things in a proper manner. Sir, I can assure this House that in so far as I am concerned, as a responsible person, and as Chief Minister of this State, responsible for the affairs of the State, I say quite categorically that my colleagues who have served in the Development Corporation have conducted themselves above all censure and reproach. And if the Honourable Members sitting opposite have any evidence at all so to otherwise challenge my categorical statement they should do so; or otherwise they should not proceed with these insinuating, subversive statements that they continually make. Mr Speaker, Sir, I certainly also say that I am proud to have as my colleagues Members who have worked very closely together with me in the last two years. And by their performance, and through my experience in the years that they have worked with many, many people before,

I must say that my colleagues in the present Executive Council of the State, and also as members of the Development Corporation have functioned in many ways very much better than those erstwhile colleagues who have crossed over to the other side.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): You are entitled to your opinion.

Ketua Menteri: It is my personal statement; and people can throw it back to me as a right. I have a right to a personal opinion, Mr Speaker, Sir. But I do believe that with the experience I carry, and the position I hold that opinion is an important one. And, Mr Speaker, I have taken this time to rebut a lot of the unnecessary things that have been brought up in this debate over a straightforward Bill to be put into action in accordance with what has been provided for by Parliamentary law—the very things that the Honourable Members of the Opposition have asked for. But instead of just standing up and saying, “We support the Bill”, or even at the very best just keeping silent about it, they must stand up to show their continued insinuation and malevolence and maliciousness. That, Sir, I cannot prevent, and I cannot help because human beings are born all the time with different attitudes to life.

Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.

Rang Undang-undang dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.

Rang Undang-Undang dalam Jawatankuasa

Dewan bersidang sebagai Jawatankuasa.

Fasal 1, Fasal 2, Fasal 3, Fasal 4, Fasal 5, Fasal 6, Fasal 7, Fasal 8, dan Fasal 9 menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Fasal 10.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Tuan Speaker, saya minta izin bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris. We were informed by the Honourable Chief Minister about the “no loss of autonomy”, and things like that. But

I would like to point out to this particular section 10 which says that the assets of the Corporation may, in so far as they are not required to be expended by the Corporation under this Enactment, be invested in such manner as may be approved by the Minister of Finance. So even for investment purposes we have to seek approval of the Minister of Finance. How is it consistent with the argument that the Development Corporation will have full autonomy? It is understandable that the Honourable Chief Minister, in view of what was happening in this country during the last few days, may be very enthusiastic about demonstrating the spirit of co-operation, because when one is thinking of applying for a job one must prepare oneself for it. It is understandable. But let us not in this Chamber place the interest of the people of Penang in jeopardy by our enthusiasm to obtain employment elsewhere.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin.

I don't think of qualification matters in this House. And Members should not be carried away in this House. The Honourable Member from Kelawei had earlier referred to a vacancy. Now the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam again insinuates all sorts of pre-suppositions and makes all sorts of accusations. There is no vacancy. This position is a straightforward situation and does not concern this House; nor does it concern the Honourable the Chief Minister of the State of Penang.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this particular provision is a straightforward one consequential upon the provisions which are made by Federal law. And because neither the State Government nor the P.D.C. has the power to act by way of a Bank or an investment or finance company it is consequential that this matter be referred to the proper Authorities, namely the Minister.

Fasal 10 menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-Undang.

Fasal 11.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Tuan Speaker, minta izin lagi bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

No doubt the Honourable the Chief Minister quite rightly says that Section 11 does not necessarily prevent him legally from carrying on in a dual capacity, or even a treble capacity—whatever it is. Well, I say 'Good Luck' to him if he is capable of doing all that. But I am pointing out not the legal aspect of it but the spirit of Section 11. Section 11 envisaged a reviewing body. And the Chief Minister should be the reviewing body. What is tantamount to being the Budget prepared by the Development Corporation is to be approved by the Chief Minister. And any other Supplementary Budget is also to be reviewed by the Chief Minister. In other words, the Chief Minister will have the final say. So here again we must go in accordance with the spirit because, if the Chief Minister persists on this, this will be a debit side of the qualification to get a job in Kuala Lumpur, because Kuala Lumpur expects that there should be two responsibilities. If the Chief Minister feels that the work on the P.D.C. is of great importance, and will contribute a great deal towards the welfare of the people of Penang then he should take up a full-time job in the P.D.C. On the other hand, if he feels that he will be able to exercise sufficient control over the P.D.C. by powers given to him under Section 11 then I suggest that he should continue to be Chief Minister, and review the policy of the P.D.C. in his capacity as Chief Minister of this particular State because as far as the spirit of Section 11 is concerned it does not envisage one person serving in this dual capacity. If so then they should have some other body—the State Executive Council or this Assembly perhaps—to do it. So I would like to point out the inconsistency here; and I would like to suggest to the Chief Minister, because of his desire to co-operate fully with the Federal Government, that in this respect he can do so by making decision either way. And by so doing I feel that the Prime Minister will be very happy to have such a suggestion. No doubt it is true that every other Development Corporation is doing the same thing.

And we are actually passing this law here. So I would suggest that we should adhere not only strictly to the letter of the law but also to the spirit of the law.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, in going through this Bill this House has approved Section 3. And I refer the member of the learned profession, the Honourable Member for Ayer Itam, to Section 3 (c) which says:

"by substituting for subsection (6), the following—

'(6) The appointment of any member other than those mentioned in subparagraphs (c) and (e) of subsection (1) may at any time be revoked by the State Authority without assigning any reason therefor.'

In consequence Honourable Members of this House should realise that the appointment of the members of this Board is being made by the State Authority. And if the State Authority considers that the Chief Minister should not serve on the P.D.C. the State Authority will be the body to so consider. And there is already provision for this. In any case I think the Honourable Member for Ayer Itam has deliberately tried to even twist the written word. I do not see in any part of this Section 11, which I have read at great length and in detail either the word 'review' or the word 'approve'. Mr Speaker, Sir, just to refresh the memory of the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam, the exact words that are stated are that "the Corporation shall submit to the Chief Minister" (gangguan)

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Then what is the purpose of the submission?

Ketua Menteri: an estimate of the expenses for the following year". And the Chief Minister shall "each year notify". I do not see the words 'review' or 'approval' appearing in any of this. (gangguan).

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Mr Speaker, Sir, saya minta izin. Is the word 'authorised' there?

Ketua Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, the word 'authorised' does appear at subsection (1). And subsection (1) refers to subsection (2). But to authorise it up to notification does not necessarily invoke the question of review or appeal.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Then why do you submit the Accounts.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, saya berharap janganlah ganggu.

Ketua Menteri: In any case, Mr Speaker, Sir, this House should enact laws that can last, and laws that are meaningful to the State. This House does not enact laws for any one particular person or any one particular Party.

Now, the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam refers to me in person. I know he doesn't like me (*ketawa*) because I have stated what I consider him to be. And it is understood in this House that there is a little love lost between us. But as, I think, he is a good parliamentarian we can get on well outside. But in this House it is quite clear that this laugh-off couldn't happen. And I do not think that the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam should allow his head to understand that the term 'Chief Minister' here doesn't make him perpetually the Honourable Member from Kota.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Thank God.

Ketua Menteri: Well, Sir, I think the Honourable Member from Kelawei, as usual, must interject. I also thank God that this will be the last time that we can see the word 'Kelawei' in this House. (*ketawa*).

Mr Speaker, Sir, I think myself that the provisions of this Bill are clear. And I think quite categorically that we must state here that if at any time the State Authority—under Section 3 which we have passed—considers that the Chief Minister of the time should also be the Chairman of the Development Corporation then the question does not arise therefore for the Honourable Member to try and hit me

personally in my individual capacity in order to bring demerit to this particular clause. The Bill as it stands is a clear-cut Bill providing for any future contingencies that may arise. And I certainly believe that persons of such high-mindedness as the Honourable Member from Ayer Itam will never descend to the level to which he has already descended.

Fasal 11 menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-Undang.

Fasal 12

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: Regarding Fasal 12, we wonder whether we can take the Honourable the Chief Minister at his word. Sometimes he says he is just conforming; and sometimes we see that he does contrary to what he says. I do not know whether I can take it that laws passed in this House can last, because the very fact that we are passing amendments to this particular law means it does not last. We keep on changing it because we do not pass laws very soberly in this House. And I don't think this will be the last time we will passing amendments to these particular provisions.

I refer, Mr Speaker, Sir, to Section 22 under amendment—Fasal 12 di dalam Rang Undang-Undang tetapi Seksyen 22 di dalam Undang-Undang yang tetap. I take it that we are following the Incorporation (State Legislatures) Competency (Amendment) Act of 1974. And I presume that Parliament does pass laws with specific intentions and purposes in mind. I see here that under that particular Act A244 Section 14 (3) says that—

"After the end of each financial year and as soon as the accounts of the corporation have been audited the corporation shall cause a copy of the statement of accounts to be transmitted to the Minister together with a copy of any observations made by Auditor-General or the auditor appointed under sub-paragraph (2) on any statement or on the accounts of the corporation."

Now, clearly in the Act of Parliament it is provided that these Accounts shall go straight to the Minister. And 'the Minister' here means the Prime Minister or any minister designated by the Prime Minister. And I think the Honourable the Chief Minister owes us in this House an explanation because he commenced his presentation of this Bill by saying that we are conforming with the provisions of Act A244. And if we deviate from that Act let us know why we deviate from the Act. I presume that, as I said, Parliament passed these provisions for meaningful purposes, one of which must be—here it is specified—that it is the Minister (and here meaning the Prime Minister) who shall have the power to consider this financial report and the observations made by the Auditor-General. And only then, under those provisions, shall the Menteri Besar—in the case of the Act as it stands—cause a copy of every such statement to be laid on the table of the Legislature of the State. But the point I wanted clarified is: Why is it that the Rang Undang-Undang before us today which the Chief Minister claims to follow the provisions of the Act—does not follow the Act? Why is it that now he has included here "to the Chief Minister"? Why? Because obviously he is already insisting that he is going to be Chairman; and wild horses couldn't tear him away from that post. But if that is the case why has he put himself in? He is a man of all roles, who know his capacity, he says. He prides himself with bringing the Water Authority; and among other things still being the Acting Chairman of the Gerakan.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, ini bukan Election Campaign. Saya harap tarik balik.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Well, I'll take back that part of it about him being the Acting Chairman. There is supposed to be a Delegates' Conference. I don't know what will happen; but anyway I take it back. (*ketawa*).

Mr Speaker, Sir, I think the Honourable the Chief Minister owes an explanation why 'the Chief Minister' has also

been added into this amendment. Tell us. That is as far as I am concerned—so far in connection with this. And, on another point, surely if he can depart from the provisions set by Parliament where it suits him I say he can also depart from them where logic requires him to depart from them. He says he has a right to depart from them. Looking at Section 22 (4) it says here, "The Chief Minister shall cause a copy of every such report and observation to be laid on the table of the Legislature of the State". Now, I submit that a time period should be set. When should he cause a copy of such report and observation to be laid on the table of the Legislature of the State? Surely there must be a time limit. And here in passing I merely would like to draw the attention of the House—not that I wish to quibble with the Honourable the Chief Minister here. I am not quite happy with section 22 (4) because it says that "a copy of every such report and observation to be laid". Maybe this has been put in out of error; or the Chief Minister hasn't seen it. Now that I draw his attention to it he may well like to delete it because I note from the Act as passed by Parliament that as far as this particular provision is concerned at least it may be mentioned elsewhere that the observation should also be laid. Now the observation has been included because somebody might have thought that perhaps he should take precaution. But let us pass laws knowing what we pass. Let us not pass laws accidentally.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin supaya bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Kelawei started off quite well because I agree with him that the Legislature has the right to change laws. And laws should be brought up to the Legislature and changed from time to time in order to serve and benefit the people of the State. Mr Speaker, Sir, on that part of it I have no disagreement with him. The Honourable Member for Kelawei, however, has taken up a lot of time—wasting our time; in actual fact trying to be a little bit too clever.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I must say I am not a legal draftsman, nor an expert in legal terminology. I happen to be a person who fairly humbly accepts recommendations submitted to me by men who are competent in that aspect of work; and in particular my colleague the Honourable Legal Adviser.

Again, you see, there was the insinuation that I definitely want to stick on to this job; and wild horses will not take it away from me. Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether the Honourable Member from Kelawei equates himself as a wild horse. (*ketawa*). But even if he were a wild horse I most seriously think it would not be worth while thinking about a Kelawei wild horse. Mr Speaker, Sir, he has referred to Act A244. And in this particular Act it says in Section 14 (3) that—

“After the end of each financial year and as soon as the accounts of the corporation have been audited the corporation shall cause a copy of the statement of accounts to be transmitted to the Minister, together with a copy of any observations made by the Auditor-General or the auditor appointed under sub-paragraph (2) on any statement or on the Accounts of the corporation.”

And (4) goes on to say that—

“The Menteri Besar of the State shall cause a copy of every such statement to be laid on the table of the Legislature of the State.”

