



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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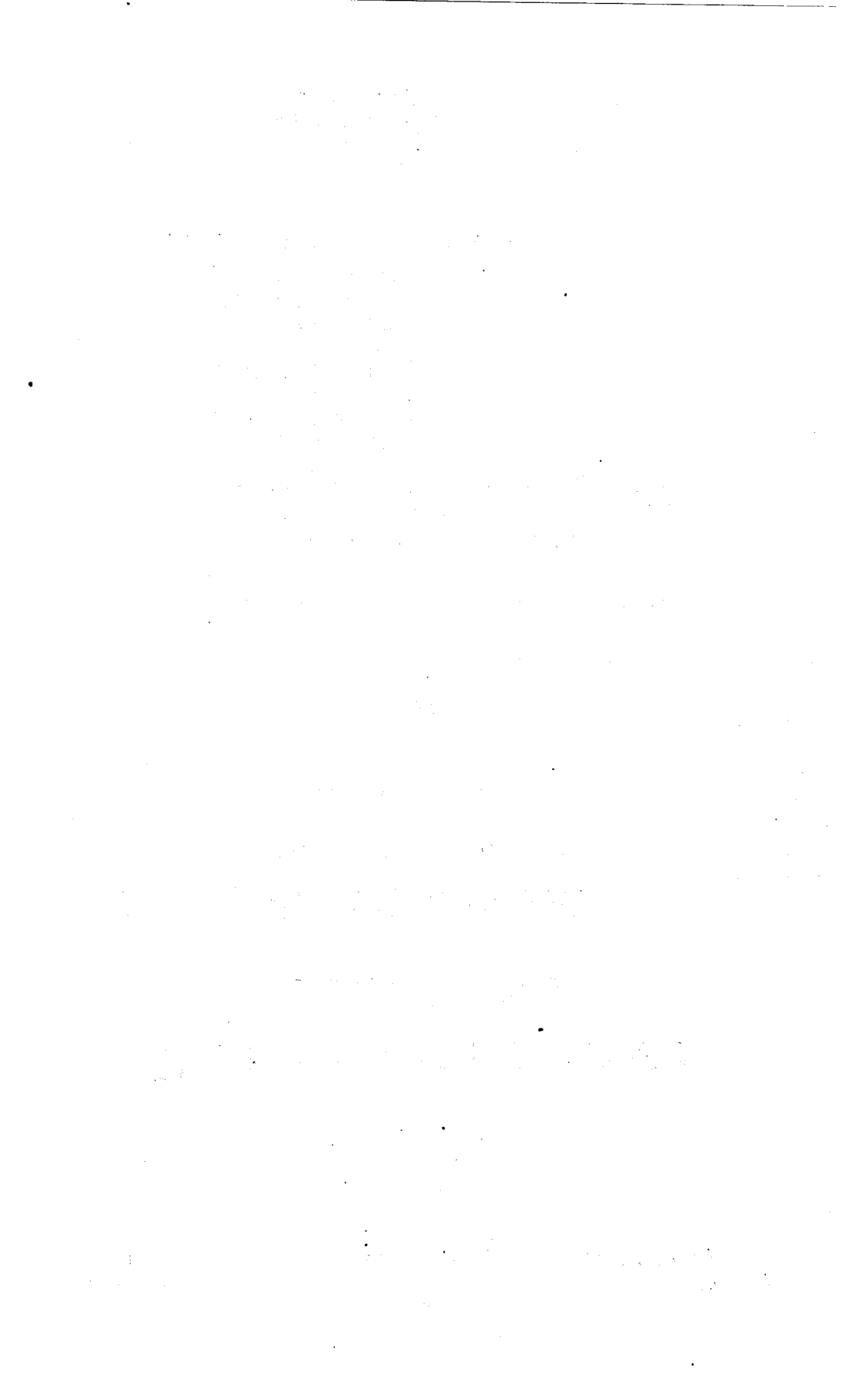
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FEDERATION OF MALAYA
DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

Official Report

First Session of the First Dewan Ra'ayat

Tuesday, 23rd February, 1960

The House met at Ten o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:

- The Honourable Mr. Speaker, DATO' HAJI MOHAMED NOAH BIN OMAR,
S.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P.
- .. the Prime Minister, Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA
AL-HAJ, K.O.M. (Kuala Kedah).
- .. the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, TUN
ABDUL RAZAK BIN DATO' HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).
- .. the Minister of External Affairs, DATO' DR. ISMAIL BIN
DATO' ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Johore Timor).
- .. the Minister of Finance, MR. TAN SIEW SIN, J.P. (Malacca
Tengah).
- .. the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, ENCHE'
ABDUL AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Kuala Langat).
- .. the Minister of Transport, ENCHE' SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR
(Pontian Utara).
- .. the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, DATO' ONG
YOKE LIN, P.M.N. (Ulu Selangor).
- .. the Minister of Commerce and Industry, ENCHE' MOHAMED
KHIR BIN JOHARI (Kedah Tengah)
- .. the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN
(Kuala Pilah).
- .. the Minister of Education, ENCHE' ABDUL RAHMAN BIN
HAJI TALIB (Kuantan).
- .. TUAN SYED JA'AFAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, J.M.N., Assistant
Minister (Johore Tenggara).
- .. ENCHE' ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN,
J.M.N., J.P., Assistant Minister (Batang Padang).
- .. TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN, Assistant
Minister (Kota Star Utara).
- .. MR. CHEAH THEAM SWEE, Assistant Minister (Bukit
Bintang).
- .. MR. V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K., Assistant Minister
(Klang).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED ISMAIL BIN MOHAMED YUSOF, Assistant
Minister (Jerai).

- The Honourable ENCHE' ABDUL GHANI BIN ISHAK, A.M.N. (Malacca Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAUF BIN A. RAHMAN (Krian Laut).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL SAMAD BIN OSMAN (Sungei Patani).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI ABDUL RAOF (Kuala Kangsar).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI MOHD. SALLEH, A.M.N., P.I.S. (Segamat Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN ABDULLAH (Kota Bharu Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN ARSHAD, A.M.N. (Muar Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN MOHAMED SHAH, S.M.J. (Johore Bharu Barat).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SAAID (Seberang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN HAJI YUSOF (Krian Darat).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN MOHAMED SHAH, S.M.J. (Johore Bharu Barat).
- „ ENCHE' AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Muar Dalam).
- „ DR. BURHANUDDIN BIN MOHD. NOOR (Besut).
- „ MR. CHAN CHONG WEN (Kluang Selatan).
- „ MR. CHAN SIANG SUN (Bentong).
- „ MR. CHAN SWEE HO (Ulu Kinta).
- „ MR. CHIN SEE YIN (Seremban Timor).
- „ MR. V. DAVID (Bungsar).
- „ MR. GEH CHONG KEAT (Penang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N. (Kapar).
- „ ENCHE' HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N. (Kulim Utara).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN ABDULLAH (Baling).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN PILUS (Trengganu Tengah).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASAN ADLI BIN HAJI ARSHAD (Kuala Trengganu Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASSAN BIN HAJI AHMAD (Tumpat).
- „ ENCHE' HASSAN BIN MANSOR (Malacca Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN TO' MUDA HASSAN (Raub).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN MOHD. NOORDIN, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Parit).
- „ TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN (Kota Bharu Hulu).
- „ ENCHE' IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Seberang Tengah).
- „ ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN IDRIS (Penang Selatan).
- „ MR. K. KARAM SINGH (Damansara).
- „ CHE' KHADIJAH BINTI MOHD. SIDIK (Dungun).
- „ MR. KHONG KOK YAT (Batu Gajah).
- „ MR. LEE SAN CHOON (Kluang Utara).
- „ MR. LEE SECK FUN (Tanjong Malim).
- „ MR. LEE SIOK YEW (Sepang).
- „ MR. LEONG KEE NYEAN (Kampar).
- „ MR. LIM JOO KONG (Alor Star).
- „ MR. LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).

The Honourable DR. LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).

- .. MR. LIU YOONG PENG (Rawang).
- .. MR. T. MAHIMA SINGH (Port Dickson).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED BIN UJANG (Jejebu-Jempol).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED ABBAS BIN AHMAD (Hilir Perak).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA (Pasir Puteh).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED DAHARI BIN HAJI MOHD. ALI (Kuala Selangor).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED NOR BIN MOHD. DAHAN (Ulu Perak).
- .. DATO' MOHAMED HANIFAH BIN HAJI ABDUL GHANI, P.J.K. (Pasir Mas Hulu).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED SULONG BIN MOHD. ALI, J.M.N. (Lipis).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- .. TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- .. NIK MAN BIN NIK MOHAMED (Pasir Mas Hilir).
- .. MR. NG ANN TECK (Batu).
- .. DATO' ONN BIN JAAFAR, D.K., D.P.M.J. (Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Tanah Merah).
- .. ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Perlis Utara).
- .. MR. QUEK KAI DONG (Seremban Barat).
- .. TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID (Rembau-Tampin).
- .. MR. SEAH TENG NGIAB (Muar Pantai).
- .. MR. D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
- .. MR. S. P. SEENIVASAGAM (Menglembu).
- .. TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, S.M.J., P.I.S. (Batu Pahat Dalam).
- .. TUAN SYED HASHIM BIN SYED AJAM, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Sabak Bernam).
- .. ENCHE' TAJUDIN BIN ALI (Larut Utara).
- .. MR. TAN CHENG BEE, J.P. (Bagan).
- .. MR. TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Malacca).
- .. MR. TAN PHOCK KIN (Tanjong).
- .. MR. TAN TYE CHEK (Kulim-Bandar Bahru).
- .. TENGKU INDRA PETRA IBNI SULTAN IBRAHIM, J.M.N. (Ulu Kelantan).
- .. DATO' TEOH CHZE CHONG, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Segamat Selatan).
- .. MR. V. VEERAPPEN (Seberang Selatan).
- .. WAN MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ALI (Kelantan Hilir).
- .. WAN SULAIMAN BIN WAN TAM (Kota Star Selatan).
- .. WAN YAHYA BIN HAJI WAN MOHAMED (Kemaman).
- .. MR. WOO SAIK HONG (Telok Anson).
- .. ENCHE' YAHYA BIN HAJI AHMAD (Bagan Datoh).
- .. MR. YEOH TAT BENG (Bruas).
- .. MR. YONG WOO MING (Sitiawan).
- .. HAJAH ZAIN BINTI SULAIMAN (Pontian Selatan).

The Honourable **TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB** (Langat).

„ **ENCHE' ZULKIFLEE BIN MUHAMMAD** (Bachok).

ABSENT:

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications,
DATO' V. T. SAMBANTHAN, P.M.N. (Sungei Siput).

„ the Minister of the Interior, **DATO' SULAIMAN BIN DATO' ABDUL RAHMAN**, P.M.N. (Muar Selatan).

„ **ENCHE' AHMAD BOESTAMAN** (Setapak).

„ **DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM**, P.M.N. (Jitra-Padang Terap).

„ **MR. KANG KOCK SENG** (Batu Pahat).