And under that circumstance he says that what we have done in this Bill is inconsistent with the provisions of Act A244.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I do submit that there is a tendency to take the first part of a Bill and read it, and forget the rest of it. If he reads on he will find that paragraph 19 of Act A244 reads: “The law establishing a Corporation may make other provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Schedule.” And I do submit that the words that are now incorporated in our present Bill are not inconsistent with the provisions.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin:

I grant that it is not inconsistent. I grant that you perhaps have the powers. What I am saying is: Give the reasons to this House why you deviate. That is my question. Give the reasons. If you don't have the reasons say so. (*ketawa*)

Ketua Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin:

I had already actually given the reasons when I replied to the Honourable Member for Ayer Itam generally earlier on. Obviously, the Development Corporations of various States will have to co-ordinate their financial position with one another and the co-ordinate body, as I said, will go under the Prime Minister through the National Action Council and unless the Minister concerned namely the Prime Minister or the Minister that is chosen by him has known apparently what the financial position of the various State Development Corporations will be then the Federal Authorities concerned will find it difficult to take the decision as to whether application by the Development Corporations of the various States should deserve on any allocations or further loans support from the Federal Authorities that are concerned. That, obviously, is quite clear.

Fasal 12 menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-Undang

Fasal 13.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin:

Here, Mr Speaker, Sir, also you find that what the Chief Minister said just now in connection with Section 22 does not seem to apply to Section 23 now, because here quite clearly the provisions of Parliament do provide that the Annual Report then can be transmitted to the Chief Minister. It says it can. But in connection with the Financial Report Parliament deliberately left it out. It wanted to bypass the Chief Minister; and wanted to send it straight to the Prime Minister so that there could be, perhaps no interference. I

think that must be the reason. Draftsmen in Parliament do not fiddle around. They don't do things just for the sake of it. And I don't know how the Chief Minister is going to wiggle his way out of this situation now. This particular clause in connection with the Annual Report does provide that the Chief Minister be transmitted a copy of the Annual Report. But we know that the Annual Report comes later. The Financial Report is the one that is important. And that's why Parliament provides that it goes straight to the Prime Minister, so that any hanky-panky in terms of the financial position of the Corporation will not be obscured, assuming that the Chief Minister is not the Chairman in it. These are already provided for by the Parliamentary Legislation. Why is it being suggested that Tun Razak, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, moved this Bill in Parliament without knowing what he was doing? Why did he exclude the Chief Minister from '22', and include him in '23'? The reasons must be quite substantial. I would like the Honourable the Chief Minister to explain himself out of this one.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin.

The Honourable Member for Kelawei, I think, has got down to serious business; but in his usual way he omitted a fact. It is obviously clear that consequential to the provision, unlike the Honourable Member for Ayer Itam says—"Why must we all the time follow what the Federal Government says?"—here we have in actual fact made certain provisions which are of relevance to the State itself. And what the Honourable Member for Kelawei is referring to, in actual fact, is A244—'14' and '15'. Now, I submit that this House is quite correct to include Section 13 as it stands because it is very necessary. Particularly in the case where the Chief Minister need not necessarily be the Chairman of the Corporation the Chief Minister should also be aware of the exact financial state as a fact. And, as the Honourable Members have already indicated, this Bill when passed obviously anticipated

certain changes that have been taking place. It is only quite clear that in an instance where the Chief Minister is not the Chairman he should be kept informed in the same manner as the Prime Minister or the Minister concerned is kept informed. And this in actual fact strengthens the state of things, and the shape of things to come.

I agree with the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap—and I believe this to be true—that there must be other people in the State of Penang who can do better, and who will do better, and will carry the standard of the State even further than what we have done. But certainly I do not see it forthcoming from Members opposite me.

Fasal 13 menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-undang.

Fasal 14

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin:

Mr Speaker, Sir, we have so far accepted many provisions of this amendment; but we think that in respect of the 14th Clause of this Rang Undang-Undang it needs some explanation from the Honourable the Chief Minister, apart from a lot of his wisecracks and his trying to belittle the points that I have raised, which I made seriously on the part of the Opposition because it is our duty to raise points that may create ambiguity in the years to come. But if he wishes to treat them lightly, and take his responsibility in this manner, well, we have nothing else to say. We have done our duty. It goes on record. If he chooses to take umbrage that is also his liberty. But, Sir, he would do justice to himself, and his Government, and the Coalition Government if he could explain to us the exact extent of this amendment to subsection (2) or Section 25. What is the exact conclusion? We are very worried on this side of the House. We are not trying to play partisan politics. We are not trying to trip-up the Honourable the Chief Minister. We received this list about two weeks before the date of this Sitting. He has had it for months in advance; so he has what he has to

explain to this House. But if he chooses to treat what we say lightly, as I said, he is entitled to do so. He is the Honourable the Chief Minister of Penang. He should know his responsibility. But I think he owes us an explanation, because we look at this clause as a very dangerous clause. We are very perturbed by its provision. It says, "Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, the assets of the Corporation shall, after payment of all liabilities, be disposed in such manner as the Minister may after consultation to the State Authority determine." "Mr Speaker, Sir, I presume that "after payment of all liabilities" refers to debts incurred by the Corporation. Would it involve, for example, money that has been given by this State outright to the P.D.C.? For example, would all this money be refunded to the State because this money is the money that comes from the taxes of this State? If we voted \$20 million for the P.D.C. when the P.D.C. is dissolved will that \$20 million come back to the people of Penang? Or will that \$20 million be taken over by the Federal Government, and be dispersed elsewhere? That I think the people of Penang are interested in knowing because, who knows the Corporation for some reason or other may be dissolved. That is the reason why the clause is put in. And if it is dissolved, and if we in the State of Penang have voted \$20 million outright grant to the Corporation, and it is not a debt, it is not a liability. And, of course, the Penasihat Undang-Undang is there to explain to us whether these conclusions are so far-reaching. But if it is not so, and what we fear is correct, then we have no control. The Penang State will vote \$20 million to the P.D.C. When the P.D.C. is dissolved the \$20 million can—'can' I don't say 'will', so I hope the Honourable the Chief Minister will not twist my words—then be dispersed to other States. Now, that would not be fair. That is a provision we on this part of the House cannot accept. That I think the Honourable the Chief Minister should have looked into seriously, non-partisanly; and account to this House, and tell us what this clause means. And

don't tell us, "Oh, it does provide 'after consultation'. I think the Penasihat is there; and he can confirm what I will say now—that 'after consultation' is in fact a meaningless phrase. It means that the Federal Government can consult, but it can completely ignore the views of the State Authority. And the State Authority is 'Chief Minister.' It can completely ignore the State Authority. It says 'consult'; it does not say 'get the consent.'

Now, how is it that we can vote for a provision whereby we have no control over funds that we vote for the P.D.C. This is for the future. This is for the day when that kind of situation arises. I hope the Chief Minister is not going to make some wise-cracks and foolish remarks, and try to draw a red herring over this. If this is what we think it is we on this side of the House cannot support.

Ketua Menter: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin bercakap dalam bahasa Inggeris sebagai jawapan kepada Yang Berhormat Ahli dari Kawasan Kelawei.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I never take umbrage over what the Honourable Member for Kelawei states. I know what he is. I know what his performance in this House is like; and I never get rattled by him. And certainly I do not take umbrage. It is not a matter that one really takes umbrage upon. But this is the third time that the Honourable Member for Kelawei says I owe this House an explanation. Mr Speaker, Sir, we do not owe the House an explanation; but if the House wants to seek for a explanation we can deliver it. It is our duty to give an explanation when it is sought.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member in closing his speech asked me not to 'malu' belittle matters, and make wise-cracks and jokes. Mr Speaker, Sir, everything I say here I also presume will go on record. And if the Honourable Member for Kelawei in his interpretation of my remarks has considered them to be jokes, or as belittling him I suggest to him that that is wrong interpretation. All that he should really

understand is that he is making little issues into big issues, or a mountain out of a mole-hill. Now, for example, he says, 'State Authority' means the 'Chief Minister'. Even on this very simple fact he should appreciate that 'State Authority' refers to the State Executive Council, which is the Governor in Council, and of which the Chief Minister is Chairman. It also means in actual fact that the State Authority is backed by the legislature. And therefore if the State Authority finds that it has issues that it has to consider seriously, or to take up very seriously it must be brought down to, and must be backed by the legislature. Therein lies the whole concept of the power and the authority that accrues to the State Government. Mr Speaker, Sir, that I hope the Honourable Member for Kelawei will concede and accept, because it is very essential that the wording as written both in Act A244 as well as in this present Bill, which happen to be the same, is interpreted in the spirit whereby it is given, namely that the assets and liabilities of the Corporation shall be disposed of in such a manner as the Minister may after consultation with the State Authority determine. A consultation with the State Authority is a very serious business. And I hope that all subsequent State Authorities will carry on the traditions that we have set, namely at all times to protect the interests of the State of Penang; and, in accordance with the Prayer, to uphold the interest of the State, and the well-being of the people in the State. And also that all subsequent Authorities will act in the same manner as we have acted at all times during our term of office—that we shall work for the interests of the people of Penang. And, certainly, if in any consultation with the Minister it is not in the interests of the people of Penang for any decision to be made the present State Authority will not agree in these discussions and these consultations to give up what should not be given up. And I hope that in future any State Authority will maintain this same tradition which we hope we have set, because I hope that if and when the

time comes, and younger politicians begin to assume positions of responsibility—and the Honourable Member for Kelawei will have to accept that by age difference alone he belongs to a younger generation than myself; and he has the opportunity if he matures well (*ketawa*)—which involve that of our State Authority—they will not forget that the State Authority has during our term of office always acted in the best interests of the State of Penang and the people of Penang. And I hope future State Authorities will so act. And so long as the people elect Members who will serve them in the State Authority in the same spirit as we have, especially, I am sure that this particular clause need not give us undue concern.

Fasal 14 dan Fasal 15 dan tajuk penuh dan fasal yang mengundang menjadi sebahagian daripada Rang Undang-Undang.

Dewan bersidang semula.

Bacaan Yang Ketiga

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya mohon melapurkan bahawa Rang Undang-Undang Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang (Pindaan), 1974 telahpun dipertimbangkan sefasal demi sefasal di dalam Jawatankuasa dan dipersetujui tanpa pindaan. Oleh itu, saya mohon mencadangkan supaya Rang Undang-Undang ini sekarang dibacakan bagi kali yang ketiga serta diluluskan.

Ahli Kawasan Dhoby Ghaut (Encik Khoo Teng Chye): Tuan Speaker, saya mohon menyokong.

Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.

Rang Undang-Undang dibacakan bagi kali yang ketiga dan diluluskan.

6. USUL-USUL.

(A) Usul oleh Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar.

Ahli Kawasan Permatang Pauh (Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar): Saya mohon mencadangkan 'Bahawa kami, Speaker dan Ahli-Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Pulau Pinang,

mohon mengucapkan terimakasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama kerana telah sudi melafazkan Ucapan kepada Dewan ini di Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Yang Keempat pada 8.4.74.

Tuan Speaker, Tuan Yang Terutama telah melafazkan ucapan yang mengandungi segala aspek ataupun segala bahagian. Ini adalah membuktikan bahawa pentadbiran dan kecekapan Kerajaan Campuran di bawah pimpinan Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri kita adalah dapat mencapai kemajuan-kemajuan dengan begitu pesatnya dari masa ke semasa. Negeri Pulau Pinang ini terus melipat-gandakan kemajuan di dalam semua bidang ke arah mencapai matlamat utama Dasar Ekonomi Baru. Tuan Yang Terutama juga merasai puashati dengan kemajuan dan sosial yang telah tercapai dan membawa satu perubahan dan mengubah taraf hidup penduduk-penduduk rakyat di Negeri ini.

Tuan Speaker, pembangunan dalam Negeri ini adalah membuktikan bahawa kerjasama yang begitu erat daripada Kerajaan Negeri supaya Kerajaan Pusat, dengan tujuan ataupun dengan hasrat, membasmi kemiskinan di dalam Negeri ini. Mengikut prinsip-prinsip Rukunegara, orang-orang Malaysia yang berfikiran waras, kesetabilan dan kecekapan di atas pentadbiran Kerajaan Campuran sudah menjadi kenyataan bahawa kecekapan telahpun mengadakan perubahan-perubahan iaitu mengadakan projek pembangunan dan pemulihan melalui usaha-usaha Kerajaan Campuran telahpun membawa penubuhan pelajaran kebangsaan di bawah pimpinan Yang Amat Berhormat Tun Abdul Razak, Perdana Menteri Malaysia. Kemajuan ini adalah membuktikan ataupun membawa ke arah perpaduan di dalam Negara ini pada masa yang akan datang. Itulah menjadi matlamat Kerajaan dan juga menjadi harapan rakyat di dalam Negeri ini.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, kerjasama daripada rakyat mengenai masaalah pengangguran adalah menjadi harapan di masa yang akan datang, akan dapat memberi peluang-peluang pekerjaan yang lebih banyak dari masa ke se-

masa. Oleh kerana kita memandangkan pada tahun yang lalu, keadaan pengangguran dengan perbezaan di tahun yang ada sekarang ini adalah dapat melipat-gandakan yangmana telah dapat mengurangkan sedikit-sebanyak dalam soal pengangguran di Negeri kita ini dan juga dapat kita lihat dengan kenyataan-kenyataan yang tidak dapat kita nafikan bahawa dalam tahun yang lalu menjelang tahun 1974 ini telahpun dapat menambahkan kilang-kilang perusahaan di dalam Negeri kita ini yangmana berjumlah sebanyak 74 buah. Jadi, dengan itu adalah menjadi hasrat Kerajaan sentiasa beriktirap supaya dapat memberi peluang pekerjaan kepada rakyat Negeri ini yang sudahpun menjadi kenyataan dan jelas bahawa soal pengangguran telahpun berubah menjelang tahun yang ada sekarang ini. Kerajaan sangat memerlukan rakyat Negeri ini mempunyai pengalaman, mempunyai kebolehan ataupun kemahiran yangmana Kerajaan telahpun berusaha iaitu menubuhkan badan-badan yang boleh memberi faedah dan peluang-peluang untuk melatih kepada para belia khususnya dan juga rakyat di dalam Negeri ini untuk mendapat sedikit-sebanyak pengalaman-pengalaman dan kemahiran-kemahiran. Jadi itulah sentiasa menjadi hasrat Kerajaan Negeri ini oleh kerana Kerajaan Negeri ini sentiasa memandangkan dalam soal memberi kemudahan dan memberi kesenangan kepada rakyat di dalam Negeri ini.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, Tuan Yang Terutama juga di dalam ucapan pada hari kelmarin telahpun melahirkan isi kandungan di dalam hati Tuan Yang Terutama itu bahawa kecekapan-kecekapan dan tindakan-tindakan yang telah dilaksanakan oleh Kerajaan Campuran ini adalah menjadi harapan yang sangat baik dari masa ke semasa. Jadi tugas dan tanggungjawab ini adalah menjadi satu keyakinan dan kepercayaan rakyat yang mempunyai sifat ataupun sikap yang taat setia kepada Negeri Pulau Pinang ini.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, di dalam usaha Kerajaan Campuran ini juga adalah menjadi satu bukti bahawa Kerajaan juga menitik-beratkan meminda ke ka-

wasan luar bandar dengan mempunyai rancangan-rancangan iaitu dengan mengadakan perbandaran di kawasan desa seperti mana yang telah dapat kita saksikan pada masa ini. Menjelang pada masa akan datang dapat dilihat kemajuan-kemajuan akan tercapai di kawasan-kawasan luar bandar yang akan menjadi perbandaran desa itu. Rancangan kemajuan yang mana telah dijelaskan oleh Tuan Yang Terutama iaitu yang mana akan dilaksanakan di kawasan Seberang Perai Selatan, kawasan Nibong Tebal iaitu mengadakan projek ataupun rancangan perumahan-perumahan, kemudahan-kemudahan perhubungan, pengangkutan umum dan sebagainya. Begitu juga memberi kepentingan-kepentingan kepada rakyat yang tinggal di dalam kawasan itu sedikit-sebanyak akan mendapat hasil dan faedah-faedah yang sentiasa menjadi hasrat dan tujuan Kerajaan untuk menyempurnakan kehendak-kehendak rakyat. Perumahan yang akan dilaksanakan dari masa ke semasa adalah menjadi satu keyakinan keadaan masa yang akan datang. Keadaan perumahan yang masih kekurangan pada masa ini akan dapat dibina dengan secukupnya untuk memberi peluang kepada rakyat Negeri ini yang tidak mempunyai rumah sendiri dan diharap juga di samping pembinaan perumahan yang dirancang ini supaya dapat perumahan-perumahan berharga lebih tinggi kepada rakyat yang berpendapatan lebih baik, begitu juga perumahan-perumahan yang berharga murah, semata-mata memberi peluang kepada rakyat Negeri ini yang berpendapatan kecil seperti pekerja buruh dan sebagainya. Jadi keadaan perumahan yang berharga murah ini adalah sangat penting oleh kerana memandangkan keadaan sebahagian besar rakyat di dalam Negeri ini yang mempunyai pendapatan-pendapatan yang sangat kecil di mana rancangan perumahan berharga murah ini mempunyai satu peluang yang baik supaya rakyat yang berpendapatan kecil itu di satu masa yang akan datang akan dapat mempunyai rumah sendiri tidak seperti masa yang sudah-sudah yang mana dengan mempunyai rumah-rumah sewa dan sebagainya.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, berhubung dalam masalah inflasi yang pada masa ini, begitu juga telah diusahakan bersama di antara Kerajaan Negeri dengan Kerajaan Pusat disertai dengan Kementerian yang berkenaan. Masalah inflasi pada masa yang sudah sehinggalah di masa ini kita dapat keadaan inflasi itu telahpun bertambah beransur baik sedikit pada masa-masa yang sudah. Tugas ini adalah satu tugas yang diusahakan oleh Kerajaan kita kerana memenuhi daripada tugas yang telah disyurkan oleh rakyat Negeri ini di dalam masalah inflasi yang sekarang berlaku di dalam Negara kita ini. Walaupun inflasi ini melibatkan di seluruh dunia tetapi sedikit-sebanyak hasil dalam kerjasama telahpun dapat mengurangkan di dalam masalah ini.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, Kerajaan juga telahpun dapat menyusun semula iaitu dengan tujuan penyusunan semula masyarakat yang berbilang bangsa yang ada di dalam Negeri ini. Ini adalah menjadi satu tujuan dan hasrat yang sangat baik. Itu adalah menjadi satu keyakinan bahawa penyusunan ini akan dapat diterima oleh rakyat Negeri ini demi kepentingan perpaduan adalah membuktikan keamanan dan kesejahteraan bagi masa yang akan datang di dalam Negeri ini.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, begitu juga berkenaan dengan perhubungan perdagangan yang mana telah diusahakan oleh Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri kita beberapa bulan yang lalu yang telah melawat ke Indonesia. Dalam daya usaha itu telahpun mendapat sedikit-sebanyak kejayaan ataupun hasil dengan penuh kejayaan bagi peringkat ini. Jadi ini di samping itu juga telahpun mendapat perhubungan rapat di antara rakyat Negeri ini dengan rakyat dalam negeri Indonesia. Saya percaya keadaan perhubungan telah kita mulakan itu akan mendapat hasil ataupun mendapat perpaduan yang erat di antara Indonesia dan juga Negeri kita ini.

Tuan Yang Dipertua, di akhirnya mengikut ucapan Tuan Yang Terutama bahawa sebagai satu pengharapan ataupun sebagai satu pesanan bahawa

tiap-tiap orang ataupun tiap-tiap rakyat yang berada di Negeri ini hendaklah bertindak pada tiap-tiap masa dengan mempunyai semangat rakyat Malaysia ini sentiasa mengadakan perpaduan di antara satu kaum dengan satu kaum yang lain. Dengan keadaan perhubungan ini, dengan keadaan pembentukan ini adalah menjadi satu bukti dan keyakinan bahawa pada masa akan datang keadaan Negeri ini ataupun rakyat ini dengan semangat perpaduan itu kita akan tercapai kemajuan, keamanan dan kesejahteraan. Jadi itulah sahaja Tuan Yang Dipertua dalam Usul yang saya kemukakan pada hari ini untuk menyokong ucapan yang telah dilafazkan oleh Tuan Yang Terutama pada hari kelmarin. Terimakasih.

Ahli Kawasan Nibong Tebal (Encik Teoh Kooi Sneah): Tuan Speaker, saya mohon menyokong Usul itu dan saya berhak akan berucap Usul itu.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Tuan Yang Dipertua, minta izin bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris. Mr Speaker, Sir, once again we are privileged to discuss His Excellency's gracious address to this House. The address, as usual, has glorified the achievements of the Government, and gives high hopes to the people of Penang for the future. However, before I consider the speech as such, let me join the mover of the Motion of Thanks, the Honourable Member from Permatang Pauh, in expressing my humble gratitude to His Excellency and Toh Puan for their trouble in performing their constitutional functions.

Mr Speaker, Sir, perhaps this is the last Meeting wherein the Government has taken the opportunity to blow its trumpet. But, however hard the Chief Minister will blow, the people of Penang who have lived through these five years, and who have witnessed every action of the Government, cannot believe. They are already sick and tired of the bluffs and bravado of the Government. On my part I am glad that within two years of being associated with the Chief Minister I, together with others, realised his true colours, and crossed the floor. The Chief Minis-

ter always like to refer to this episode as the time that we left and ran away. And sometimes he says how useless we are. If we are that useless, why should you want to regret the fact that we left? Why do you want to lament? You need not.

Mr Speaker, Sir, although the Honourable mover of this Motion himself has naturally supported whatever has been stated in the gracious speech, I for one cannot agree as to all that has been said because the Government has acted against the wishes of the people in my respects. It has failed to fulfil its pledges. It has failed to keep prices of land down. It has neglected the villages, the slums, the fragmented estates and kampungs. It has failed to ensure decent wages to our workers.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on the other hand the Government has imposed tremendous burdens on the people by the unholy increases in quit rents, the incessant increases in assessment, the continuous freezing of lands, the pursuit of prestigious projects, the use of the State Development Corporation to carry out questionable activities, the refusal to account for the funds of the S.D.C., the haphazard eviction of farmers, and depriving the so-called squatters of their livelihood. Also, Mr Speaker, Sir, the numerous joy trips abroad at public expense, the comforts of fast cars, new offices and large expense accounts, all at the expense of the people of Penang; the favouring of friends and relatives at the expense of the State; and the winning of personal friends by selling the people of Penang. All this neglect and waste, favouritism, nepotism, broken promises and false hopes have made the people sick and tired of the Government, and they eagerly await the day of deliverance. I am sure that when the day of judgement comes they will with one voice reject the Gerakan and its Coalition partner, the Alliance. I therefore very humbly state that I cannot agree with the Gracious Speech, and have to propose an amendment to the Motion. My amendment, Mr Speaker, Sir, which I have already handed to you reads as follows:

"That the following words be added to the Motion:

'but regret that the Government has failed and neglected to fulfil its pledges, particularly to the poor, and has used the State Development Corporation to shield itself and its financial dealings from public scrutiny, thereby creating doubt and suspicion with regard to the honesty, integrity, moral turpitude and sincerity of the Government, particularly the Chief Minister,'".

Sir, my reason for bringing this amendment is not in any way aimed at ridiculing or belittling the efforts of the Government, as the Chief Minister would like everyone to believe. It is not because we have fallen apart. Least of all, it is not to embarrass His Excellency because he is merely discharging his constitutional functions, and performing this annual ceremony of opening the Session.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, berilah saya baca pindaan ini dahulu sebelum saya memberi apa-apa keputusan.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): I have not proposed the Motion yet, but I have finished. That is, (*Gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): You pandai cerita-cerita dahulu. (*Ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Datuk Speaker, it is to focus attention on the matters of the people; on the neglect at the expense of satisfying the whims and fancies of the Chief Minister. Mr Speaker, Sir, I say 'Chief Minister' because he is the man who makes all the decisions; and I know he is a dictator in every respect but in name. Therefore he must bear the burden, and be answerable to this House.

Mr Speaker, Sir, earlier, as you would have known, when I pointed out that there is a law already—Ordinance No. 87 of 1971—where it is provided almost in the same way as the law that was referred to—Act No. A244, or something like that. Yet the Chief Minister side-stepped, and never answered whether he would be prepared to let us in this House have the

Accounts for the past years. And up to this day he has used every device possible, however despicable that may be, to prevent open discussions in this House. He has a chip on his shoulder; and would make it so disgusting that Members will have to walk out of this House. Fortunately, in these two days I noticed a change in the Chief Minister. Although he is more restrained, and appears to be affable, yet you would know he would always indulge in personalities. He would like to refer to the personal traits or characters of people. As you know, Sir, he is not prepared to answer questions on statutory bodies like the City Council, the Water Authority or the P.D.C. Thus, Mr Speaker, Sir, he denies the people the fundamental right to scrutinise the Accounts, which carries with it the duty of the Government to account to the people—I mean the legislators—for the monies that are voted by the people. This denial, as far as the S.D.C. is concerned will be put right as we have just passed the new Bill which will come into law. But although he denies this House, and through the House the people, the right to question expenditures, and so forth, he must know that at least once in five years, barring an emergency, every Government will have to face the people and account to them, and accept their judgement. He can use his thumping majority, and perhaps your assistance, to steamroll things in this House. But he cannot do the same with the people because the people of Penang are the most educated, the most knowledgeable, and the most sophisticated group in Malaysia.

Sir, the State Development Corporation is a willing tool of the Chief Minister. As I said earlier, you are the Chief Minister, you are also the Chairman. And a powerful Chairman, of course, will be able to carry the Board. And if you are the person who is asking for the money, and if you are the person who authorises—the word "approve" is not used. The word "refuse" is not used; but the word "authorise"—who authorises the expenditure of the State Development Corporation, who will in future authorise? Is it not the Chief Minister?