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Honourable the Minister of Justice, **TUN LEONG YEW KOH**, S.M.N.

PRAYERS

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

**ORAL ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS**

MATERNITY HOSPITAL, PENANG

Case of Alleged Refusal of Admission

1. Mr. Tan Phock Kin asks the Minister of Health and Social Welfare if he has instituted an inquiry into allegations of refusal of the Maternity Hospital Authority in Penang to admit a pregnant woman from Telok Bahang to the hospital leaving her to spend the night in the hospital porch; and if so, how was the inquiry conducted; who were the persons responsible for conducting the inquiry, and who were the witnesses called to give evidence; and whether the report could be tabled to the House.

The Minister of Health and Social Welfare (Dato' Ong Yoke Lin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have had full investigation made into this complaint, and as a result of the careful enquiry I am satisfied that there is no truth in the allegation that this woman was left to spend the night in the hospital porch. This woman came to the hospital late one afternoon and was given an examination, which showed that she was not in labour. The Maternity Ward was full, but she was given a bed for the night in the special labour room where she spent a comfortable night. She was also given a meal. Next morning

she left the hospital at her own request, and needless to say there was none of the physical manifestations of labour apparent at the time she left.

The enquiry was conducted by senior officers of my Ministry and in particular the Chief Medical and Health Officer, Penang, who gave the matter his personal attention. As to the method in which the enquiry was conducted, it followed the usual procedure whereby persons concerned in the case or are in a position to clarify facts, were given the opportunity to say what they wished and their statements were fully recorded. Statements were given by the following: the woman concerning whom the allegations had been made, the mother of this woman, members of the staff of the Maternity Ward, including five members of the nursing staff who had either examined the woman, arranged for her meal, or saw that she was in the special labour room during their periods of duty. I would also refer to the three watchmen on duty during the period of this woman's stay in the hospital who were able to say definitely that neither this woman nor anybody else spent the night in the hospital porch, and lastly a maternity patient in the special labour room.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a few supplementary questions. Arising from the reply which is given to-day, I would like to ask the Honourable Minister whether he considers that it is a privilege of a Minister

to discard the elementary courtesy of replying to letters from Members of Parliament. If not, why was no reply given to my letter despatched to him last December on this particular matter.

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: Sir, I received so many letters from M.P.s on many and different subjects. In this particular case, the Honourable Member had organised a newspaper campaign telling only one side of the story; there was great publicity given to this particular complaint and I had to make the most careful investigation and the reply is given in full to-day.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: Sir, the Honourable Minister has not replied to my question with regard to a full report of the enquiry.

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: I think, I have just given a full report, Sir.

Detainee Mr. R. Balan

2. Mr. V. David asks the Minister of Defence to state the number of years Mr. R. Balan has been in detention and whether the Government is considering his release; if not, whether the Government is prepared to accede to his request to study law in England.

The Minister of Defence (Tun Abdul Razak): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this man has been detained for 11½ years. The question of his release is a matter for the Review Commission and I am also informed that his request to study law in England is now being considered by the Commission.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Honourable Minister give an assurance to this Assembly as to how long will it take to give a final decision regarding his trip to England?

Tun Abdul Razak: As I have said, it is a matter for the Review Commission.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam (Ipoh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know when this request to study law in England was first made to the Commission of Enquiry?

Tun Abdul Razak: I need notice of this question, Sir.

Mr. V. David: Is the Minister aware that the Review Commission is waiting

to receive instructions from higher authorities and that it is not in a position to decide whether Mr. Balan can go to England or not?

Tun Abdul Razak: I have nothing further to add to my reply.

Review Commission on Detentions

3. Mr. V. David asks the Minister of Defence to state the reasons why the decision made by the Review Commission on 20th July, 1959, to release on bond the four detainees Mr. Wong Loke Kuan, Mr. Ng Tze Choon, Mr. Tan Han Sui and Mr. Ng Chin Leong was recently withdrawn and whether this decision was the result of pressure by the Government on the Review Commission.

Tun Abdul Razak: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Review Commission, which is at present presided over by a Judge of Appeal, is an entirely independent body, and has never at any time, been subjected to governmental pressure in the course of its duties. Indeed, the Honourable Member himself should be personally aware of this. If such pressure had been brought to bear, the Honourable Member himself might not now be sitting where he is.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I disagree with the Minister. Can the Minister give an assurance to this Assembly that the Review Commission is completely independent? As far as we have information, the Review Commission always await directions from the Government, especially from the Defence Ministry.

Tun Abdul Razak: Sir, I have nothing further to add.

Doctors in One-Doctor Hospitals Leave Arrangements

4. Mr. V. Veerappen asks the Minister of Health and Social Welfare whether doctors in one-doctor-hospitals are entitled to be off on Sundays and other public holidays; and if so, what arrangements are made to cover their duties; if not, what arrangements are made to give time off to these doctors.

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, doctors in one-doctor-hospitals are not entitled to be off on Sundays and

other public holidays, but so far as possible arrangements are made for them to take advantage of their eligibility for leave under regulations governing their conditions of service, and local arrangements are made whereby another doctor or a senior hospital assistant will cover their duties during their period of absence.

I may add that all Government medical officers have been informed that after two years' service in a one-doctor-hospital requests for transfers will always be favourably considered.

THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, 1955

Conditions Governing Termination of Employment

5. Mr. V. Veerappen asks the Minister of Labour if he would give an assurance that steps will be taken to amend the Employment Ordinance (No. 39 of 1955) so that an employee shall not be dismissed except on reasonable grounds, and that in case of dispute the matter be referred to the Commissioner of Labour.

The Assistant Minister of Labour (Mr. V. Manickavasagam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I regret that I cannot give the assurance which the Honourable Member seeks. The Employment Ordinance does not expressly deal with dismissals, but mentions termination of contracts under Part II of the Ordinance. The Honourable Member has no doubt overlooked the fact that the amendment which he now proposes would be disadvantageous to the workers, because it would mean that the worker could only terminate his contract on reasonable grounds. In the opinion of the Select Committee, which dealt with the Ordinance in its draft form, the provisions covering the termination of contracts are adequate. Any dispute as to whether or not the termination of a contract is within the terms of the Employment Ordinance, can always be referred to the Commission of Enquiry under Part XV of the Employment Ordinance.

Mr. V. Veerappen: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the Honourable Minister say whether this Ordinance is more

inclined towards the employer than towards the employee—I mean is more favourable to the employer than to the employees.

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Sir, I have nothing further to add.

Inclusion of Penalty Provision for Contravention of Section 59 (1)

6. Mr. V. Veerappen asks the Minister of Labour whether it is intended to include provision in the Employment Ordinance, 1955, for the imposition of penalties such as fines or imprisonment on employers found guilty of contravening Section 59 (1) of the Ordinance, which provides for a 48-hour week.

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer is "no". I may explain that the Select Committee appointed by the former Legislative Council to examine and report on the draft bill of the Employment Ordinance, considered carefully the various penalties imposed under Part VII. That Committee unanimously accepted and recommended the present penalties. As there is no evidence to show that the absence of the penalty clause referred to by the Honourable Member acts to the detriment of workers, it is not intended to make any amendment to the law.

Also, I would draw the Honourable Member's attention to the fact that if his suggestion was adopted it would of necessity mean that no worker would be permitted to work overtime. This would deprive the worker not only of considerable earnings but also of an important bargaining point.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question of working over 48 hours is allowed to the individual's discretion—whether a man is willing to work overtime or not, it is left to him. Therefore nobody can compel any man to work more than 48 hours. Will the Honourable the Minister assure this House that all employers have strictly abided by the Employment Ordinance? I want an assurance from the Minister concerned whether the employers are abiding by the Employment Ordinance, by not allowing their workers to work more than 48 hours.

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: I have nothing further to add.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I do not understand what is meant by "I have nothing further to add". A question was asked, can the Minister assure this House, by any process of investigation that he has carried out, whether the employers are following the Ordinance, the law laid down, and the Minister said "I have nothing further to add"—I cannot understand that.

Mr. Speaker: I understand this way. When he said "I have nothing further to add", it means that he has already given the answer in the original question—that is what I think it is. But if he wants notice to be given he must say he requires notice, because new information is required.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Honourable the Minister had said, "I require notice", I would have understood it. He said, "I have nothing further to add". Now, I would ask the Minister again: can the Honourable the Assistant Minister tell us whether he has carried out any investigation and is satisfied that employers are following the Employment Ordinance?

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is entirely a separate question and if any Honourable Member would give a specific case, I will investigate the matter.

Mr. V. David: In other words, you require notice of that question?

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Yes.

Mr. V. David: Does the Honourable Minister confirm that the employers are not complying with the Employment Ordinance?

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: No, Sir.

Mr. V. Veerappen: Could the Honourable Minister explain to the House the use of this Ordinance and whether employers can go against this Ordinance and escape any punishment?

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Sir, the legislation is both for employers and employees.

Mr. V. Veerappen: Could the Honourable the Assistant Minister assure this House that employers are definitely paying overtime for overtime work?

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Sir, I have already replied.

SUPERANNUATED STUDENTS

7. **Mr. Ng Ann Teck** asks the Minister of Education how many over-age students were asked to leave school in 1958 and 1959.

The Minister of Education (Enche' Abdul Rahman): Tuan Speaker, 78 orang murid² telah di-suroh berhenti dari Sekolah² Mēnengah China pada akhir tahun 1959 dan lebih kurang 300 orang ramai-nya pada akhir tahun 1958.

8. **Mr. Ng Ann Teck** asks the Minister of Education whether the Government has taken or intends to take concrete steps to provide continuation schools for such students who wish to continue their education; and if so, the number of over-age students affected.

Enche' Abdul Rahman: Tuan Speaker, ada. Kelas² pelajaran lanjutan di-adakan di-seluruh negeri bagi tujuan ini. Kelas² ini di-buka kepada semua orang dengan tidak kira agama. Ramai-nya murid² yang telah berhenti sekolah di-sebabkan umur lebih dan yang bukan belajar di-dalam kelas² ini tidak-lah dapat di-ketahui tetapi jumlah ramai-nya murid² yang sekarang belajar kursus² penuh dan kelas² pelajaran lanjutan ini ada-lah lebih kurang 16,000 orang.

BANNED FOLK SONG

9. **Mr. Ng Ann Teck** asks the Minister of the Interior to state the reasons for banning the folk song "In the Jungle and the Wild" (an approximate translation from the Chinese language).

The Assistant Minister of the Interior (Enche' Mohd. Ismail bin Mohd. Yusoff): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chinese song "In the Jungle and the Wilderness" has been banned because, when used in Malaya, it is, especially in its

second stanza, designed to arouse feelings of sympathy for the Communist terrorists in the jungle, and is therefore subversive.

Mr. V. David: Is the Minister aware that this song has been broadcast in the Radio Malaya?

Enche' Mohd. Ismail bin Mohd. Yusoff: I have answered the question, Sir.

Mr. V. David: My question is straightforward and simple: has this song been broadcast in the Radio Malaya—yes or no?

Enche' Mohd. Ismail bin Mohd. Yusoff: I require notice, Sir.

BILL

THE EXCHANGE CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Finance (Mr. Tan Siew Sin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Exchange Control Ordinance, 1953", be read a second time. The purpose of this Bill is fully set out in the explanatory statement attached thereto, and it will, therefore, not be necessary for me to address the House at any length. In this connection, I give notice that I would like to take this Bill through the Committee stage and the third reading at this meeting of the House to-day.

The principal Ordinance, as Honourable Members are aware, was enacted in 1953 and it has never been amended at all. The main purpose of the present Bill is to bring the Ordinance up-to-date.

The only amendment of substance is the amendment of sections 24 and 25 of the Exchange Control Ordinance effected by Clauses 3 to 6 of the Bill. Since the principal Ordinance was enacted Treasury bills as a form of Government finance in the Federation have increased in importance and are likely to play an increasingly important part in the future. It is reasonable therefore that the restrictions in the Exchange Control Ordinance relating to the import and export of legal tender

and bank notes should be extended to cover the import and export of Treasury bills as well by making the import and export of such bills subject to the permission of the Controller of Foreign Exchange, thereby preventing Treasury bills being used as a means of unauthorised capital transfers.

I wish to stress, however, that an absolute prohibition either on the import or export of Treasury Bills is not intended. Treasury bills may continue to be imported or exported subject to the permission of the Exchange Control authorities in each case.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

Clauses 1 to 7 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read the third time and passed.

MOTIONS

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1959

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

"That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, the Customs Duties (Amendment) Order, 1959, which has been laid before the House as Statutory Paper No. 2 of 1960, be confirmed."

This Order under the Customs Ordinance has been made. It is now presented to the House, as the Ordinance requires, for confirmation. There is unfortunately a misprint in the Statutory Paper against Item No. 511 054—this will be corrected in the subsequent Order.

Honourable Members will remember that at the Budget meeting last November the House confirmed the Customs Duties Order, 1959. In speaking on that Order I explained that it was to come into force on 1st January, 1960, and that it effected a major change in the form of our Customs tariff but made only a few very minor changes in duty rates.

At the same meeting the House, upon a motion by me, confirmed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 6) Order, 1959, which made a number of changes in existing duty rates and imposed certain new duties to take effect on 25th November, 1959.

Those changes had to be expressed as amendments to the Customs Duties Order, 1956, which was the legal authority for the duties in force last November.

Then it became necessary to amend the Order by which the new form of tariff was introduced by grafting on to it the changes in duties imposed in November, 1959, so that, when that Order came into force on 1st January, 1960, it correctly stated the tariff as confirmed by the House at the Budget Meeting. The opportunity was taken to correct a few misprints and to make one or two technical improvements, but no substantive changes in duties were made, save under Item Code 651 072 and Item Code 672 010. These two changes in duties are, I may add, both in a downward direction and 'are the result of acceptance of recommendations by the Tariff Advisory Committee that Metallic Thread, classified under Item Code 651 072, and Precious and Semi-Precious Stones (including synthetic) unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted, classified under Item Code 672 010, be made non-dutiable. It is with pleasure that I seek the approval of the House to the reduction, with effect from 1st January, 1960, of the duties on these two items to nil. By an order made by me under section 13 (2) of the Customs Ordinance, the duty on metallic thread was waived with effect from 12th October, 1959. The removal of the duty on metallic thread will be of great help to the Malayan kain songket industry and the other duty change will facilitate the

establishment of a diamond polishing industry in the Federation.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Tuan Speaker, saya suka juga mengambil peluang menegaskan di-sini, dengan tidak ada-nya chukai di-atas metallic thread mengikut Order ini, maka berma'ana-lah kita memberi satu galakan yang besar dan juga pertolongan yang besar kepada satu perusahaan yang dijalankan oleh orang kita ia-itu perusahaan kain songket, terima kasih.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

"That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, the Customs Duties (Amendment) Order, 1959, which has been laid before the House as Statutory Paper No. 2 of 1960, be confirmed."

THE LOAN (PREMIUM BONDS) ORDINANCE, 1951

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Loan (Premium Bonds) Ordinance, 1951 (No. 16), the sum of \$1,143,350, being money raised by the sale of Premium Bonds under the Ordinance, shall be appropriated and paid into the Development Fund established under the Development Fund Ordinance, 1958 (No. 18).

The Resolution before the House seeks approval for the payment of this sum of money, i.e., \$1,143,350, raised by the sale of Premium Bonds, into the Development Fund.

The Development Fund was established by the Development Fund Ordinance, 1958, and it is the present practice to pay the proceeds of long-term loans issued by the Federation into this Fund. Appropriations from the Development Fund are authorised by Resolutions of this House and such appropriations must be applied for purposes of development as defined in the Development Fund Ordinance. It is considered appropriate, therefore, that this sum of \$1,143,350 should be paid into the Development Fund as this will ensure its expenditure on development in accordance with the

wishes of this House, thus complying with the provisions of section 16 of the Loan (Premium Bonds) Ordinance, 1951, which states:

"The money borrowed under the authority of this Ordinance shall be held by the Government of the Federation in a special development reserve and shall be appropriated and applied for such purposes as the Legislative Council may, by resolution, specify."

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Mohamed Khir bin Johari: I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Loan (Premium Bonds) Ordinance, 1951 (No. 16), the sum of \$1,143,350, being money raised by the sale of Premium Bonds under the Ordinance, shall be appropriated and paid into the Development Fund established under the Development Fund Ordinance, 1958 (No. 18).

THE DEVELOPMENT (SUPPLEMENTARY) (No. 1) ESTIMATES, 1960

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

That this House shall immediately resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the expenditure proposed in the Statement laid on the Table as Command Paper No. 7 of 1960 and to recommend whether the same shall be approved by this House with or without modification."

Honourable Members may be surprised that, having passed the main Development Estimates for 1960 less than three months ago at the last meeting of this House, it is now necessary to bring to the House a further list of supplementary estimates for consideration. I should explain that the majority of the sub-heads of expenditure shown in Command Paper No. 7 is in respect of works for which legislative authority was received in 1959 but which, owing to circumstances beyond the control of the departments concerned, were not completed, as expected, in that year. To my mind the need to produce supplementary estimates for this class of expenditure is inclined to waste the time of this House. For this reason I am causing a review to be made of the relevant legislation—the Development Fund Ordinance,

1958—and I hope to bring for your consideration later this year an amendment to this legislation which will be designed to facilitate "end-of-the-year" expenditure on development account in future years.

Not all the expenditure envisaged in Command Paper No. 7 is in this category. There are, in fact, four new projects included in these estimates and I shall leave it to my Honourable colleagues to explain these projects under their respective Heads of Expenditure in the Committee stage.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1960, considered in the Committee.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

Head 107—

The Assistant Minister of the Interior (Enche' Mohamed Ismail bin Mohamed Yusof): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sum of \$23,500 shown against my Ministry under Head 107, Printing, is required to complete works on the water-borne sanitation in the Printing Office, Kuala Lumpur.

Sir, you will recall that a sum of \$25,000 was approved for this project last year. Since the work was carried out rather late in the year it was not possible to complete it by the end of 1959. Out of the sum allotted for the project, only \$1,500 was expended last year. Therefore, I have to seek the authority of this House to spend the balance of \$23,500 this year in order to complete the project.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$23,500 for Head 107 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1960.

Head 122—

Enche' Abdul Rahman: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to present the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates for the Ministry of Education for 1960. A sum of \$385,553 is requested in order to supplement the money already

released in the main 1960 Development Estimates. The bulk of the sum now required is to prove further funds for existing contractual commitments already in progress. At the time when the main 1960 Development Estimates were prepared it was anticipated that these projects would either be completed in 1959 or that a higher proportion would be completed during 1959 than finally proved to be the case. As the estimated target figures for expenditure in 1959 were not fully realised, it now becomes necessary to provide the unexpended balance during this year in order that the projects may be completed. In former days we should have called these "revotes" and all the sub-heads, except sub-head 61, fall under this category.

As regards sub-head 61, it is for the release of \$124,000 of new money as opposed to my other requests which are all revotes or balance due on existing projects. Honourable Members will recall that my predecessor informed the House during the 1960 budget debate that the policy regarding *Sekolah² Lanjutan Kampong*, or Rural Trade Schools as they were formerly known, is to be revised in order to extend the course from a two to three-year course and to impart a much more rural bias in the curriculum. This policy is in process of implementation by my Ministry as a priority matter and I seek \$124,000 for additions and alterations to the existing rural trade schools in order that I may make the most effective use of them. The *Sekolah² Lanjutan Kampong* have a leading role to play in the production of young men who will play an important part in the development of rural areas and it is, I am sure, Sir, by now well-known that the Government place first priority emphasis upon matters of rural development. I am sure the House will not grudge my Ministry this modest request for \$124,000 as a further step in our rural development plan.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head 122, totalling \$385,553, be approved.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam (Ipoh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is being asked to vote, or to approve, a sum of over

\$300,000 to the Ministry of Education for the purposes of advancing education for the children of this country. Mr. Speaker, Sir, under normal circumstances I would not oppose any request for money to improve the lot of the citizens of this land, but to-day I have to stand up here and oppose any single cent being given to the Ministry of Education. The people of this country to-day woke up with a "hydrogen bomb" facing them—\$110 millions unaccounted for in the Ministry of Education, according to the report of the Auditor-General of the Federation of Malaya. Mr. Speaker, Sir, \$110 millions in the year 1958 are still to-date not accounted for in the proper way to the Auditor-General of the Federation of Malaya and how can this House approve even one cent more to that Ministry until and unless these \$110 millions are accounted for to this House, to the Auditor-General, and to the people of this country? Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Auditor-General has told us—and he has not minced his words—in effect what he has said is that there has been extreme negligence in this Ministry. This money may be unaccounted for a number of reasons: one of them extreme negligence, another unauthorised expenditure—extravagance—unauthorised by this House and unauthorised by the Estimates. We must not overrule the possibility of fraud, of cheating, of misuse of public money. The taxpayers in this country have been patient. This is not the first occasion when large sums of money have not been accounted for by this Government and by departments of this Government. Under these circumstances, I say this House has a responsibility to see that the money which comes into the Government coffers—money which is taken from the people—must be accounted for, every single cent of it. If hundreds of millions of dollars are still not accounted for, then I say we have no right to give any more money to that Ministry. In fact I would go further and say that as a matter of urgency this Government should suspend all officers including the Minister in charge of the Ministry at that time from executing any duty in this country

until this matter is publicly investigated, publicly cleared up and the people of this country know whether the \$110 millions have been defrauded, misappropriated or what has happened to that money. For these reasons I oppose even one cent more being given to the Ministry of Education.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad (Bachok): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hendak berchakap berkėnaan dengan Sub-head 61. Alterations and Additions to Sekolah² Lanjutan Kampong. Walau pun Menteri Yang Berhormat sudah menyebutkan bahawa Sekolah² Lanjutan Kampong ini amat mustahak bagi kėmajuan orang² di-kampong, saya berharap kepada Kėrajaan supaya dapat-lah sekolah lanjutan ini benar² menjadi alat yang membolehkan orang kampong hidup sėsuai dengan kėadaan geography yang di-tuntut di-kampong. Tuan Pengerusi, pada dasar-nya—Tuan Yang di-Pertua,

Mr. Speaker: Tuan Pengerusi boleh; kita dalam Committee.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Ah, Ya . . . pada dasar-nya amat-lah salah kalau sa-kira-nya Sekolah² Lanjutan Kampong ini di-bėri pėlajaran² yang apabila dia kėluar daripada sėkolah ini tidak di-dapati-nya kėadaan² yang mėnolong mėnggunakan pėlajaran-nya di-sėkolah ini bagi mėmajukan dan mėnyuborkan kėhidupan-nya.