Who then? Let us not go into verbiage, and try to talk and talk. Read the whole law out. In the end it means the same thing. Who? His accuser is reading part of the law. But then he said "authorise". Who authorises?

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Tuan Speaker, untuk penjelasan, kita ini membahaskan Bil yang tadi atau Usul ucapan terimakasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Gabnor?

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Ucapan terimakasih. You tidak dengar kah itu hari? (*ketawa*)

There are other Members, Mr Speaker, Sir, who were listening to the speech when His Excellency the Governor was addressing us. I am sure the Governor made many references to the P.D.C.; and therefore I am entitled to talk about it.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Apa yang Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Sungei Bakap bercakap sekarang ini ialah masaalah Bil yang kita putuskan tadi. Itu dia masaalahnya.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Ya, Tuan Speaker, that Bill might have done that; but I am now not dealing with the Bill. I am dealing with the Gracious Speech.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri: You should be dealing with the amendment.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): If I may be permitted to go on—not the amendment at all—I am dealing with the State Development Corporation as it has been mentioned in the Gracious Speech. And I am very happy to see that the Chief Minister has condescended to consider giving up the post of Chairman of the Penang Development Corporation because definitely there will be conflict, although he has assured the House that there will not be. But it is very heartening that the Chief Minister has condescended to give up the post; and I hope he will do it soon. Now, coming to the . . . (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): You want the post? (*Ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Now, Mr Speaker, Sir, coming to the State Development Corporation as such, it is strange that it is not answerable to this House. It is the largest single owner of the best lands which it had got from the State at a nominal price of, I understand, \$1 a piece. In fact it is the greatest speculator in land today. It has also abused its power by making the State its slave, while the State should be its master. It has acquired lands for a song from the farmers in Bayan Lepas, and made huge fortunes in selling the land to industrialists and capitalists. *Tidak benar kah?* In fact it has swindled or pressurised the Sungei Ara Co-operative to part with its land for a song. It has through the State evicted farmers without giving alternative accommodation—not even alternative land; and it has made thousand homeless, and has reduced thousands of people to squatters. For all this, as I said, the Chief Minister, as Chairman of the S.D.C., is responsible. He, as Chief Minister of the State, should exercise supervision over the S.D.C.; but he has used his dual capacity to do what he pleases, as if the State Development Corporation is his private business empire. Mr Speaker Sir, tell him off for the neglect of the rural areas, the neglect of the slums, the new villages, the kampungs and the fragmented estates. It is too glaring to mention again as it has been stated before. His recent action in ordering the demolition of the homes of 123 so-called squatters in Glugor is the crowning glory of his inhumanity and disregard for human beings.

Mr Speaker, Sir, when land is plentiful men are encouraged to occupy and cultivate the land. And it is an acknowledged principle of law, even from the time of the Romans, that if a person occupied land for 12 years or more the land became his, and he obtained a title. And this was the law in our State until 1965 when the National Land Code came into being and when that acquisition of title by occupation or possession was removed. But we have come a long way from Roman times; and it is a basic right of man, Mr Speaker, to have shelter for himself, his family and

his kids. If the State can provide him the shelter then he will not want to rent or squat on another persons's land. But when the rental is high, when he cannot afford a house, what can he do but squat, and shelter himself and his kids? What does the Chief Minister expect him to do? Where does the Chief Minister expect him to live? Does he want them to live under the bridges and on the five-foot ways, like so many do? Does he expect them to live as man and wife on five-foot ways. Sure enough, because the Chief Minister is lucky, Mr Speaker, through the help of thousands he can now squat at Mac-Alister Road, the official residence. But where can they go? Therefore, is it fair, proper, just or human to drive them out of their little shacks, together with their little kids, without any alternative accommodation. If the Chief Minister has a heart or a soul (*Gangguan*)

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Datuk Speaker, *on the point of Order* 42 yang berbunyi begini. Saya minta kebenaran membaca: 'Speaker hendaklah menjadi hakim yang tunggal tentang boleh tidaknya sesuatu pindaan itu diterima'. Jadi, Datuk belum beri keputusan samada pindaan itu boleh diterima atau tidak. Pembawa Usul Pindaan itu telah bercakap hampir 15 minit—jadi samada Usul itu boleh diterima atau tidak.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Tuan Speaker, dia mahu ajar Tuan Speaker. Tuan Speaker dengar. Apa *you* hendak kacau?

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Saya berdiri di atas *point of Order* Datuk dan bukan mengajar Datuk.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Boleh benarkah Tuan Speaker? Saya akan habis tidak banyak lagi. Terimakasih, Datuk. (*ketawa*).

Mr Speaker, Sir, this recent episode has shown that our Chief Minister (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): You can talk three times.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Tidak, dia mengusik saya. (*ketawa*).

This clearly shows, Mr Speaker, that the Chief Minister is not fit to be a representative of the people, let alone be the Chief Minister. I am ashamed. And more so the Government and all those who support. I am surprised that the Prime Minister of this country can support him. Perhaps he has nobody but the Chief Minister of Penang to sing praises unto him. That is why he is supporting men like the Chief Minister of Penang. I hope that the Prime Minister knows that the people of Penang do not support the Chief Minister. And I hope that the Governor also knows that the people of Penang do not support the Government headed by him. Mr Speaker, Sir, and for this reason I move the amendment. Thank you.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Saya mohon menyokong pindaan itu. Dan saya minta izin bercakap Inggeris. (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Datuk, *on a point of Order*. Saya hendak tahu ketentuan Datuk samada Datuk terima atau tidak terima pindaan ini. Itu saya hendak tahu. Saya bukan hendak membangkang Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Sungei Bakap atau Bagan Ajam bercakap, tetapi saya hendak tahu ketentuan Datuk membenarkan Usul pindaan ini. Sebab dalam Peraturan 42 Datuk hendaklah memberitahu samada Datuk terima atau tidak pindaan ini.

Tuan Speaker: Pindaan itu berbunyi dalam bahasa Kebangsaan adalah seperti berikut:

"Tetapi Dewan ini dukacita kerana Kerajaan telah gagal dan tidak cukup jaminan yang diberi oleh Kerajaan kepada rakyat yang miskin dan telah guna Perbadanan Pembangunan Pulau Pinang sebagai alat menutupkan kerja-kerja yang dibuat oleh Perbadanan itu khasnya, perbelanjaannya. Oleh kerana perbuatan demikian telah keliru rakyat Negeri ini dan telah tidak dapat kepercayaan rakyat terhadap *honesty, integrity, moral turpitude* dan *sincerity* Kerajaan dan khasnya, Ketua Menteri".

Dalam Inggerisnya berbunyi:

"but regret that the Government has failed and neglected to fulfill its pledges, particularly to the poor, and has used the State Development Corporation to shield itself and its financial dealings from public scrutiny thereby creating doubts and suspicions with regard to the honesty, integrity, moral turpitude and sincerity of the Government, particularly the Chief Minister".

Usul ini saya tolak.

Pindaan tidak dibenarkan.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Tidak ada guna *you* bercakap.

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Pinang (Encik S. P. Chelliah): Cakapan sudah tarik balik.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin bercakap dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Saya bangun *first*.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, I would like to move an amendment to the Motion of Yang Berhormat Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar. My amendment, Mr Speaker, Sir, with your permission, reads:

"Bahawa kami, Speaker dan Ahli-ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Pulau Pinang, mohon mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama kerana telah sudi melafazkan Ucapan kepada Dewan ini di Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Yang Keempat pada 8hb April, 1973 akan tetapi, kami berpendapat bahawa rakyat akan meyakinkan lebih terhadap keadaan baik rakyat jika Tuan Yang Terutama telah dinasihati meliputi dalam titahnya:

1. Rujukan istimewa kepada sebab-sebab Kerajaan Campuran tiada melaksanakan perjanjian-perjanjian Pi-lihanraya 1969 berikut—

- (1) soalan Taraf Pelabuhan Bebas Pulau Pinang;
- (2) soalan memulangkan kerajaan tempatan kepada pemilihan-pemilihan Negeri Pulau Pinang;
- (3) soalan menubuhkan satu Lembaga Perkhidmatan Awam untuk penjawat-penjawat Awam Pulau Pinang sendiri;
- (4) soalan tiada membina satu jambatan hubung Butterworth-Pulau Pinang di dalam masa Kerajaan dipilih;

2. Rujukan kepada tindakan yang diambil atau akan diambil oleh Kerajaan mengawal inflasi dan menurunkan harga barang-barang dan tinggikan gaji-gaji pekerja-pekerja kilang-kilang;

3. Rujukan istimewa kepada anggapan tiada bertanggungjawab Kerajaan kepada soalan-soalan dan masalah-masalah dihadapi rakyat Pulau Pinang;

4. Rujukan kepada langkah untuk membentuk satu Pesuruhjaya Awam yang dipengerusi oleh satu Hakim Mahkamah Tinggi untuk menyiasat rasuah-rasuah oleh ahli-ahli Kerajaan di semua peringkat."

Tuan Speaker: Memandang kepada pindaan yang diberi kepada saya, saya dapati Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar tidak buat ucapan terimakasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama Gabnor pada 8hb April, 1973. Oleh itu, Usul pindaan ini ditolak.

Pindaan tidak dibenarkan.

Dewan ditangguhkan pada jam 4.22 petang.

Dewan bersidang semula pada jam 4.46 petang.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Tuan Speaker, Sir, dengan izin: I would like to move an amendment to the Motion made earlier by the Member from Permatang Pauh, Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar, and which reads in Bahasa:

"Bahawa kami, Speaker dan Ahli-Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Pulau Pinang, mohon mengucapkan terimakasih kepada Tuan Yang Terutama kerana telah sudi melafaskan ucapan kepada Dewan ini di Mesyuarat Pertama bagi Penggal Yang Ke-empat pada 8hb April, 1974, akan tetapi, kami berpendapat bahawa rakyat akan berterimakasih lebih terhadap keadaan baik jika Tuan Yang Terutama telah dinasihati meliputi dalam titahnya:

- (1) rujukan istimewa kepada sebab-sebab Kerajaan Campuran tiada melaksanakan perjanjian-perjanjian Pi-lihanraya 1969 seperti berikut:

- (i) soal taraf Pelabuhan Bebas Pulau Pinang;
- (ii) soal memulangkan kerajaan tempatan kepada pemilik-pemilik Negeri Pulau Pinang;
- (iii) soal menubuhkan satu Lembaga Perkhidmatan Awam untuk penjawat-penjawat awam Pulau Pinang sendiri;

- (iv) soal tiada membina sebuah jambatan menghubungkan Butterworth-Pulau Pinang di dalam masa Kerajaan dipilih;
- (2) rujukan kepada tindakan yang diambil atau akan diambil oleh Kerajaan mengawal inflasi dan menurunkan harga barang-barang dan tinggikan gaji-gaji pekerja-pekerja kilang.
- (3) rujukan istimewa kepada anggapan tiada bertanggungjawab Kerajaan kepada soal-soal dan masalah-masalah yang dihadapi oleh rakyat Pulau Pinang.
- (4) rujukan kepada langkah untuk membentuk sebuah Suruhanjaya Awam yang dipengerusikan oleh Hakim Mahkamah Tinggi untuk menyiasat rasuah-rasuah oleh ahli-ahli Kerajaan di semua peringkat."

Tuan Speaker: Pindaan ini diterima.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Sir, we, the elected Members of the D.A.P. in this House, move this Motion basically because major issues relating to the State of Penang, as promised in 1969 by the Gerakan before they got elected and assumed power, have until now—for 5 long years—not been implemented. The people in Penang have the right to know why such promises made in 1969 have not been carried out by 1974. Sir, elections, as promised by the Gerakan if elected into power, would be restored to the Local Councils. But until this day such local elections have not taken place. And in fact the man, the Ketua Menteri, the very person who promised such an election to the Rural District Council (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): Tuan Speaker, minta Peraturan 40 (4) yang berbunyi "Isi kandungan sesuatu pindaan itu mestilah jangsan serupa dengan isi kandungan sesuatu pindaan yang telah dicadangkan."

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Datuk Speaker, sudah beri keputusan, sudah beri keputusan bagaimana boleh di-question sekarang.

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): Saya hendak bercakap kepada Tuan Speaker, bukan kepada Ahli dari Kelawei. Jadi perkara ini telah dibangkitkan oleh Ahli Yang Ber-

hormat daripada Kelawei dan telah ditolak oleh Tuan Speaker. Ahli Yang Berhormat ini telah bawa Usul yang serupa, dengan itu saya cadangkan Peraturan 40 (4) digunakan.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Tuan Speaker, dengan izin: I think the Member for Butterworth is trying to be mischievous.

Sir, the Motion moved by me (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): Tuan Speaker, saya minta ruling Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat, saya benarkan.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Sir, the earlier amendment made by the Member for Kelawei related to the Governor's speech made on April the 8th, 1973. But now I am moving an amendment to the Motion on the Governor's speech made on 8th April, 1974.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, tadi tidak sebut dalam pindaan Ahli Yang Berhormat dan bawalah Usul berkenaan perkara itu.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Sir, this is just an attempt to obstruct the progress of this Assembly, hoping that my trend of thought would be lost (*ketawa*). But I would like to tell the Honourable Member for Butterworth, who is also my friend, that my trend of thought has not been broken.