Maka saya berharap bėnar kepada Kėmentėrian Pėlajaran supaya mėmandang dan mėngadakan pėnyiasatan di-dalam hal ini. Sėbab, sa-malam saya tėlah mėnyampaikan Uchapan Pėnanggoan berkėnaan dengan Pėnganggoran. Di-dalam-nya nyata bahawa kėbanyakn orang² yang bėrumor daripada 20 tahun ka-bawah yang mėnganggor, kėrana mėreka tidak mėmpunyai latehan yang tėrtėntu di-sėkolah². Tuan Yang di-Pertua, mustahak-lah bagi Kėmentėrian ini mėnitikbėratkan soal mėmileh pėlajaran yang sėsuai dengan kėadaan kampong.

Soal yang kėdua, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang saya hendak sėbutkan di-sini ia-lah bahawa Mėntėri ini tėlah mėnyėbutkan bahawa wang yang sabanyak \$124,000 ini ia-lah satu wang yang kėchil, sa-bėnar-nya bagi 6 sėkolah. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, hal ini

wang-nya kėchil, tėtapi, saya mėrasa tidak-lah Dewan ini akan kėbėratkan mėnchari wang yang bėsar bagi 60 sėkolah lanjutan bagi nėgėri ini, sa-kira-nya tėrnyata dari apa yang di-ajar di-sėkolah² itu bėnar² dapat mėmbėrikan latehan hidup kapada mėreka yang hidup di-kampong. Hal ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bagi pehak Pėrsatuan Islam sa-Tanah Mėlayu mėnyatakan bahawa kalau pun wang mėjadi bėsar, tidak-lah mėjadi soal kapada kita, ini tidak bėrlawan dengan apa yang tėlah di-bangkitkan oleh wakil dari Ipoh tadi bahawa soal kėwangan \$110 juta pada tahun 1958 yang di-dalam Pėnyata Auditor-General itu mėsti-lah di-bangkitkan. Tėtapi pada fikiran saya tidak-lah mustahak sampai hendak di-tahan wang pėlajaran yang hendak di-bėrikan ini, walau pun saya mėnyertai Yang Berhormat wakil dari Ipoh itu bahawa pėrkara ini bukan-lah pėrkara yang kėchil. Tėtapi saya tidak-lah sampai mėnahan pėrbėlanjaan bagi kėbajikan yang akan datang ini. Biar-lah kita hukum mėreka yang bėrsalah, biar-lah pėlajaran ini di-bėri bagi mėreka yang tidak bėrsalah.

Mr. Chin See Yin (Seremban Timor): Sir, I am not opposing the amount asked for, but it is really a matter of great concern to find a headline in the newspapers that \$110 millions have not been accounted for. This is a very serious matter. According to the report of the Auditor-General on the accounts of the Federation of Malaya for the year ending 31st December, 1958, I think there is a case for the Government to set up a Committee to investigate into the complaints made by the Auditor-General.

This large sum of money was contributed by the taxpayer and it was intended for a very important purpose and that is to provide education to the people of this country so that they may know and understand the policies of the Government. I think you will agree with me, Sir, that this is really a large sum of money, and if it was properly accounted for the Auditor-General would not have made such comments in his report. The fact that he has made such comments in his report shows that there is something

wrong somewhere and I think it is of the utmost importance that Government should not delay . . .

Enche' Tajudin bin Ali (Larut Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, mengikut Përtoratoran Mëshuarat No. 36, saya rasa Ahli Yang Bërhorat itu tëläh këlüar daripada aloran. Kita mëmähathkan tambahan përbëlänjaan \$385,553 dan dia bërchakap fasal Auditor-General.

Mr. Speaker: Dalam ruling ya'ani pëtua-nya përkara ini tidak boleh di-jadikan satu debate atas apa yang di-sëbutkan oleh Auditor-General, tëtapi oleh sëbab duit itu bërkenaan dëngan Pëjabat Pëlajaran saya tërpaksa juga-lah mëmënarkan orang bërchakap dalam përkara itu sëbab wang yang kita minta ini ia-lah kërana Pëjabat Pëlajaran. Jadi dëngan ada bër-kait-nya dëngan Pëjabat Pëlajaran, saya minta-lah kapada Ahli Yang Bërhor-mat ini jangan-lah di-panjangkan sangat chakap ini. Itu sahaja.

Mr. Chin See Yin: Thank you, Sir. But I am not trying to be long-winded. I am referring to this item as this money comes from the Federal Treasury and the money in the Treasury comes from the taxpayer and I, therefore, suggest that it is of the utmost importance that the Government should immediately set up a Committee to investigate into this and a public statement made before the next meeting.

Mr. V. David (Bungsar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my colleagues and I from the Socialist Front view this Ministry with great concern. According to the Auditor-General's report \$110 millions are not accounted for. Therefore, I would propose that the \$385,553 be deleted from these estimates until investigation takes place to rectify the present situation.

Mr. Speaker: In other words, you oppose this proposed expenditure. Is that so?

Mr. V. David: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: When it is put to vote you can oppose it.

Mr. V. David: I am asking for a deletion. I am proposing that the amount be deleted.

Mr. Speaker: It means the same thing.

Mr. K. Karam Singh (Damansara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I have your permission to speak.

Mr. Speaker: Not any more on that \$110 million. I think I have heard enough of that. But on this allocation you can speak as much as you like.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like a little freedom of speech from the Chair. *(Laughter)*.

Mr. Speaker: I think I have heard enough of that. If you want to oppose any of the items under this Head you can do it as much as you like.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: To-day the country is actually shocked and it is our duty to express the shock . . .

Mr. Speaker: I think I have already told you not to refer to that item any more. I have heard enough of that. If you want to oppose any item under this Head you can do that.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the appropriation of this sum of \$385,000 for the further education of the people in the kampong is, in our view, a matter intended to throw dust into the eyes of our kampong people, because this is a very small sum compared to the great sum that has mysteriously disappeared from this Department *(Laughter)*. Mr. Speaker, Sir, to cover its incompetence and the shady dealings that go on within the Ministry on the financial side, to try and cover up. . . .

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I would ask the Honourable Member to withdraw his statement. He has got no evidence whatever in making such a sweeping generalisation.

Mr. Speaker: Will you withdraw?

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir. . . .

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Withdraw, withdraw!

Mr. Speaker: I order that.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Government Bench cannot behave. . . .

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Sit down! (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! I cannot allow this to go on in this Dewan.

I have the power to order people out of this House if anyone misbehaved himself, if anyone will not take orders from the Chair. I shall use my power, and now I order Mr. Karam Singh to withdraw that word.

Will you withdraw that? If you don't, I have another remedy for that.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with full respect to the Chair, I obey the instruction from the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you very much.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, I would only like to quote a paragraph from to-day's papers.

Enche' Ibrahim bin Abdul Rahman (Sébérang Tengah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ada-kah Ahli Yang Bèrhormat itu boleh mēmbawa surat khabar kamajlis ini untuk mēmbèri pēnērangān atau sandaran?

Mr. Speaker: Tidak ada yang mēlarang surat khabar tidak boleh di-bawa ka-dalam majlis ini, kalau ada yang hēndak di-quote dari situ.

Mr. Geh Chong Keat (Penang Utara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, the order from the Chair was for the Member for Damansara to withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: He had done that.

Mr. Geh Chong Keat: What he said was: "Mr. Speaker, Sir, I obey", but he didn't withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: He obeyed the order. That's enough.

I hope there will be no more interruptions.

May I appeal to this House to have fewer interruptions in this House. In the debate, Members will have an opportunity to express their own views later on.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would quote from the papers. One paragraph reads:

"A more disquieting feature than an increase in detected frauds is, in Mr. Watson's opinion, 'the evidence that in at least two of them, there has been close and

careful conspiracy between public officers and persons not in Government employ."

Mr. Speaker: I won't allow any more on that.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, that is all that we say: that we do not grudge the further education of our brethren in the kampongs, we would like to see them as advanced as could possibly be; but all we ask is that this aid to the kampongs be not tainted with any inefficiency in the Government department concerned. Let it be aid which is efficient in all spheres.

Tun Abdul Razak: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I ask your permission to reply to a number of Honourable Members who spoke on this question of audit queries. I think it is only fair to Government that we should make its position quite clear. There has been unnecessary misquotation and misstatement of the Auditor-General's Report. The Report says quite clearly:

"For these reasons, I have been unable to ascertain, as the Audit Ordinance requires me to do, whether the payments set out below were made in accordance with proper authority or were properly charged."

There is no question of any misappropriations or of money being misused anywhere. The only question is that the Auditor-General has not been able to ascertain that the money has been spent with proper authority and were properly charged. That is all there is, and the full Government statement will be issued in due course over this. I do hope that Honourable Members will not say any more on this until after the full Government statement has been made available.

Dato' Onn bin Jaafar (Kuala Trengganu Selatan): Is that not just a polite statement to say that he has some doubts about it?

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Talib rises.

Mr. S. P. Seenivasagam (Menglembu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words before the Minister replies.

Mr. Speaker: We are not in Committee—you can speak at any time.

Mr. S. P. Seenivasagam: Then I will speak after him.

Mr. Speaker: He is giving way.

Mr. S. P. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also rise to oppose the allocation of this money to the Ministry as it is constituted at present, and in so doing, I want to make it clear that none of us in our Party will ever oppose any money for expenditure on education. What we are afraid of is that the money is going to a Ministry which has been condemned by the Auditor-General as being utterly incompetent and being unable to manage it.

The Prime Minister: On a point of order—could the Honourable Member quote where the Auditor-General refers to this Ministry as incompetent?

Mr. Speaker: As the Deputy Prime Minister has given an assurance that a statement will be issued by the Government, the less you say about it, the better.

Mr. S. P. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, we are asked to approve a sum before the statement is issued. If the Government is prepared to postpone the demand until after the statement is issued, then the debate can end.

In answer to the Honourable the Prime Minister, I would only refer him to paragraph 136:

"The accounts of the Ministry of Education must be regarded as extremely unsatisfactory. Dissatisfaction arises mainly from the failure to set up and operate the accounting system designed in the Education Ordinance . . ."

So the Ministry itself is disregarding the provisions of the Education Ordinance, and the question before this House is: Is it safe for this House to entrust further sums to that Ministry? I submit that in the light of this condemnation, it would be a betrayal of trust to expect that Ministry to discharge its duties for the education of the people of this country. I know that there is a Public Accounts Committee, and it can go into the matter, but this is a matter which is far too big for the Public Accounts Committee, and what is required is that there should be a proper Commission of Inquiry. In the meantime, I think

that as a vote of censure on the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: I think the Deputy Prime Minister has already said that a statement will be issued in respect of this Report.

Mr. S. P. Seenivasagam: That is so, Mr. Speaker, Sir, but as I pointed out, we are asked to approve the provision before the statement is issued.

In deference to your wishes, Sir, I shall not refer to the question of the disappearance of the money, but I would like

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Talib rises.

Mr. Speaker: He will not refer to that, he said.

Mr. S. P. Seenivasagam: In view of the fact that many speakers have touched on this issue and in deference to your wishes particularly, Sir, that this unpleasant aspect will not be pursued further, I shall now content myself with saying that I shall strongly oppose any money being entrusted to the Ministry as presently constituted. I would add that no aspersions are being cast on the present Minister who obviously had nothing to do with the matter.

The Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry (Mr. Cheah Theam Swee): Sir, the fact remains that Members across the floor oppose the allocation of \$385,553 to the Education Ministry for various purposes of education, and they in fact oppose this and they use the Auditor-General's Report as a guise to cover their opposition. The intention

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: On a point of order, Sir—not all Members across the floor.

Mr. Cheah Theam Swee: Those who have stood up to oppose—those Honourable Members across the floor who have stood up to oppose—the fact still remains, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin (Tanjong): Mr. Speaker, Sir, quite a lot has been said on this subject and

Mr. Speaker: Yes. I hope no more. (Laughter).

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: The objection, as I see it, raised by the Government Bench is over our criticism of money being misused, but what I do like to say here is not so much to ask Government to adopt the stand of the Opposition *in toto* which may appear to be of a higher standard, as far as the judgment of accounts is concerned. The standard put forward by the Opposition is strict, because we believe that to enable any Ministry to carry out its work efficiently, we must have a strict accounting procedure. This prompted one Honourable Member to propose that the Minister be suspended. If the Government is not prepared to go to that extent

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, may I clarify one point? I proposed that the Minister of Education responsible in 1958 should be suspended from all duties.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: That is the proposal put forward.

Mr. Speaker: I think the Deputy Prime Minister has already said that a statement will be issued in this respect—an assurance has already been given that he will issue a statement to this House in respect of that Report. I think that is more than enough.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: I quite appreciate that, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: In other words, the Government will investigate into that carefully.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: We quite appreciate that, Mr. Speaker. But before he made that investigation, I think it is quite in order for the Members of the Opposition to express our views.

Mr. Speaker: In respect only of the items before the House.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: Let me explain this to Honourable Members. Under the Education Ordinance, if a particular school does not conform to the Education Ordinance, if a particular school produces accounts that are not in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Education Ordinance, what is the action taken by the Government in this respect?

Mr. Speaker: Again you are talking on the principle. We are not talking on the principle, we are talking on the items of this Estimate—Items Nos. 21 to 61. You must not touch on the principle.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: Yes. I am trying to convince this House on the logic of opposing this sum of money, and in order to convince this House, I must give them examples of what sort of action would have been taken in the case of a school not conforming to the Education Ordinance in respect of preparation of accounts. That particular school would have been suspended. In the case of trade unions and societies the same thing happens if they don't conform to the Societies or Trade Union Ordinances. But is the Government proposing to have a different law for the Ministry? Is it suggested that the Ministry can do anything which is contrary to the Ordinance while schools which come under the Ordinance cannot?

This, I think, is a very important issue, and, in the light of my explanation, I hope the Government can see their way to deleting this particular item from the Estimates.

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps I may be allowed to make an explanation in regard to this Report. It is apparently the general belief of Opposition speakers that Ministers are personally responsible for the financial accounting of their departments. I appreciate that in theory a Minister is technically responsible for the sins of omission and commission of his Ministry, but it should be remembered that a Ministry like the Ministry of Education is a huge spending Ministry. I cannot remember the exact figure, Sir, but I believe that in 1958 it spent something of the order of \$160 million a year. Well, it is obviously not possible for one individual, whoever he may be, to personally supervise the spending of that money, and if there have been irregularities, it is pretty clear, unless Honourable Members refuse to see what is obvious, that the responsibility for these must largely lie with the civil servants who are administering the department. I mean, it is not my intention to-day to apportion blame, to say

who is to blame or who is not to be blamed, but I think it is pretty clear that it is not the Minister himself.

The Government itself is very worried about this matter, and will take suitable action in due course, but I should like to make it clear here and now that whoever may be blamed, I do not think you can blame the Minister. Another point I would like to make clear is this: that even a Minister has no control over civil servants. If to-day irregularities are reported, only the Public Services Commission can take the necessary action. I can quote a few instances which might shock the House. For example, today, I have got examples of Customs Officers who have been guilty of serious irregularities. These irregularities have been reported to the Public Services Commission, and no action has been taken for, in some cases, two years.

Enche' Abdul Rahman: Saya rasa tidak payah-lah saya menjawab kapada perkara² yang di-bentangkan berhubung dengan Pényata Auditor-General ini kerana Pényata ini akan di-sérahkan kapada Public Account Committee menyiasat-nya, dan sa-bagaimana yang telah di-térangkan oleh Timbalan Perdana Menteri Kerajaan akan di-keluarkan satu kenyataan. Tetapi apa yang saya dukachitakan bahawa ada ahli² yang membangkang—ahli² yang biasa-nya menjadi juara orang² yang kecil, orang² yang susah, supaya Keméntèrian saya tidak di-bérikkan langsong wang ini. Dengan jalan itu tidak dapat-lah menambahkan bilek² darjah lagi dan apabila tidak dapat menambahkan bilek² darjah lagi, tidak dapat-lah memasukkan anak² kita yang di-kampung² ka-sékolah dan memajukan lagi sékolah di-négèri ini. Jadi, daripada bangkangan ini saya sekarang ini nampak-lah tembélang-nya di-mana-kah yang sa-bénar dudok-nya mereka yang mengaku menjadi juara orang kecil itu.

Perkara yang saya hendak jawab ialah barangkali Yang Bèrhormat wakil dari Bachok menyébutkan supaya isi pelajaran Sékolah² Lanjutan Kampong ini di-sésuaikan dengan

Che' Khadijah binti Mohamed Sidik (Dungan): Sa-belum Yang Bèrhormat

Méntèri yang berkénan memberi jawapan, saya tadi ingin mahu berchakap tetapi Tuan Yang di-Pertua mēnghalang.

Mr. Speaker: Ini dalam Committee, boleh berchakap dua tiga kali (*Kétawa*).

Enche' Abdul Rahman: yang mengatakan bahawa patut-lah isi² pelajaran itu di-sésuaikan dengan keadaan tempat dan kemahuan négèri kita ini. Yang sa-bénar-nya perkara sukatan pelajaran sékolah² Lanjutan Kampong ini hendak di-siasat dan dipinda sa-bagaimana yang di-maksudkan tadi.

Che' Khadijah binti Mohamed Sidik (Dungan): Tuan Pengerusi, dalam Sub-Head 61 ia-itu Sékolah² Lanjutan Kampong, saya berharap kapada Keméntèrian Pelajaran, kerana di-kampung² sekarang, anak² yang tidak dapat melanjutkan pèrsékolahan-nya sangat kehausan pelajaran dan sa-tengah² mereka itu kerana tidak dapat melanjutkan pelajaran-nya, hendak minta kerja pun tidak dapat. Maka dalam soal ini saya minta atau berharap kapada Keméntèrian yang berkénan, sa-kira-nya wang ini di-luluskan, maka dengan sa-lékas²-nya-lah hendak-nya di-adakan sékolah² itu di-kampung². Dan saya juga menuntut, jangan-lah hendak-nya Sékolah Lanjutan ini di-adakan untuk lelaki sahaja, hendak-lah juga ada Sékolah Lanjutan Khas bagi anak² pèrempuan, mithal-nya, di-ajar khas untuk pelajaran sékolah rumah tangga, supaya anak² yang lepas dari tempat itu, kalau sa-kira-nya mereka masuk masyarakat rumah tangga, maka mereka ada mempunyai tanggong-jawab yang pènoh. Sebab, Tuan Pengerusi, ada kala-nya anak² pèrempuan itu apabila suami-nya meninggal, mithal-nya, dengan mempunyai beberapa orang anak, jika mereka tidak mempunyai pèngétahuan yang cukup; maka kuchar-kachir-lah hidup mereka. Tetapi kalau mereka sudah mempunyai diploma, berkélulusan dari Sékolah Lanjutan, sa-kira-nya dia kematian suami atau, mithal-nya, berchérai dengan suami-nya, maka dia ada mempunyai 'ilmu pèngétahuan dalam soal mengajar atau menjahit, mengajar

dalam soal rumah tangga, maka dapatlah dia mēnghidupkan anak²-nya yang kēchil itu.

Oleh sēbab itu, saya mērayu di-sini, hēndak-lah Kēmēntērian Pēlajaran mēngambil pērhatian yang sangat bērat kapada Sēkolah² Lanjutan bagi anak² pērēmpuan di-kampong² dēmi kēpēntingan kēsēlamatan nēgara dan bangsa di-dalam tanah ayer kita ini, sa-takat ini sahaja.

Enche' Mohamed Yusof bin Mahmud (Tēmēroh): Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, saya bērasa sangat muskil kapada sahabat saya yang mēnēntang usul ini yang mēminta supaya duit ini jangan di-bēri kapada Kēmēntērian Pēlajaran dēngan alasan yang mēngatakan Kēmēntērian ini tidak mēnjalankan kērjanya dēngan bētul pada masa yang sudah. Ini-lah satu alasan yang saya rasa sangat di-muskilkan, bukan sahaja rumah ini, tētapi daripada anak² murid yang bēratus ribu yang bērkēhēndakkan tēmpat bēlajar. Dēngan kita tidak mēm-bērikan wang sa-bagaimana yang di-kēhēndaki oleh pehak pēmbangkang, pehak yang mēnēntang ini, saya rasa tēntu-lah dia tahu akibat yang akan tērjadi. Dēngan tidak kita mēm-bērikan wang ini, maka suatu masa akan lēpas yang tidak dapat di-balekkan ia-itu masa murid² mēndapat pēlajaran, sēbab murid² itu, jikalau tidak dapat tēmpat bēlajar, umor-nya akan tua, maka pēluang mēlanjutkan pēlajaran tidak akan ada lagi. Akibat-nya, saya rasa pehak yang mēnēntang usul ini akan mēnērima dosa-nya bagi murid² yang tidak dapat bēlajar, dēngan itu saya rasa tidak-lah logic bagi pehak yang mēnēntang supaya mēmbatalkan pēr-mintaan wang sa-banyak ini.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, Yang Bērhormat Mēntēri waktu mēnjawab chakap saya, ada sadikit yang saya khuatirkan, kērana Yang Bērhormat tidak mēnyē-butkan bērkēnaan dēngan hēndak mē-nambah kēwangan ini pada masa yang akan datang. Dan saya masēh bērpē-rasaan bahawa kalau wang ini-lah untok sēkolah lanjutan, tidak-lah mē-muaskan hati, kērana di-dalam sēgi kēmajuan orang kampong, sēkolah lanjutan patut-lah di-banyakkan. Ini

saya bērharap mēndapat sadikit sa-banyak pandangan Kēmēntērian Pēlajaran.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say just a few words. The Honourable the Minister of Education and some of the speakers on the other side have accused the Opposition of saying that we do not want to spend money on the education of children of this country. Sir, when I opposed it, I made it quite clear that we were prepared not only to approve this sum but even ten times this sum if the Government wanted it for education. We oppose it now because we are not satisfied that in the present state of the Ministry it will go towards the education of children.