Sir, as I was referring to the elections for local Councils, I said earlier that this promise made in 1969 has until today not been carried out. The people in Penang have the right to know why this election promise has not been carried out. In fact, elections to the local Councils, which were promised, have not only been avoided and ignored; but to add insult to injury the Chief Minister has even taken over authority over all the local Councils in the State of Penang. Not to allow for local elections to all the local authorities, as promised, is already bad. The Chief Minister has decided to make it worse by taking over the functions as Officer Administering the Councils.

Another major promise made in 1969 was in relation to the free port status. Sir, the Government promised to restore the free port status which is in fact being eroded daily. The 2% surtax which the Federal Government levied on all goods imported into the State of Penang was supposed to be taken away by the Gerakan if elected into power in the State of Penang; but instead of the 2% surtax being taken away a further 2% was added. Sir, this was an election promise merely to win votes, and not meant to be carried out—an election promise made to be broken. And such promises, although made, have not been mentioned in His Excellency the Governor's Address. Sir, we ask the State Government to perform their duties along the lines of the election promises, namely, to restore the free port status to the State of Penang, and local elections.

Sir, a further promise also made in 1969 during the height of the election campaign was that the Government in the State of Penang would form a Public Service Commission. Sir, what has happened to this Public Services Commission which was promised? Until today—5 years in office, and almost over—this Public Services Commission has not been formed. Earlier the Ketua Menteri made reference to a few Members on this side, saying that he may be seeing a few Members on this side for the last time. But for not carrying out all these election promises the people of Penang will be seeing the Ketua Menteri for the last time.

Sir, the promise to construct a bridge linking Penang Island and the Mainland has also not been fulfilled. And right on the eve of the General Elections the Ketua Menteri comes out again with his usual pre-election tactics of further mentioning the construction of the bridge. It was mentioned in the Governor's Address that within this year engineering work will be started for the building of the bridge. But I say, Sir, that the bridge will not be built this year; and the bridge will not be built in the lifetime of the Gerakan whose days are numbered. (*ketawa*) You laugh now. You will cry very soon. And further-

more the State Government chose to freeze 786 acres of land along Bukit Glugor, Green Lane and Jelutong.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, Ahli Yang Berhormat tidak sebut dalam pindaan Ahli Yang Berhormat. Saya ingat cukuplah setakat itu.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Tuan Speaker, this freezing of land is connected with the survey for the construction of the bridge. Sir, this freezing of 786 acres of land in the areas earlier mentioned by me has created confusion amongst a large number of residents in those areas. I would like to tell the State Government, Sir, that if the bridge—knowing it will not be constructed as there is no engineering plan whatsoever relating to the bridge, which the Government knows—will not be constructed within this year or within the next couple of years or more I would urge the State Government not to freeze the land in these areas. By freezing the land in the areas mentioned a lot of difficulties have been brought about for the residents. There is a lot of panic among residents and house-owners residing in the area. The Government talks about fair compensation for any land and property acquired for such purposes! I say, Sir, that fair compensation had not been demonstrated during the past. We have seen, Sir, how residents of Sungei Kluang had been asked to leave the area for Government projects, and sent to a place like Paya Terubong to live. Sir, I say Paya Terubong as it is today is no better than a zoo. Out of over 40 houses constructed in Paya Terubong less than 20% of the houses are occupied basically because the place is no better than a zoo. You treat human beings less well than animals! The place has got no electricity supply. Houses in the area have got no piped water connected to the premises. And the State Government expects the residents being driven away from Sungei Kluang to live in the area, and consider it publicly to be fair compensation. Sir, I tell the State Government not to mention anything like fair compensation again. It has been the practice of the Government in the State of Penang to

give very unfair compensation to squatters and residents driven away to pave the way for Government projects. Even those affected, or who will be affected by the Urban Centre project are not going to get fair compensation when they are asked to leave, basically because their compensation will be based on valuation during the year 1972. Is that fair compensation? The project has not started. Only one single pile, as admitted by the Ketua Menteri, has been driven in on January 1st this year by his big boss, the Prime Minister. And when the people in those areas are asked to quit they will be paid compensation for their property as valued in the year 1972. And that is fair compensation? I say, Sir, that this is not fair compensation. This is most unfair compensation. And it only happens in the State of Penang under the Gerakan Alliance Coalition Government—a typical capitalist Government.

Sir, the question of inflation in the State of Penang has been deliberately (gangguan).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): You go to Singapore.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): They pushed the blame on to international inflation, as is stated in the Governor's Address. Sir, inflation in the State of Penang is caused by international inflation because the Government says that goods imported are more expensive now. But I say, Sir, that there are several locally-produced products that are equally expensive. Is that due to international inflation—products that are not imported, but manufactured locally, like cooking oil—coconut oil. From where do you import coconut oil? From England or America? Or do you get local coconut oil? Even coconut oil is very expensive. And this is not caused by international inflation, but domestic inflation, basically because the State Government has not made any efforts to check inflation in the State of Penang, but has allowed inflation to take place freely in the State of Penang.

The Government speaks about having formed three Committees to look into the question of inflation in the State of Penang. But I ask the Government, Sir: Up to date what has the Government done? What have these three Committees done? How often have they met to discuss the question of inflation with a view to curbing it in the State of Penang? It is no good forming three Committees or thirty Committees to look into the question of inflation if these Committees are only formed just for the sake of forming, to please the people in the State of Penang, and to lie to the people in the State of Penang that the Government is taking action against inflation. Sir, I say that the Government can take real precautions and real action against inflation if the Government really wants to, instead of blaming inflation in the State of Penang on international inflation.

The people in the State of Penang during these five years of the Gerakan Alliance Coalition Government have been facing several problems—inflation problem, housing problem, no-fair-compensation problem, squatters-rehabilitation problem, and a host of other problems. Sir, when we talk about problems faced by the people in the State of Penang relating to low-cost housing, I say that this low-cost housing, which was itself an election promise of the Gerakan in 1969, has up to now not been carried out. Not one single Unit of low-cost houses has been constructed in the State of Penang since 1969, until the 9th of April, 1974—five long years of waiting by the people in the State of Penang who are in crying need of these low-cost houses. Sir, I say that these people in the State of Penang need these low-cost houses even more today in view of the high cost of living as a result of domestic inflation. This high cost of living in the State of Penang today has resulted in the people from the lower-income group being unable to afford houses that are more luxurious than low-cost houses. Even room rentals have increased substantially. And that is why I say the need for low-cost houses in the State of Penang has become more urgent than it was before. There is an acute shortage of such low-

cost houses in the State of Penang. But had the Government carried out the promises made in 1969, and started on a massive low-cost housing project, or intensive low-cost-housing schemes, today we the people in the State of Penang would not find such a huge low-cost-housing shortage in the State of Penang. Sir, this low-cost-housing problem in the State of Penang was brought about in the last Sitting in this Assembly last year. And when the Government was questioned the Chief Minister replied that the Government will construct low-cost houses. But today in His Excellency the Governor's speech we are told that the Government will build low-cost houses—1,000 low-cost houses will be constructed in the industrial complexes; 800 low-cost houses will be constructed at Taman Free School; 470 low-cost houses, the Fourth Phase, will be completed in Kampung Melayu. Sir, the same thing in the same tone and in exactly the same manner was said last year and the year before last. And it has now been repeated again this year. But I say, Sir, that the urgent and crying need for low-cost houses today is in the slum areas in the urban areas of the State of Penang, and not in areas surrounding the industrial complexes in the State of Penang only. More such low-cost houses should be constructed in urban areas to cater for people in urban areas. Even the Government . . . (gangguan).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, Ahli Yang Berhormat telah bercakap panjang berkenaan dengan low-cost housing. Adakah lain-lain lagi yang hendak dicakapkan. Sudah panjang sangat, dan saya percaya Dewan telah faham berkenaan dengan low-cost housing. Panjang sangat, ceritalah lain lagi.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Yes, Sir. I am pointing out to the Government about the seriousness of low-cost housing shortage.

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat telah beri panjang lebar berkenaan dengan itu. Saya harap beri berkenaan dengan yang lain.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Sir, on land speculation, in recent years in the State of Penang the cost of land has gone up 100% or even more. A piece of land which was worth \$2 per square foot is now worth even more than \$10 per square foot. What has the Government done with regard to land speculation in the State of Penang? Nothing. In fact the Government has directly or indirectly joined in, like the Member for (gangguan).

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): Who is joining whom? D.A.P. joining Pekemas, or Pekemas joining D.A.P.?

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Bagan Ajam said—creating this situation of high cost of land in the State of Penang. First, the Government starts with land acquisition. Then the Government carries on with freezing land. Sir, is the Government by such action seriously trying to curb and prevent land speculations, or is the Government assisting land speculators? Sir, I say that this question of land speculation in the State of Penang must be closely watched by the State Government. At the rate the Government is assisting land speculators in the State of Penang the lower-income group of people will suffer for the simple reason that houses in the State of Penang will be very expensive.

And on the question of house ownership, how is the question of house ownership going to be implemented? How is the policy going to be implemented when the State Government has not even kept their promise made more than a couple of years ago to sell the Rifle Range flats to the residents of those flats? The promise has not been kept until today, Sir. Hire Purchase Agreements that are supposed to be sent to them have until this day not been sent to them. This is yet another promise made by the Government, to be broken, and not to be kept. And the people—thousands of them living in Rifle Range flats—are waiting for the day to come when the Honourable the Chief Minister and his colleagues in the

Government will be kind enough to tell them, "Here you are. These are the Agreements, sign and pay up." What is causing the delay? The people living in the flats at Rifle Range are interested to know what is the cause of the delay. Is it delaying tactics so that the price of the property in the area can go up? So that the low-cost housing can be sold at a very expensive price? So that the Government in the State of Penang can make good, solid profit from the poor, innocent, low-income group of people? Or is the Government machinery inefficient? Which is which? Either the Government machinery is inefficient and unable to draft the hire-purchase agreement, or the State Government is seriously contemplating making fast "bucks" from these poor people living in the area. Sir, I say that if the State Government wants to make money it should make it from the capitalists who own a good number of factories in the State of Penang. But don't try and make money from the poor. Even the forty-over dollars per month rental in the Rifle Range flats is not cheap, considering the fact that they are meant for the very-low-income group of people. They are not cheap. If you are waiting to sell the units to them at an exorbitant price to make good profit from them then I tell this State Government to ponder over the question of making profits from the poor. These people are very poor, Sir, as can be seen from the squatters constructing illegal houses on State land who had been driven away. Sir, six houses were demolished in Udini Road; and a hundred more houses were demolished in Bukit Glugor. These people who constructed these houses on Government land (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, dari Tanjong Bungah, bolehkah Ahli Yang Berhormat *substantiate* apa yang bercakap fasal *squatters* di Glugor?

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Sir, it was reported in the local Press.

Sir, these squatters who lived in this (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Bolehkah tuan buktinya yang kata 100 rumah di Bukit

Glugor? Bolehkah Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanjong Bungah tunjuk bukti itu?

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Sir, boleh tunjuk esok.

Tuan Speaker: Saya tidak benarkan itu.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): I will abide by your ruling, Sir.

Whether there are so many squatters who built so many houses in Bukit Glugor or not, we will ignore that. But the fact remains, Sir, that the squatters in Udini Road who built those houses live there in spite of the fact that there is no electricity and there is no piped water supply. They are living in a typical jungle; and are even prepared to live under that kind of condition basically because they are poor and desperate, and basically because they cannot afford other forms of accommodation, because the Government is not providing them with low-cost houses, and they have nowhere to stay. Out of sheer desperation they have decided to construct houses considered to be illegal by the State Government on State lands. And what does the State Government do, Sir? The State Government throws Section 426 of the National Land Code at their faces, and demolishes their houses. This is the kind of action the Government takes. Justice, Sir? In accordance with the letter of the law, Sir, demolition took place. But, I say, Sir, let the Government temper justice with mercy towards these poor people. Those affected demonstrated by marching miles from the areas concerned to the residence of the Chief Minister in protest. Men, women, children and infants marched for miles, for hours; and waited for long hours for the Chief Minister who in the end did not even meet them. The delaying tactics employed by the Chief Minister in refusing to meet people of squatter status is, Sir, a clear sign of lack of mercy. While the people waited outside, tired, hungry and thirsty, the Chief Minister sipped his tea slowly with a group of young students in his residence, hoping that that cup of tea would influence those young

school-children into accepting his dictatorial policy implemented in the State of Penang, and believing in his promises that were not carried out, while the people lying by the roadside in front of his residence had to wait for long hours, and yet be unable to meet the Chief Minister in order to solve their social problems. This is the kind of situation we are having in the State of Penang. This is the kind of Government we are having in the State of Penang. This is the kind of Chief Minister we are having in the State of Penang. The people who protested asked for nothing from the Chief Minister. They only asked the Chief Minister to provide them with some milk of human kindness, which the Chief Minister refused to do. To add further insult to injury the Chief Minister decided on calling the Police to threaten them with action. Sir, these are the people who voted the Chief Minister and his colleagues into power, hoping that by putting them into power their social problems would be solved; or at least that the Government would try to solve their social problems for them. But today they have realized that in spite of what they had done for the Ketua Menteri and his colleagues in 1969, by putting them into power, this is the price the Chief Minister pays them. These people, Sir, need the Government's and the Chief Minister's assistance. They are rendered homeless with infants and school-going children.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, dari Tanjong Bungah sudah panjang lebar berkenaan dengan itu. Saya minta Ahli Yang Berhormat pendekkan sedikit kerana banyak Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat yang lain hendak bercakap, hendak berbahas berkenaan dengan itu.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Bungah (Encik Khoo Soo Giap): Thank you, Sir.

Sir, I move this Motion.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, dengan izin:

I beg to second this Motion amending the Motion of the Member for Permatang Pauh.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this Motion is a very serious Motion because it expresses the regret of the House—particularly we on this side—that after four years of government so much has been expected, and so little has been delivered. In commencing my speech on this particular Motion I would like to recall the memory of the House to very solemn words—I am sure very important words—of a man who I think is a man of substantial standing in this State—a man who must think he is also the man of substantial standing in this State. I would like to quote him from the Third Sitting of the Fifth Session of the Second Legislative Assembly in 1968—to be precise, on the 27th of November, 1968. That's the foundation of our Motion. And I would like to quote him in the context of the speech which he made in connection with the Master Plan. He said, Sir—at page 249 of our records—"I hope that the consultants to the Master Plan will be given definite terms of reference as to what we want Penang State to be. And I think that the Alliance Government, with all honesty—if they are. Even to this day you are bound by your election promises in 1964." Those words, Mr Speaker, Sir, if I look back over the pages, were the words spoken by the then Member for Kota, Dr Lim Chong Eu: and now Ketua Menteri, Pulau Pinang. He said, "Even to this day you are bound by your election promises in 1964." He went on to talk about the question of working out a system whereby the retention of the free port status of Penang can be meaningful. I begin, Sir, therefore, by quoting these—what I consider—illustrious words because I think all politicians must be guided by the principle of the statement that when we go to the people we make promises. But let us make honest promises—promises that we can keep; not false promises. Do not be false prophets. If we say we are going to do something let us carry out these promises. And that's why, Sir, the amendment that stands in the name of the Honourable Member for Tanjong Bungah urges the House to note with regret that no special reference was made to the reasons. And we don't come here, Sir, condemning the Govern-

ment, wishing to condemn them; wishing to take a sword at them, not giving them a chance. We know that to err is human. Earlier, due to a clerical error I read '1973' when it should be '1974'. But to err is human, Sir; and the situation has been corrected. But, Sir, we do not come here as it were taking a cricket bat and going for each individual Member of the Government. We do not intend to do that. We say here we would be happy if the Government had given reasons, and had been advised to give reasons why the Government of the Ketua Menteri has failed to fulfil election pledges. There were many pledges made off the record and on the record—many, many pledges; all sorts of peculiar pledges; pledges about removing hotels; pledges about removing petrol stations. A host of pledges. We are not interested in those irrelevant, vote-catching pledges. We are interested in the substantive pledges—pledges to retain, Sir, the free port status of the State of Penang. And in that I need not go further than to quote from the same paragraph the words of Ketua Menteri as Member for Kota. He still is Member for Kota. He said that we must work out a system whereby the retention of the free port status of Penang can be meaningful. Sir, not only was it an election pledge; it was a statement made by him sitting and standing where I am standing now. He made those pledges to make free port status meaningful. But, Sir, not a word to substantiate. This pledge has been mentioned in the Governor's speech. "Free port status", like it or not, is still an important issue in the State of Penang. It is an important status. If it were not the Federal Government would have abolished it by now *in toto*. But the erosion of the free port: That is the issue upon which certain politicians rode. Will they now ride out of power? That is the question. But, Sir after four years and eleven months of Government, can the Members of the Government honestly say that they have done anything to, first, prevent further erosion; and, second, to restore the free port status to the State of Penang? Or are they content to merely sheepishly follow the Federal policy?

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kelawei, Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanjong Bungah sudah sebut berkenaan dengan *free port status*. Saya harap janganlah panjang sangat. Saya beri peluang supaya bercakap pendek.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Terimakasih. Saya pun hendak bercakap sedikit sahaja sebab ada soalan-soalan lain tetapi saya cakap dari aspek yang lain.

Dengan izin: Mr Speaker, Sir, to do justice to the Governor, therefore, surely the Honourable the Chief Minister can advise the Governor to say a few words to the people of Penang to assure them of the free port; or to give them the bad news, and as it may be. But not to say a single word after making the election promises, and bearing in mind his injunction to the people and to this House (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Saya ingat sudah cukup.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Yes.

. that even to this day you are bound by your election promises!

Sir, I would like to refer to the Gerakan Manifesto—the great Manifesto that rode the Party into power. Promises under the heading "Local Government": The Gerakan shall restore elections to the City Council of George Town. What has happened? Instead of restoration we have got take-overs. I suppose that for everything that the Gerakan promises we must think that they are going to do the reverse. That is a better way of reading the Manifesto. Of course, having learned the lessons once in 1969 the people of Penang will know how to read Gerakan Manifesto in the future.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kelawei berkenaan dengan *local election* itu sudah disebutkan oleh Ahli dari Tanjong Bungah. Saya tidak benarkan sebut lagi berkenaan dengan *local election*. Saya sudah dengar panjang lebar berkenaan dengan *local election* saya tidak benar disebutkan itu lagi.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Mr Speaker, Sir, I was just making very casual reference, because I think the question of local elections and local government is very clear to the people. But on the very one aspect that has not been touched upon I say that we over here and the people of Penang strongly oppose any efforts on the part of the Government to try and create a dominated Local Council, because I would like to remind the Honourable the Chief Minister himself that as the leader of the United Democratic Party at one time he issued an injunction to all members of the United Democratic Party here who were members of the Local Councils to resign from the Local Councils or face expulsion from his Party if they failed to resign, because of the strong stand taken by the U.D.P. on the question of elections to Local Councils. And now he is doing the very reverse of his own stand, and talks about integration of Councils as a basis—as a red herring for going against his own words. That I would like him to bite in his mouth, and swallow it.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the third point that was raised is the question of a Public Services Commission for the State of Penang. This is also something on which I don't like to quote him too much. He may be unhappy; but this is something also that the Chief Minister has stood for. And we on this side of the House also take the same stand.

It is in the interests of the State of Penang that a Public Services Commission for this State be established, No, (1) because it is in keeping with the sovereignty of the State of Penang within the concept of equal status in the Federation. Why is it Kelantan has got its Public Services Commission? Why is it Selangor has its Public Services Commission? Why is it Kedah has? But Penang has been singled out of discrimination. Why? Can the Honourable the Chief Minister explain, when he talks about protecting the interests of the people of Penang, saying that the State Authority under him has always protected the interests of the people of Penang? We will protect these

interests. Let us have an independent civil administration in this State where we can appoint our own civil servants; where we do not have to be subject to the Federal Government on an issue upon which we have every right to be independent. Why is it Penang is excluded from this right, this privilege to decide for itself who shall be our civil servants, who shall be promoted? This is a crying need of all our public civil servants in this State. They dare not voice it openly; but this is a crying need. This is what we have been asked specifically to raise in this Assembly.

Tuan Speaker: Yang Berhormat Ahli dari Kelawei, itu juga telah disebutkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanjung Bungah. Jangan cakap banyak sangat perkara itu. Saya tidak benarkan.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): As I was saying, Sir, that is also a point which the Chief Minister stood for. And I think that is enough for me to mention at this stage.

The fourth question, Sir, is that wonderful bridge of his which I have often called a bridge of promises upon which the people of Penang have no powers to sue him. If he had made these promises to a girl he would have been sued for breach of promise. But the people of Penang need not sue the Honourable the Chief Minister. They will wait for the day of retribution because he has promised the bridge; and it is also in the Gerakan Manifesto. It says here very clearly: "The Gerakan shall build a bridge." Well, Sir, where is the bridge? I would like to recall this House to the challenge issued by the Honourable the Chief Minister in my absence—I say "in my absence", and not "in front of me"—to jump off the bridge. Well, Sir, if I can have the privilege of seeing your bridge—the dream bridge; your wishes. We will not be waiting because your term of office is going to be up in 30 days from now.

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): So is yours.

Ahli Kawasan Tanjung Barat (Encik Teh Ewe Lim): Wait and see; wait and see.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): We never promised any bridges. And you are in breach of promise.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, sila address kepada saya. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Kalau tiga orang hendak hentam satu macamanana boleh? Tun Razak pun sudah kata M.C.A. dan Gerakan mesti hentam D.A.P. Kitapun berani tengok—tiga pun boleh, empat pun boleh.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to repeat these words to the Honourable the Chief Minister: You are bound by your 1969 promise to build us a bridge. Don't tell us about feasibility surveys again. Don't go around freezing land to create the impression that there is going to be construction because simply this, Sir: You have not made up your mind whether it is going to be a bridge, or a tunnel, or a bridge and tunnel, or whatever else—a causeway. Therefore this talk about a bridge is all khabar-khabar angin.

Tuan Speaker: Nampaknya Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kelawei beri satu *election campaign* pula di sini.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Tuan Speaker, Sir, kita di sini bahas atas pindaan Usul. Tetapi kalau soalan-soalan yang disentuh ada sangkut dengan masalah-masalah rakyat—di hadapi pilihanraya—itu saya ingat pun tidak boleh buat apa.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kelawei, pada pendengaran saya, saya ingat Ahli Yang Berhormat tidak sentuh berkenaan dengan ini—cuma macam *election campaign*, macam hendak *win vote* sahaja. Saya ingat ini bercakap panjang kerana ini *Assembly* bukan *election campaign*. Apa hendak kata boleh kata. Ini nampaknya macam *election campaign* pula.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Saya harap saya tak tahu kita mahu *win votes*. Tentu ini bukan *lose votes*.

Mr Speaker, Sir, jovial as the Members of the Government may be, I ask them and I invite each one of them to

return to their constituencies; and even those who have not seen their constituencies for the last 5 years—especially those across the seas. It will be interesting. And they may be able to see the changes that have been brought about by the Honourable the Chief Minister; changes not so much in the infrastructure, but in the hearts and minds of the people. Mr Speaker, Sir, therefore take not these issues lightly.

These four points are not the only points that were promised in the Gerakan Manifesto. If I were to go on it will really take us a whole night because there are promises upon promises. But let us not hear these promises today. And I say, Sir, that the Governor's speech is the final Report; the 5-year Report. In this Report there is no bridge. In this Report there is no free port status. And in this Report also there is no Public Services Commission for the State of Penang, but a lot of promises of things to come. We unfortunately have lost confidence. There is a Motion of no confidence in this House. We certainly have lost confidence in further promises that are going to be made in and outside this House.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I come to the second point of the amendment: That no reference has been made to any action to be taken by the State Government to control inflation; and to control and indeed to lower the prices of materials and other commodities; and to increase the wages of our factory workers. Mr Speaker, Sir, before inflation our factory workers in this State were underpaid. With inflation they were paid the same. How do they survive? The Government comes to this House today, brings up Supplementary Supply Bills, and says, Look at us; how good we are. We are spending thousands of dollars paying our civil servants—those below \$500, those between \$300 and \$500: \$15, and so forth, to the extent of \$30." Well, Sir, what about the private sector? Are these people not entitled to a living wage? What have you done about this? Have you done something about it? Or is it true that the Honourable the Chief Minister in fact is more interested in keeping down the wage structures of

these people? This, Sir, is very unfortunate. But on the other hand you are not in a position to control inflation. By your own policies, by your taxation policies, you have increased the prices of services; you have increased the prices of commodities in this State.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanjong Bungah sudah bercakap panjang lebar berkenaan dengan *inflation*. Kita harap Ahli Yang Berhormat beri yang lain. Jangan macam itu sahaja ulang juga macamana yang disebutkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanjong Bungah. Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kelawei sebut macam itu juga. Jadi, tidak payah sebut dengan panjang lebar.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Saya ingat apa yang kita bercakap pun ada sedikit hubungan di sini dan di sana, tetapi kalau saya ulang apa yang saya katakan tadi, itu barulah salah.