Mr. Cheah Theam Swee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member is using the report of the Auditor-General as a guise to oppose this sum.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Sir, that report is the basis of my allegation that the Ministry is incompetent and that the Ministry should not have anything more to do with it.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew (Dato Kramat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps it would be more relevant if the Honourable Minister concerned would assure us that this money, which the House has been asked to approve, will not be misspent. According to the statement of the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister just now, he said that a statement would be issued in due course and that he hoped we would be satisfied. But before that statement, we have still got to be satisfied that the money will not be misspent.

Since there is objection to quotations from newspapers, I would like to quote from the Report itself. On page 29, paragraph 143, last sentence, it is stated:

"In Malacca the St. Francis Institution was given \$12,000 from Federal Funds in order to build two classrooms, but the classrooms were never built and the money was used in part to meet a deficit on the school account."

Now, Sir, it is quite possible that if this state of affairs were to continue, a lot of money, which we have been

asked to approve under Sub-heads 21 to 61 listed here, may be used for purposes other than those for which they have been allotted. So, I think, we should have an assurance on that. Then on page 31, paragraph 157, it is stated:

"A Rural Trade School was to have been built at Temerloh and the estimated cost of the building was \$332,179. Plans were apparently prepared but it is understood that the project was abandoned before building started."

and we have also examples where money was used for purposes for which it has not been allotted—for example, the money that was used for

Mr. Speaker: You have heard from the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister that a statement will be issued. We do not want to debate on the Report any more.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Sir, I am not debating on the Report. I am saying that before these items are passed or approved could we have an assurance from the Minister concerned that the errors that have been committed before will not continue, so that this money might not be misspent—in other words that the money we vote for these items of expenditure will be spent on those items only. It is not my intention to debate the Report.

Mr. Speaker: All Government expenditure is governed by Financial General Orders.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Sir, the question I would like to put to the Minister is, "Could he give this House an assurance that this money will not be misspent?"

Enche' Yahya bin Haji Ahmad (Bagan Datoh): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya juga memikirkan bahawa soal pelajaran bagi anak² bangsa kita di tanah ayer kita yang telah merdeka ini ada-lah penting. Maka saya menyokong di-atas peruntokkan wang ini, walau pun saya telah mendengar beberapa lama, sa-tengah daripada sa-tengah pembangkang menyatakan yang berkaitan dengan Report Auditor-General. Tetapi baharu sahaja wakil dari Ipoh—sa-telah di-chabar daripada sa-belah sini—mengatakan dia bukan sahaja membangkang soal peruntokkan yang ada ini—bahkan sokong sa-puluh kali ganda. Maka saya berasa sukachita

yang dia juga ingin hendak memajukan pelajaran anak² kita dalam negeri ini, maka di-atas peruntokkan ini saya menyokong dengan sa-kuat²-nya. Tetapi di-atas soal yang tidak puas hati peruntokkan \$110 juta tadi, saya rasa hal ini tidak patut kita bincangkan di-sini, tetapi kita mahu hanya-lah peruntokkan untuk . . .

Mr. Speaker: Sudah ada pun akuan daripada Timbalan Perdana Menteri ia-itu kenyataan akan di-keluarkan berkenaan dengan report itu.

Enche' Yahya bin Haji Ahmad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sebab itu-lah saya di-sini menerangkan ia-itu menyokong dengan sa-kuat²-nya di-atas peruntokkan ini.

Mr. Speaker: If no other Honourable Members wish to speak, I will put the question to the House.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before you put the question, perhaps the Honourable Minister would like to reply?

Enche' Abdul Rahman: Sir, any money provided for in the Estimates will be spent in accordance with the Financial General Orders.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$385,553 for Head 122 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1960.

Head 123—

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: Sir, pending the completion of new buildings to replace the present General Hospital in Kuala Lumpur, I do not think that I need to explain the urgent necessity of making emergency improvements to that hospital at this juncture. As is well known for many years, the Kuala Lumpur General Hospital has been admitting more patients than can be adequately accommodated and, as a result, there is heavy congestion and some disorderliness existing in the wards of the present hospital. To meet this defect, it is proposed to make improvements and renovations to seven existing wards in such a way that 140 extra beds could be placed in these wards. In addition, two new temporary wards will be built in the

General Hospital compound and these two wards will provide another 120 beds. Also, the wards in the Malay Hospital, adjacent to the General Hospital, which were recently released for the use of the General Hospital, will also be reconditioned to take more beds. It is hoped that by these moves an additional 300 beds will be available to alleviate the serious congestion now existing in the hospital.

Furthermore, the present two operating theatre units have become grossly inadequate, because of the increase in the number of surgical patients and the increase in the number of Surgical Specialists working in the General Hospital. Great inconvenience has been experienced by both the Surgeons and the public alike because of this inadequacy—in particular when emergency operation cases are brought in, as a result of which routine surgical procedure has had to be abandoned or postponed. The various Surgical Specialists also find it most difficult to fit in surgical periods, because of this lack of operating theatre units. It is, therefore, proposed that the new operating theatre which will be built in the General Hospital will consist of two major and two minor operation theatre units and a fracture room. Essential equipment, including air-conditioning will be included in this work. It is expected that this additional units will go some way towards meeting the deficiencies in this hospital.

Mr. Chin See Yin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise not to oppose the sum provided, but I am making reference to an estimate in the Development Estimates for 1960 in connection with the medical facilities provided in this country, for the people of this country. Sir, in the Development Estimates about \$5,000,000 will be provided for the General Hospital in Kuala Lumpur, but my town, Seremban, has only been given \$125,000. Now, here is an estimate for \$415,000 for improving the existing hospital in Kuala Lumpur. The population has no doubt increased in Kuala Lumpur and the population has also increased in my town, and as a result the old hospital in my town, which was built about 1800 something, is in such a rotten condition—and we are also

short of beds—that I asked the hospital authority there, “What are you going to do about it?” The answer was given, “I have done my best and I have not got the money to do anything about it,”—that is, about the shortage of beds. And here, Sir, we have just heard the Honourable Minister saying that he is going to get 300 additional beds for the Kuala Lumpur General Hospital. What about the hospital in my town? There is an increase in the population and in the number of people getting sick. So, something must be done about it and I hope that the Minister will be fair, and it is my hope that at the next meeting of this House an estimate will be made for additional beds in my town.

Che' Khadijah binti Mohamed Sidik: Tuan Pengerusi, saya juga tidak membangkang di-dalam soal bantuan wang ini tetapi di-sini bantuan hanya untuk General Hospital Kuala Lumpur sahaja. Nampak-nya Kementèrian yang berkènaan ini hanya memikirkan bandar yang bèsar, bandar yang chantek di-Kuala Lumpur ini sahaja tetapi beliau mëlupakan kami di-Pantai Timor yang sangat bèrkurangan sèrba-sèrbi dalam soal kasehatan. Yang pertama sakali di-dalam soal doktor², kaki tangan dan juga alat² pèrkakas. Tuan Pengerusi, baharu² ini, saya tëläh mëlawat di-dalam kawasan saya di-Dungun sana—Kuala Trengganu maka di-bèrapa tèmpat sapèrti di-Jambu Bungkok, di-Marang, di-Mèrchang mèreka di-sana mèminta kapada saya, “Che’ Puan kami sudah tiga bulan tidak di-datangi oleh Kèreta Ubat kamari, tengok ini, orang² ini sudah bèsar pèrut-nya dan muka-nya puchat tidak ada satu ubat pun yang datang”. Sa-sudah itu Tuan Pengerusi, saya dèngar doktor di-Dungun, Trèngganu dan juga doktor di-Kuala Trèngganu saya mèrasa sèdeh mèndèngar kata² daripada doktor² itu kèrana saya lihat dèngan mata kèpala saya sèndiri samasa saya bèrada di-Dungun, patient bukan main pènoh sa-hingga saya sèndiri hèndak ambil ubat tèrpaksa tunggu kèrana pada masa itu doktor sèdang mèoperation orang sakit. Doktor itu mènayakan, “dresser di-sini hanya ada dua orang sahaja, tidak ada dresser yang boleh pèrgi di-kampong?”. Dan

saya bertanya pula kepada doktor di-Tréngganu kata-nya, "tidak chukup alat perkakas dan kereta sakit pun ta'ada tetapi yang ada hanya kereta² yang rosak sahaja di-hantar ka-mari dan bagaimana kami hendak bekerja, kejar sana, kejar sini kerana tenaga tidak ada". Kereta sakit tidak chukup sedangkan di-kampung ra'ayat menderita tidak dapat ubat.

Pada musim tengkujuh dan musim hujan lebat, musim ribut ketika itu penyakit sangat banyak Tuan Pengerusi, dan tiga bulan tidak ada di-datangi oleh satu kereta ubat pun di-sana. Jadi saya minta-lah kepada Kementèrian yang berkenaan, tolong-lah saya merayu atas rayuan nama berpuluh² ribu orang kampung yang meminta perbantuan daripada Kerajaan. Beri-lah kami pertolongan. Tolong-lah wahai Menteri Yang Berhormat di-dalam soal kasehatan. Padangkan-lah layangan mata itu, nun di-Pantai Timor sana, di-mana kami mengharap mendap lebeh banyak lagi tenaga² daripada doktor², daripada kaki tangan dan mengharap juga ia-itu alat perkakas di-dalam soal ini, dalam peruntukan ini, Menteri yang berkenaan mengambil perhatian mengadakan peruntukan, harus hendak-lah lebeh besar lagi daripada peruntukan yang sudah ada seperti di-Hospital yang chantek dan chukup perkakas-nya seperti yang di-Kuala Lumpur ini. Jadi, sekali lagi atas nama ra'ayat di-kampung², saya merayu tolong-lah ambil perhatian, ia-itu menambah tenaga² dan alat perkakas di-dalam soal perubatan. Sakian ini sahaja Tuan Pengerusi.