Dengan izin, Mr Speaker, Sir
(*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Saya faham. Saya tidak benar lagi bercakap berkenaan dengan *inflation* kerana sudah bincang panjang oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanjong Bungah. Kalau lagi bercakap berkenaan dengan *inflation* itu buang masa sahaja. Bercakap lain perkara kalau ada lain-lain soalan.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): Boleh anggap soalan *inflation* sudah dibatalkan—sudah *di-banned*-kan.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we come to a very important issue; and that is as set out in No. (3). The subject refers to the irresponsible attitude of the Government towards a problem facing the people of Penang. That, Sir, I assume I can speak on. Mr Speaker, Sir, why do we say that the attitude of the Government is completely indifferent and irresponsible? Well, as I have already mentioned, I do not wish to repeat it. But, in passing, the demonstration before the Chief Minister in this House is sufficient manifestation of the feelings of the people. But why? I am not interested in the demonstration itself. I am interested in "why". To quote the

Chief Minister's own words, "this was unusual response", he says. For the Chief Minister, I say he must gear himself for more unusual response in this State, because where people cannot express themselves through their elected representatives and they cannot get justice through their elected representatives, then perhaps—I am not inciting violence—they have to go to the streets and demonstrate their thinking towards the policies of the Government—an unthinking Government which doesn't take into account the interests of the people whom they claim to govern. It is not only a question of a squatter problem, a housing problem, a question of issue of licences, or a question of how you treat hog-breeders; how you push them around; how you refuse to renew their licences until they have to go begging to you; how you extract every ounce of political advantage over a question of issuing hog-breeding licences, but every aspect of your Government—your arrogance. We hear reports of complaints about Government Members, particularly Exco members who brush off complaints of people who come and see them; who have no time. Not only the Ketua Menteri but also other Members who have no time for the electorate and their complaints. Is this a responsible attitude? This the people of Penang will accept to be true because of the way you treat Opposition Members. You try to brush everything that they say aside. If elected representatives of the people are treated this way it is no stretch of the imagination to think that the common man will be treated even worse. And this feeling of discontentment is there, Sir. It is there. It is simmering. You can't keep the lid down. Hopefully everything will boil over in a month's time. But the longer you keep the pressure the higher the pressure will become. And the day of retribution will come. It will come. It will be sooner than you think. The people are wondering. The Government tells the people of this State to sacrifice; tells them, "You must accept low wages. You must accept restricted amenities. If your roads are not so good it is because we have to go by the letter of the law. We have to force you

to repair your own frontages.” But how much does it cost to repair a road at Jalan Sentosa? \$10,000? How much does it cost to patch the pot-holes at Jalan Gajah? \$5,000? No. At the very most \$2,000 or \$3,000. But when a big man comes all the way from Adelaide—Dunstan—you spend. You invite Members on the front bench and the back bench, and even Members of the Opposition to a merry Party at Rasa Sayang. You spend. We have the statistics here. You need not deny. In one night the Ketua Menteri can spend \$1,500 entertaining member of the Oxford and Cambridge Cricket Club. But you are not prepared to spend \$1,000 patching-up holes for your own people. Your own people, Sir. Not members of the Oxford and Cambridge Cricket Club; not somebody from Adelaide with whom you want to get twinned, but the people of Penang who are not interested in twinning with anybody. What is the similarity, Sir, between Adelaide and George Town? We understand that there is a Committee of this State to change the names of roads, and even this town. So, if you are going to change the name, what is the similarity? I say that perhaps you should consider twinning with Canton or Shanghai. That could be more profitable. But to twin with the colonial past shows the colonial background and the colonial mentality of people who think above their colonial heritage: who go on pretending to be champions of the people when they are not the champions of the people. Be it roads or pot-holes; or be it simply amenities like providing lights to the kampungs, or providing water facilities to Kampung Meriam Timbul settlers, you have still not done it from the day we in the D.A.P. raised this issue here till today—more than 2 years. They still have 2 water pipes to service a whole family. They still don’t have electric lights. They still don’t have assessment plates to their houses. And this is not a hundred miles from the township of Butterworth. This is within the boundaries of Butterworth. You can’t provide fundamental facilities for the people whom you call bumiputras; and yet you talk about creating satellite towns. Do what is in front of you,

and what you can manage. Don’t promise a whole series of things that are beyond your imagination. The people of Penang want these things now. They want their facilities. They don’t want landscaping, you know—calling in all sorts of peculiar experts; spending the money of the people on fabulous bridges and a civic centre. I will not talk in depth on the civic centre. We have a Motion on that. What they want is the down-to-earth things that matter to them. They want their daily needs to be taken care of. They want transport services to be proper. They don’t want to have their children waiting in sun and rain, arriving at school late just because the half-hour transport service has been drained by the electronic firms. Are these services to the people first, or to the multi-national capitalists first. The multi-national capitalists can invite the Chief Minister to New York, to London, to Zurich; but the people can’t and therefore they are neglected. These are the things. Don’t promise us something 10 years from now. Don’t promise us a bridge where we see none very clearly, because the testimony of things like that is not what you see here, but the one-mile queue at both the ferry terminals, and the four-hour wait at the ferry terminals. These are the testimonies of your policies. No matter what you say here you can’t deceive the people outside.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I come now to a more serious topic which I think in fairness you will not object to because it has been entirely left out by my colleague, and left for me to deal with. It is part of the Motion—a reference to steps to appoint a Public Commission of Enquiry, to be headed by a High Court Judge, to investigate corruption by Members of the Government at all levels. Sir, I believe that is a great need. We can recall the Commission of Enquiry that was appointed by the State Government to look into corruption and malpractices of the City Council Administration under the then Socialist Front management. Well, I think that in the light of the kind of allegations that are raised in this House,

and outside this House there is need for a Commission of Enquiry into all the allegations of corrupt practices in this State at all levels. I say not only at State level but also at the level of Local Councils.

We have raised by way of a question in this House an example of how one man by virtue of being a Gerakan Publicity Chief and a Director of a Housing Company could obtain permission to build houses when it is against the Building By-laws. And the Chief Minister in his answer feigned ignorance, although I invited him to come with me to Jalan Raja Uda to see for himself how the new building is standing wall to wall next to an old building. And yet he says, "I do not know". And yet he is the Officer Administering the Majlis Utara, Seberang Perai. This is only an example. But the people want to know whether there has been abuse of the Land Acquisition Act whereby acquisition notices are being slapped all over the State indiscriminately. Sir, do we take what the Chief Minister says to be true or do we take (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Saya harap address kepada saya.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): what the Publicity Chief says to be true? I read in the papers that this Publicity Chief said, "Don't worry. This acquisition notice is just a formality. You won't be affected". If the people won't be affected, why slap acquisition notices? In fact, Sir, am I not right in asking this question then? If you do not wish really to acquire, why slap acquisition notices, and create panic and speculation in land in the State of Penang? And that is what is happening right now—speculation in land in the State of Penang by virtue of acquisition notices that have been slapped. It gives rise to thoughts as to whether people who are in the know about these acquisition notices have been advising foreign or local speculators to purchase land in these areas at depressed prices by virtue of acquisition threat, or whether by prior knowledge of areas that are or are not affected by acquisition

purchases are being made. That is the kind of speculation that is going on in the State of Penang. And Members of the Government are involved. This is a very serious charge; and we on this side of the House are prepared to bring evidence and to name names. And I say: To name names and to give instances where large amounts of money (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, jangan tunjuk-tunjuk.

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): have been made under all sorts of guise. This is an instance where a leading Member of the Government was a broker in the transaction over the purchase of a certain piece of land somewhere in the north of the island. Now, this kind of situation cannot be allowed to go on. And I challenge the Chief Minister to establish a Commission of Enquiry so that this very rampant speculation in land in the State of Penang can be put to a stop; and those who are involved—and I don't think the Chief Minister is involved—can be brought to book. And that can only be done if a Commission of Enquiry is established. I challenge the Chief Minister to establish a Commission of Enquiry.

Tuan Speaker: Dewan dibuka untuk dibahas atas pandangan ini.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya minta izin berucap sepatah dua sahaja. Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of this House. It is quite obvious that the amendment that is moved is only a waste of time to this House, and to enable the Honourable Members for Kelawei and Tanjong Bungah to speak again later on, using the same arguments. Therefore, although I have taken note of what they have said, I consider that the whole attempt of moving this amendment is just a waste of time. There is not much for us to refer to. However, there is one point I would like to clarify, namely with regard to the recent demonstration outside the Chief Minister's residence. The Honourable Member for Tanjong Bungah says that this is typical of the Chief Minister—lack of mercy; sips tea while people gathered there are threatened by the Police; and so on.

Tuan Speaker dengan izin, saya mahu baca satu surat, surat wakil tanah lot 482, Sungai Glugor, Pulau Pinang bertarikh 3hb April, 1974:

“Kepada Yang Amat Berhormat,
Dr Lim Chong Eu,
Ketua Menteri,
Pulau Pinang.

Yang Amat Berhormat,

Per: Memohon Maaf.

Dengan hormatnya dimaklumkan adalah kami yang bertandatangan di bawah ini memohon ampun maaf atas kejadian yang tidak diingini berlaku kurang adap oleh rombongan orang-orang penduduk tanah lot 482 yang datang ke rumah kediaman Yang Amat Berhormat pada petang, 2hb April, 1974 itu.

Sesungguhnya kami yang berjalan kaki dari tanah lot yang tersebut datang ke rumah Yang Amat Berhormat adalah dengan niat yang baik untuk meminta kasihan sahaja dengan tidak ada niat hendak menentang aturan atau hukuman-hukuman Kerajaan. Akan tetapi manakala dalam perjalanan manakala sampai di hadapan rumah Yang Amat Berhormat baru muncul seorang yang kami tidak kenali dari mana datangnya, memerintah kami bertindak secara ganas, tindakan ini kami tidak setuju walaupun sebahagian orang terpengaruh dengannya. Kami harap perbuatan orang ini yang bernama, Ismail bin Kassim, khabarnya ia tinggal di Sungei Pinang ia bukanlah salah seorang yang ada dalam penduduk tanah yang tersebut boleh jadi ada saudara maranya sahaja.

Oleh yang demikian inilah kami menyatakan bahawa kami tidak setuju dengan tindakannya cara ganas dan berkasar itu. Kami mahu aman berharap timbang rasa Yang Amat Berhormat.

Kami berharap wakil-wakil bagi penduduk tanah lot ini biarlah daripada benar-benar orang yang tinggal dan mempunyai pondok atau kebun dalam tanah ini jika tidak hanya ia akan menjadi pengasut sahaja. Kami bimbang dengan adanya orang yang seumpama ini yang tidak berperaturan akan boleh mengapi-apikan orang yang tidak berpengetahuan.

Inilah kami menyatakan rasa kesal akan kejadian kasar dan ganas pada petang yang tersebut. Bagaimana pun kami ucap setinggi terima kasih pada Yang Amat Berhormat dan Pegawai-Pegawai Polis yang menunjuk ajar kepada kami. Akhir sekali kami pohon kasihan belas dari Yang Amat Berhormat.

Adalah kami yang rasa kesal,

t.t.: Yusof bin Samad

Pawancik bin Ismail

Mohd. Hanifah bin Saleh

Mohashad Ali bin J. Ali.”

Dan apa yang kita semua sekarangpun dapat tahu, selepas hari itu wakil-wakil mereka dijemput oleh Yang Berhormat Timbalan Ketua Menteri dengan Pegawai-pegawai Kerajaan dan perkara ini di Bukit Glugor sudahpun selesai dengan puas hati dengan orang-orang yang datang itu. Saya haraplah tidak payah Yang Berhormat Ahli daripada Kelawei atau Yang Berhormat Ahli Tanjong Bungah mencampurtangan di sini buat *hero* atau lagi buat kecau dan kecaman-kecaman di sini. Yang saya dapat tahulah orang D.A.P. ada juga ikut rombongan itu tetapi bila nampak Polis mereka cabut. (*ketawa*).

Soalan dikemukakan dan pindaan tidak dipersetujui.

Ahli Kawasan Jelutong (Encik Koay Boon Seng): Tuan Speaker, saya minta division.

YA

Encik Yeap Ghim Guan

Encik Khoo Soo Giap

Encik Koay Boon Seng

Encik Tan Phock Kin

Encik V. Veerappen

Encik Ong Yi How

Encik Abdul Rahman bin Haji Yunus.

TIDAK

Ketua Menteri

Timbalan Ketua Menteri

Datuk Teh Ewe Lim

Encik Tan Gim Hwa

Encik Wong Choong Woh

Encik S. P. Chelliah

Encik Ismail bin Hashim

Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Haji Abdullah

Encik Ooi Ah Bee

Encik D. C. Stewart

Tuan Haji Mohamad Nor bin Haji Bakar

Encik Khoo Teng Chye

Encik Teoh Kooi Sneah

Tuan Haji Abdul Kadir bin Haji Hassan.

TIDAK MENGUNDI

Encik Mustapha bin Hussain.

TIDAK HAZIR

Encik Khoo Kay Por.

Tuan Speaker: Keputusan bahagian adalah seperti berikut: "Ya"—7; "Tidak"—14; "Tidak Mengundi"—1; "Tidak Hazir"—1 "Tidak" lebih banyak. Usul tidak dipersetujui dan berbalik kepada Usul yang mula-mula.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Tuan Speaker, saya minta izin supaya bercakap dalam Bahasa Inggeris. I rise to take part in the Motion moved by the Honourable Member for Permatang Pauh in thanking His Excellency the Governor for coming to this House to deliver his gracious speech. And I join my colleague, the Honourable Member for Sungei Bakap, to say "Thank you" to His Excellency the Governor and Toh Puan for sparing their time to come to this House to be with us. Mr Speaker, Sir, from all the speeches coming from right, left and centre it looks most likely that this Sitting is going to be the last Sitting of this Third Legislative Assembly. And after this Sitting I am sure that the House may have to say good-bye, (*ketawa*). And the House will have to say "Welcome" to many new faces coming to this House. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): You are going away?

Ahli Kawasan Kelawei (Encik Yeap Ghim Guan): At least two months more.

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): Never mind, you already go with the D.A.P. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Pinang (Encik S. P. Chelliah): Making love.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): We, Pekemas, support whatever is good for the people, whether it is by D.A.P. or by UMNO; but never anything that is done by Gerakan. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Bayan Lepas (Encik Ismail bin Hashim): You are so angry with Gerakan?

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): We do not need your support also.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): If the Gerakan has declared that it is going to do something good for the people there must be a trick somewhere. And before you support what they say they want to do for the people you must examine very carefully from top to bottom where the tricks are. (*ketawa*). The tricks may be coming from left, right, centre; or they may be coming from the back.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we are coming to the end of this Third Legislative Assembly. And even if the Honourable the Chief Minister feels that he would be fortunate enough to have another Assembly Meeting it won't be after this year. This Assembly will be dissolved at the end of the year. And one thing I must say: The people of Penang will feel greatly relieved after the 5 years' torture under the Gerakan Government which later joined with the UMNO to form the Coalition Government. Mr Speaker, Sir, we remember the days of the 1969 General Elections. The people voted for a new Government—a Government that is entirely different from the Alliance Government.

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Gooi Ah Bee): You spoke on the platform.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Yes, I spoke on the platform, saying that we are going to form a Government that is clean and efficient. But today what is the Government? There are accusations left,

right, and everywhere of corruption, malpractices, maladministration, and speculation in land. There are all sorts of accusations here; and none of it has been cleared. You call it the Government we wanted in 1969, which I supported? Mr Speaker, Sir, the people elected the Government; so it is a government by the people. And the people expected that this Government would be for the people; and this Government would be with the people. I do not know how much time the Honourable Chief Minister himself spent with the people; how many times has he seen his constituency people.

Sir, in the case of the Honourable Member for Butterworth, people come to my house to look for the Honourable Member for Butterworth, thinking that he must be hiding in the toilet somewhere. (*ketawa*). If the Honourable Member for Butterworth could spend just one day in my office he could at least meet a dozen people who wanted to see him.

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): Where is your house?

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): My house is in your constituency. (*ketawa*). The whole trouble is that you don't know your own constituency. (*ketawa*). That is why you don't know where my house is.

That is the trouble with the Member for Butterworth. He doesn't know his constituency. The Honourable Member for Butterworth asks, "What's the name of the Welfare Officer in Butterworth?" He doesn't know even what's Butterworth. I don't know how long he tried to remember the spelling of "Butterworth." (*ketawa*) Honestly he annoys me.

My whole family voted for you. (*ketawa*). Then you cabut.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam, silalah *address* kepada saya.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Sir, he is disturbing me. It is not that I am disturbing him. You should direct him not to interfere; then I can go on smoothly (*ketawa*). If he wants it he can have it.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Okay.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, bila bercakap dengan saya jangan *address* kepada dia (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Yes.

Tuan Speaker: sebab dia tidak boleh jawab. *Address* kepada saya, jangan *address* kepada dia.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Terima kasih. Kalau dia ganggu kita tidak boleh cakap.

Sir, as I said, the people will be greatly relieved when they see that the term of this Government is coming to the end. And they are coming forward to pick a Government that is by the people for the people and with the people. They like to see all the Members of the Government with the people; not *cabut* away from the people, like the Member for Butterworth.

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): So did you, from Butterworth to Bagan Jermal. That is not *cabut*?

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): You make the assumption too early. Where are you going to *cabut*? To Bagan Dalam? (*ketawa*). Gurun?

Sir, in 1969 the people picked the Gerakan to form a Government. And because they promised to do what they could do for the people the people put every single drop of their hope into the Gerakan; into the Honourable the Chief Minister to form a Government that's in opposition to the Alliance Government. What can be more heartbreaking for the people who put the Chief Minister into power than to find today that instead of going into opposition against the Alliance it goes underneath the *sarong* of the Alliance? What can be more disappointing? What can be more heartbreaking, Mr Speaker, Sir?

Ahli Kawasan Tanjong Barat (Encik Teh Ewe Lim): The Pekemas go under the skirt of the D.A.P. (*ketawa*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): You wear a skirt?

Ahli Kawasan Butterworth (Encik Ooi Ah Bee): You want to see?

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): The skirt goes along; and the belt loosened. \$20 million blows away—"chin tai foong." (*ketawa*). That's the start we say "Chin Tai Foong."

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat (*gangguan*).

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): He is disturbing me. I wish you would tell them not to disturb me, Mr Speaker, Sir.

I refer to the gracious speech by His Excellency the Governor—paragraph 3: "We note with satisfaction and pride the remarkable social and economic progress achieved by the Government. This has not only brought about greater prosperity and happiness as well as a better standard of living to the people in Penang" Sir, this is what His Excellency the Governor has said. But now I would like to refer to the hardship and suffering of Penang Island; of people mostly staying in the constituency of Tanjong—the Honourable the Chief Minister's constituency. How much they suffer over there. How much they cry for help. How much they try to talk to the Honourable the Chief Minister who *cabut*.

Mr Speaker, Sir, Penang Island at one time was a free port. And on "free port" just now the Members on my right talked so much about. I am not going into that at all. I only say that at that time there was joy and fun and prosperity for our people on the Island because they enjoyed the privilege of staying on this Island with the free port status. Mr Speaker, Sir, they enjoyed very much trading with the neighbouring countries, like Indonesia and Thailand whose people came to our State to buy duty-free goods. Many tourists from neighbouring countries came to our Island to spend a few days here so that they could take back a few items which were free of duty—cloth, cosmetics, and so on. Today, the free port

status has gone; and gone forever. It has gone out of the mind of the Honourable the Chief Minister who cannot even spell the words "free port." He talked so much outside this House about the retaining and restoration of the free port for our own people; but today he completely forgets how "free port" is spelt. He does not know how to spell "free port." Even today, Sir, many elderly people still sit back and think of those good old days that they enjoyed staying on this Island that was a free port. And today they still think of the joy and fun, and so on, that they had in those days. But today what do they find? Business-man in Penang Road, Campbell Street, next to the clinic of the Honourable the Chief Minister at Carnarvon Street, Prangin Road and Maxwell Road find it hard to struggle for their living. With what they earn they hope they can pay extra money to their employees because of the rising cost of living. But, Sir, in their businesses they do not even make both ends meet. How can they pay more as cost of living to their people? Sir, these are the types of people crying for help from the Honourable the Chief Minister as their representative. But they are never able to see the Honourable the Chief Minister at all. If they have to go to his office to wait for him it might take a few hours. The Chief Minister always talks about personal experience. This is my personal experience. When I made an appointment with him to talk about the Butterworth *gotong-royong* I waited three hours in front of his office while he enjoyed tea with his lawyer friend from Kuala Lumpur. Even when an elected Member wants to see him you have to wait for three hours; so what about the ordinary people from his constituency who want to see him? It may be a nine hours' or twelve hours' wait.

Sir, I am asking the Honourable the Chief Minister to remember the hardship and difficulty suffered by the people in his constituency—those small-time business-men, those cottage industrialists, and so on. Sir, these are the people who voted the Honourable the Chief Minister into power. And these are the people the Honourable

the Chief Minister has completely neglected. Sir, politically speaking Penang voters are considered throughout the country as the most brilliant voters in our country. They are the most sophisticated voters in our country. They are the most courageous and bravest in our country. They dare to get together and defy the Alliance Government, and vote an Opposition Party into power. And these are the people you dare to neglect?

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat, nampaknya Ahli Yang Berhormat sudah terkeluar ucapan di atas Usul.

Ahli Kawasan Bagan Ajam (Encik Ong Yi How): Yes, Sir.

Sir, I am not *ulang* on these things. I only spoke about the voters.

Sir, the people in Penang now have acknowledged the fact that the free port status has gone, and will never come back. And the people of Penang will also acknowledge the fact that surtax, from 2% increased to 4% and sales tax of 5% will stay. Sir, in the Gerakan Manifesto the Gerakan had said that they would take steps to abolish the 2% surtax. But today the surtax has increased from 2% to 4% and yet the Honourable the Chief Minister did not say anything. So these are causes of difficulty and hardship suffered by the small-time business-men on Penang Island. And they have no alternative but to try and see what the Government can do for them. For all these years the Government has done nothing for our own business on the Island. It is a deplorable fact. And it is a condemnable fact that the State Government has done nothing to help our people.

Sir, as we all know, when coming to the setting up of free trade zones in Penang which would help the overseas capitalists and international giants to set up big factories in Bayan Lepas and in Prai the Government has done all it could to help these people. In fact, when talking about foreign investors the Government works on the double; but when it comes to helping our own people the Government sits still. A glaring example, Sir, is that we have asked many times in this House what

had happened to the free trade areas. We also urged the Government to plan these free trade areas in such a way that it would help our own business-men to run their business inside those free trade areas. But, unfortunately, when we talked about the free trade areas the State Government was sitting on it, and nothing was done. There were differences between the State Authority and the P.P.C.; and nothing at all was done, even until today. I have urged in this House many times that the Government speed up the operation of the free trade areas, and that they should be designed in such a way that they are to be operated by our own business-men in our State. And it is my belief that these free trade areas are to help our own business-men. These free trade areas to my mind—because I do not know how it is to be done—are in some way to compensate for the loss of the free port, because I am thinking that the goods sold in these free trade areas will be free on duty and will be sold to tourists coming from other countries. Sir, the Government sits still because it may have been decided that they are to help our own people. But if these free trade areas are to help our international investors I believe that the Government would be on the double. So I call upon the Government to speed up the process so that the free trade areas can be put into operation as soon as possible. Whatever the differences are between the State Government and the P.P.C.? they should be resolved sooner than later. And never allow these differences to jeopardize operation of the free trade areas.

Sir, apart from the free trade areas, what else can the State Government do to help our small-time business-men? This is a very pressing question which is awaiting an answer from the Honourable the Chief Minister and all the Honourable Members of the Government benches. During the last Sitting of this House I posed the same question; and there was no answer at all. Now I would like to pose this question again. Why was there no answer from the Government as regards how to help our own business-men in our State? Why was nothing done to speed

up the operation of the free trade areas? Why was nothing done to help our own business-men on our Island, and all other small business-men in Seberang Prai? Sir, the answer is simple—the Honourable the Chief Minister has been too busy taking trips overseas to meet investors overseas; and perhaps too busy tackling the financial affairs of those foreign investors. Sir, the Government has introduced . . . (*gangguan*).

USUL DI BAWAH PERATURAN MESYUARAT 9.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): May I interrupt here on Standing Order (9)?

I was under the impression that the House is meeting regularly from nine-thirty to six o'clock; but it seems that we have departed from this procedure. And I would suggest that if it is your intention, Mr Speaker, to hold irregular hours then at least you could give us notice of this when we assemble, or before we go away for lunch at one o'clock, so that we can make arrangements. If we are going to have long sessions, let us know.

I feel that it is very unsatisfactory to run these Meetings on irregular hours. Some of us have appointments for Meetings, Party Meetings in the evening, and all that; so this will put us out. So under the circumstances, I would like Mr Speaker, . . . (*gangguan*).

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Ayer Itam, saya faham apa Ahli Yang Berhormat, kata, tetapi saya cuma benarkan Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bagan Ajam cakap. Lepas dia habis kita *adjourn*-kan.

Ahli Kawasan Ayer Itam (Encik Tan Phock Kin): Well, as I know, he has got about 20 pages of notes. And if he is going to finish this it can go on until tonight. And we must have at least a break for dinner, if that is the intention. So under the circumstances, in view of the fact that he is just on the 2nd page (*ketawa*) of his 20-page speech, may I move that the House adjourn until 9.30 tomorrow morning?

Ahli Kawasan Sungei Bakap (Encik V. Veerappen): Tuan Yang Dipertua, saya suka menyokong Usul ini dan saya haraplah seperti Tuan Speaker kita telah buat ketetapan dalam mesyuarat yang dahulu. Kali inipun, Tuan Speaker, boleh ikutlah ketetapan itu boleh kerana semua orang tahu bila Dewan ini bersidang dan bila Dewan ini tamat. Saya haraplah Tuan Speaker sendiri ada kuasa atas Peraturan Majlis 9. Tuan Speaker sendiri ada kuasa dan saya mintalah Tuan Speaker gunakan kuasa itu dengan sepenuhnya.

Ketua Menteri: Tuan Yang Dipertua, sungguhpun kita di sini terima apa keputusan yang Tuan Yang Dipertua ambil dan sebab itu kita hendaklah ambil keputusan di sini. Apa-apa keputusan yang Tuan Yang Dipertua ambil kita ikuti.

Soalan dikemukakan dan dipersetujui.

Dewan ditangguhkan pada jam 6.43 petang sehingga 10hb April, 1974, jam 9.30 pagi.