Enche' Hamzah bin Alang (Kapar): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam menyokong peruntukan ini saya tidak membangkitkan hal kampung, tetapi ada dua orang Ahli Yang Berhormat tadi telah berchakap supaya peruntukan yang sa-banyak \$415,000, itu dapat di-berikan kepada negeri² mereka, umpama-nya, di-Negeri Sembilan atau pun Pantai Timor. Jadi, dalam perkara ini kita harus memikirkan bahawa peruntukan ini bukan-lah setakat ini sahaja yang hendak kita adakan dalam bandar Kuala Lumpur ibu kota Persékutuan Tanah Melayu. Kalau kita perhatikan bandar Kuala Lumpur ini

ta'-ada sa-buah Rumah Sakit yang sehat yang dapat kita dudok di-dalam-nya, tetapi bagaimana pula kalau ada orang² yang baharu datang dari luar negeri menengokkan keadaan hal Rumah Sakit kita yang mana terlalu hudoh. Sa-tahu saya Rumah Sakit di-Bungsar Road itu pun keadaan-nya sudah tua, oleh sebab itu saya menyokong peruntukan Rumah Sakit yang baharu ini, kerana saya pernah melawat di-mana Yang Berhormat Menteri kita yang telah jatuh sakit di-Bungsar Hospital, di-samping itu saya pernah juga berjumpa dengan sa-orang wakil dari luar negeri yang telah menceritakan kepada saya bahawa dia memuji pemerintahan Persékutuan Tanah Melayu ini; semua-nya terator baik dari segi pentadbiran mahu pun dari segi apa sakali pun. Pendek kata semua-nya baik, tetapi chuma satu perkara sahaja, ia-itu Rumah Sakit yang sangat menyedihkan. Kalau kita sendiri melihat keadaan Rumah Sakit Bandar Kuala Lumpur ini, umpama-nya ada wakil² Duta dan duta yang datang dari luar negeri memerhatikan keadaan di-sini maka alang-kah menyedihkan-nya kerana keadaan Rumah Sakit itu sudah kuning chat²-nya. Oleh itu, sangat-lah menasabah kalau di-bena sa-buah Hospital yang baharu di-bandar Kuala Lumpur mengikut sa-bagaimana chadangan yang di-kemukakan ini. Juga keadaan² di-kampung yang saya mendapat khabar bahawa Kerajaan akan mengadakan "kalau ada jumlah penduduk² dalam sa-buah kawasan yang ada mempunyai penduduk lebeh dari 20,000 orang, maka Kerajaan boleh membuat sa-buah sub-Centre."

Dari itu, kalau ada wakil² ra'ayat di-mana tempat-nya ada penduduk² yang berjumlah lebeh dari 20,000 orang maka boleh-lah meminta dengan Kerajaan. Saya fikir Kerajaan juga boleh menimbangkan perkara itu, sebab saya sendiri hendak meminta sa-buah Rumah Sakit di-kampung saya, Kapar di-mana penduduk-nya berjumlah 20,000 orang. Di-sana ta' ada Rumah Sakit, kehualih ada sa-buah Rumah Sakit kepunyaan tuan estate. Jadi, kalau ada orang² yang sakit maka tentu-lah susah. Saya fikir elok-lah saya minta kepada Kementèrian yang berkenaan supaya dapat mengadakan sa-buah Sub-Centre di-kampung saya, kerana kalau

mereka hendak pergi ka-Klang atau Kuala Selangor tersangat-lah jauh. Oleh itu, saya menyokong peruntukkan yang di-tetapkan ini.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya ada perkara yang lain yang hendak saya chakapkan, tetapi terpaksa-lah, kerana perkara ini telah di-ucapkan oleh sahabat saya Ahli Yang Berhormat yang mana baharu hari ini saya telah mendengar bahawa jika penduduk² dalam sa-suatu kawasan berjumlah sa-ramai 20,000 orang, maka boleh kita meminta mengadakan Hospital

Enche' Hamzah bin Alang: Bukan Hospital, tetapi Sub-Centre.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Sub-Centre. Saya minta kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri yang bersangkutan supaya dapat memberi penjelasan berhubung dalam perkara ini, sebab saya takut Kerajaan akan terikat berhubung dengan ucapan Ahli Yang Berhormat tadi di-mana akan menyebabkan susah sedikit; walau pun saya bersetuju dengan Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Kapar di-mana kalau jumlah penduduk ada mempunyai lebih 20,000 orang, maka patut di-beri satu layanan yang berpatutan. Oleh kerana ramai Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang telah menyempang, maka pada kali ini biar saya menyempang pula.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hendak berchakap berkenaan dengan Rumah Sakit di-Kuala Lumpur berhubung dengan improvement yang mana nyata-lah bahawa improvement ini bukan-lah hendak di-buat Bungsar Hospital. Saya bersetuju dengan Kerajaan ini walau pun wakil² dari luar negeri berasa ta' sedit apabila berada di-Rumah Sakit di-sini, tetapi saya bersetuju bahawa General Hospital itu hendak di-betulkan. Saya berharap pembahagian dan pembetulan dalam Rumah Sakit Besar di-Kuala Lumpur ini hendak-lah dibuat supaya dapat membanyakkan katil² bagi klas tiga daripada katil² klas dua. Saya bukan-lah hendak menjadi juara di-sini, sebab nanti Ahli² Yang Berhormat di-sana marah kalau banyak yang hendak menjadi juara. Tetapi oleh kerana saya rasa patut di-tingkatkan di-mana statistics penduduk² di-klas tiga ada-lah lebih banyak yang

sakit daripada klas dua di-Rumah Sakit Besar Kuala Lumpur ini. Klas tiga ini hendak-lah di-utamakan, apabila saya sebutkan klas tiga bukan-lah saya maksudkan klas tiga untuk menyenangkan orang² itu mati, tetapi klas tiga ini maksud-nya ia-lah yang sesuai dengan keadaan Rumah Sakit di-mana kita hendak meluluskan peruntukkan wang sa-banyak \$415,000 ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita berharap sementara terbena-nya satu Rumah Sakit Besar di-Kuala Lumpur ini maka kita berharap klas tiga itu boleh-lah di-megahkan, sebab keadaan sekarang ini boleh kita ma'afkan kerana kita tidak dapat peruntukkan wang yang sa-bagitu banyak untuk memperbaiki Rumah Sakit Besar di-Kuala Lumpur. Tetapi, apabila kita telah beri peruntukkan ini sa-banyak \$415,000. Maka jangan-lah hendak-nya berlaku lagi kejadian² yang akan menyeksakan orang² sakit yang mana menyebabkan orang² takut pergi ka-Rumah Sakit, kerana keadaan yang amat menyusahkan.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-dalam membuat standard keadaan Rumah Sakit ini, saya berharap kepada Kerajaan supaya jangan-lah memandang bahawa ra'ayat Persékutuan Tanah Melayu ini lain daripada ra'ayat negeri yang lain; ma'ana-nya ra'ayat Persékutuan Tanah Melayu ada-lah sama² berhak mendapat layanan yang maju dan modern sama seperti ra'ayat yang lain. Kalau kita membanggakan bahawa Kerajaan Persékutuan Tanah Melayu, Kerajaan yang nombor satu dalam South East Asia maka sudah pada tempat-nya-lah kita tunjukkan kebanggaan kita dalam Rumah Sakit dengan sedapat²-nya bahawa klas tiga dalam Rumah Sakit itu tidak kurang daripada klas IIB dalam Rumah Sakit di-tempat² yang lain.

Berhubung dengan improvement dalam Rumah Sakit, saya berharap jangan-lah improvement itu di-haskan kepada bangunan dan katil sahaja malah hendak-lah juga meliputi walau pun saya rasa tidak berapa tepat kalau di-katakan di-sini bagi meliputi anggot² yang akan menjalankan kewajipan² di-Rumah Sakit. Ini tentu-lah ada dalam pandangan Kementerian yang berkenaan, tetapi dengan khas-nya

saya menarek perhatian Kementrian yang berkenaan berhubung dengan perkhidmatan² istimewa atau Doctor yang specialist dalam Rumah Sakit Besar di-Kuala Lumpur yang mana ada-lah satu Rumah Sakit yang mashhor dengan kurang specialist, maka saya berharap hal ini dapat diperhatikan.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a very great need for a hospital in the Kuala Langat area of Selangor, and the people there find it very difficult without a hospital—in emergency cases they have to rush up to Klang. They have to come from as far as Tanjong Sepat which is about more than 30 miles from Klang.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have known personally of a case where a person took caustic soda and had to be brought about 20 miles to the Klang Hospital. In emergency cases where lives are in danger, it is necessary that there should be a hospital in Kuala Langat. Therefore, I urge upon the Honourable the Minister of Health to take very serious notice of the very pressing need of the people of Kuala Langat for a hospital. Thank you.

Mr. Lee Siok Yew (Sepang): Mr. Speaker, Sir, to-day I would like personally to say a few words. Though I am very glad and happy to hear the Honourable Member for Damansara mentioning the need for a hospital at Kuala Langat, being the Member for Sepang, I would like to say that knowing the position of the people in Kuala Langat I myself had submitted a report to the Honourable the Minister of Health requesting a hospital—and I am not saying this to get publicity in this House. Sir, in fact, we have a health centre in Tanjong Sepat and we will have another health centre at Sungei Pelek very soon. I am saying these few words here, because the Honourable Member for Damansara is not bringing this up because he is willing to help the people of Kuala Langat. . . .

Mr. Speaker: You cannot impute improper motive in this. It is against the Standing Orders.

Mr. Lee Siok Yew: I am sorry, Sir. I have submitted a report to the

Minister of Health stating that we need a hospital in Kuala Langat and other health centres, and I wish to mention it here because I am the Member for Sepang.

The Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives (Enche' Abdul Aziz): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I happen to be the Member representing Kuala Langat and the question of a hospital in Kuala Langat has been my very serious concern for a long time; in fact, I had been in constant consultation with the previous Minister of Health, and also the present Minister of Health, and I have the assurance that the establishment of this hospital would be considered favourably in the Five-Year Development Plan.

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: Sir, as I explained earlier on, this is only seeking the approval of the House for emergency work at the General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur. The rest of the requests from Honourable Members, from members of the public, organisations and so on will, of course, be considered in the context of the next Five-Year Development Plan. I hope Honourable Members will realise that every single health centre and every single ward in a hospital costs money, and when my Honourable colleague the Minister of Finance tried to get more money from the public by the only way possible—by taxation—we got a hue and cry from the same Members who demand for more and more hospitals and welfare services.

As regards Honourable Members from the East Coast States, I am sure no fair-minded person can say that the East Coast States have been neglected in the past few years of the Alliance Government, in spite of the financial stringency and all the money that we have been pouring down the drain in fighting the Emergency. Sir, these requests for other hospitals will all be considered when we debate the Five-Year Development Plan.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I have your kind permission to say a few words. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Minister of Agriculture just now informed the House that he was in touch with his colleague the

former Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, Sir, not every place, not every constituency has the privilege of sending a Minister. If a representative of a constituency in the Parliament becomes a Minister, it is easy for the Minister to get in touch with his ministerial colleague. But attention must also be paid to places which have not sent Ministers who can bring pressure upon their colleagues. I think that is as pressing a problem as any that is faced by the House, because, for instance, the East Coast may not have sent any one who has become a Minister here and it is only right that the people in the East Coast should press for more hospitals because, as given in the speech of the Minister of Agriculture, he could speak to his colleague; but what about the other places which have not sent Ministers to speak to their colleagues? That is why we press that all the places in Malaya which are unattended to

Enche' Abdul Aziz: On a point of information, Sir. For the last 4½ years, although I represented and represents to-day Kuala Langat constituency, I have been known unofficially as the "Minister of East Coast" (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker: There is no need for the explanation any more.

Enche' Abdul Aziz: I beg your pardon, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: There is no need for you to continue any more.

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: Sir, I think I can save the time of the House by giving an assurance that

Mr. K. Karam Singh: That all areas will be attended to.

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: No, Sir—that the interests of the nation as a whole will be considered, and not only Ministers can speak to the Minister of Health but all Honourable Members can approach me with their problems.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$415,000 for Head 123 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1960.

Head 132—

Enche' Abdul Aziz: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I ask for supplementary provision of \$124,000 under my Ministry. First, supplementary provision of \$60,000 is sought for the Muda River Pumping Scheme, Penang, on which construction work is in progress. The amount represents contractual liability for the year 1959—\$50,000 for outstanding land acquisitions and \$10,000 for final payment on a contract for pump operator quarters which was delayed due to inclement weather. Second, supplementary provision of \$64,000 is sought to meet contractual payments for the year 1959, carried forward to this year. Outstanding land acquisitions which could not be completed in 1959 amounted to \$45,000, and the balance is mainly in respect of a draft allocation warrant issued in 1959 on which contract works were not completed.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Dalam Mëshuarat Belanjawan bulan dua-belas yang lalu saya telah mengemukakan satu masa'alah hendak mengatasi kekurangan ayer bagi bëndang² atau sawah padi ra'ayat dalam beberapa kawasan yang tidak mendapat aliran ayer yang tetap. Kapada Mënteri Yang Bèrhormat telah pun saya kemukakan ia-itu ada satu jalan bagi memberikan pertolongan kepada sawah² yang tidak bërayer dengan mengadakan pump² ayer yang pernah saya melihat-nya di-Sungai Pahang. Tetapi Mënteri yang bèrkènaan ini telah pun memberikan jawapan-nya yang rasa saya waktu itu memuaskan hati saya bahawa beliau akan mènchuba pèrgi melihat dan mèmèreksa kawasan² yang saya sebutkan waktu itu ia-itu kawasan saya sendiri di-Tanah Merah.

Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua, banyak bënar bëndang² yang tidak mènjadi dan boleh-lah saya katakan hampir pada pukul rata luas-nya 5,000 ekar dalam tiap² satu kawasan yang tidak dapat langsung di-tanami padi oleh kërana kèkurangan ayer. Saya telah menyiasat kepada Kètua² di-kawasan itu dan mèminta pandangan² mèmeka ia-itu apa-kah satu ikhtiar pada pandangan mèmeka supaya bëndang mèmeka itu dapat di-usahkan. Kata mèmeka,

"Kami hendak menhuba minta supaya di-adakan satu tali ayer daripada satu sungai yang berhampiran dengan sawah itu." Kalau sa-kira-nya Kementerian ini boleh mengeluarkan perbelanjaan seperti mana yang telah disebutkan-nya perbelanjaan² yang mustahak, saya percaya dan saya yakin kekurangan bagi kawasan tanah² yang tidak dapat di-jalankan menurut scheme itu dapat di-berikan pertolongan.

Lagi satu tempat dalam kawasan saya di-Tanah Merah, waktu kemarau langsung tidak dapat ayer dan waktu hujan maka bendang itu boleh dikatakan di-banjiri dengan ayer. Jadi, saya bertanya apa-kah sebab-nya? Kata-nya yang pertama waktu musim panas tidak dapat ayer kerana tidak ada irrigation, kedua-nya kalau musim hujan terbenam kerana di-muara sungai ini tertutup, jadi tidak dapat ayer berjalan. Jikalau Yang Berhormat Menteri Pertanian ini dapat memberikan pandangan-nya dan memeriksa kawasan itu maka saya sedia bersama² dengan beliau, kalau beliau datang ka-kawasan saya di-Tanah Merah, saya akan menunjukkan tempat² yang sangat² menyusahkan ra'ayat di-tempat itu dan tolong-lah berikan peruntukan yang istimewa. Bukan sahaja di-kawasan saya yang terjadi seperti ini, tetapi juga di-Pahang dan Trengganu banyak terjadi perkara² yang seperti ini tetapi yang saya nampak tentu-lah kawasan saya yang sangat penting dan kurang benar ayer itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Maka saya harap-lah pandangan daripada Menteri Pertanian ini.

Pada masa dia menjawab kapada saya dahulu beliau mengatakan akan menhuba memeriksa kemungkinan² untuk memberikan pertolongan dalam kawasan itu. Sila-lah datang ka-tempat itu dan saya akan menemani beliau untuk membuat penyelidikan yang sesuai. Juga Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Menteri Yang Berhormat itu telah memberikan pandangan kata-nya, "Kita telah membuat satu perhubungan di-Salor dan perhubungan itu kalau berjaya, kita akan chuba di-tempat² lain". Jikalau sa-kira-nya berjaya di-tempat

itu maka saya harap chuba-lah di-tempat saya untuk mengatasi kehidupan ra'ayat yang susah itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Terima kasih.

Enche' Abdul Aziz: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagi menjawab Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Tanah Merah, hanya dua bulan lebih sahaja saya telah membuat janji. Apabila kita hendak menghantar sa-orang pakar hendak membuat penyelidikan ini mengambil masa lebih daripada itu. Saya sudah beri perintah kapada Pegawai Tali Ayer dan Parit untuk membuat laporan, tetapi sa-hingga hari ini laporan itu belum dapat. Apabila kita sudah ada laporan yang tertentu, baharu-lah kita boleh merangka ia-itu mustahak atau tidak-nya kita mengadakan satu ranchangan baharu yang besar macham ini yang akan berkehendakkan perbelanjaan yang banyak. Ini sa-bagai permulaan sahaja tetapi sudah berjalan, bukan-lah saya sendiri hendak pergi melawat, menyelidik-nya, itu-lah jawab saya.

Question put and agreed to.

The sum of \$124,000 for Head 132 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1960.

Heads 138, 139 and 141—

The Minister of Transport (Enche' Sardon): Tuan Pengerusi, saya berdiri mewakili rakan saya Yang Berhormat Menteri Kerja Raya Pos dan Talikom yang tidak dapat hadir pada pagi ini.

Dengan kebenaran, Tuan, saya mohon mengemukakan semua Kepala² di-bawah Kementerian Kerja Raya Pos dan Talikom sa-bagai Anggaran Belanja Kemajuan Tambahan dengan sarentak ia-itu saya mohon mendedahkan perbelanjaan sa-banyak \$1,619,440 di-bawah Kepala² 138, 139 dan 141 itu di-perkenankan.

Di-bawah Kepala 138 Perbekalan Ayer, belanja yang di-kehendaki berjumlah sa-banyak \$175,000 bagi tahun ini sangat²-lah di-kehendaki untuk mengadakan perbelanjaan yang tidak dapat di-elakkan dan juga menentukan penyediaan yang memuaskan hati

berkënaan dengan Përbëkalan Ayer di-Klang Gate Kuala Lumpur, di-sëbabkan oleh bërtambah-nya pëndudok² di-Kuala Lumpur ini dengan mëlambong tinggi bilangan-nya; bagitu juga berkënaan dengan banyak lagi përusahaan² baharu di-sakëliling Kuala Lumpur ini. Oleh kërana itu, maka sangat-lah mustahak bahawa pëkërjaan bagi Bëkalan Ayer di-Kuala Lumpur ini di-jalankan tërus dan saya akan mënchari përbëlajaan tambahan pada sëmua orang untuk mëlëbëhkan lagi langkah² yang këdua bagi Ranchangan Klang Gate itu.

Di-bawah Këpala 139 Bangunan² Kërajaan, sa-lain daripada përumahan, saya mënchari përbëlajaan \$1,050,000 bagi pëjabat² di-Kuala Lumpur. \$600,000 daripada wang ini akan digunakan bagi sëmua pëjabat di-bawah Këmëntërian Përtanian untuk di-tëmpatkan bërsama² ia-itu bërdëkatan dengan Këmëntërian yang ada pada masa ini sërta bangunan² Jabatan Përtanian di-Swettenham Road. Baki yang sa-banyak \$450,000 akan dapat mëmulkan pëkërjaan² bagi mënggantikan rumah atap yang di-sakëliling bandar Kuala Lumpur ini. Sa-bënar-nya, rumah ini tëläh pun di-bëna pada tahun 1946, patut-nya 5 tahun sahaja umor-nya dan waktu Bëlänja Tiap² Tahun di-untokkan sangat-lah banyak hal yang di-chadangkan. Ranchangan² ini mësti-lah di-bëna dëngan bëntok yang sama ia-itu bangunan 3 tingkat, lëngkap dëngan store mënnyimpan barang² dan mënnyimpan kërëta² di-bawah-nya; bangunan yang sa-umpama ini hampir siap ia-itu bangunan yang dëkat dëngan jalan masok di-sabëläh Rumah Parlimen ini.

Di-bawah Këpala 139 di-pëchahan këpala 39 \$30,000 ada-lah di-këhëndaki bagi mëmbeña jëntëra hawa dingin yang sangat di-këhëndaki di-Istana Nëgara. Di-bawah Këpala 141 wang yang mënunjokkan sa-banyak \$364,440 bagi tahun 1960 di-Jabatan Kërja Raya ada-lah di-këhëndaki untuk mënnyiapkan ranchangan² yang tëläh pun di-jalankan dan mësti di-habiskan akhir tahun ini juga, tërima kash.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad (Bachok): Tuan Pëngërusi, Yang Bër-hormat Mëntëri waktu Këmëntërian-nya mëminta wang ini tëläh mënërangkan kapada kita bahawa wang sa-banyak \$1,050,000 ini di-minta bagi mëmbuat jabatan² di-Kuala Lumpur ini. Tuan Pëngërusi, tidak-lah dapat di-nafikan bahawa pëjabat² Kërajaan Përsëkutuan Tanah Mëlayu ini hëndak-lah di-buat sa-chara yang elok dan tidak-lah saya mënnyuroh Kërajaan Përsëkutuan Tanah Mëlayu mëlëtakkan jabatan-nya di-rumah atap yang sudah panjang umor-nya itu; lëbëh daripada 5 tahun sapërti yang di-katakan oleh Tuan Mëntëri tadi. Akan tëtëpi, Tuan Pëngërusi, saya suka-lah mënarek përhatian Mëntëri yang mëwakili Këmëntërian yang mëminta wang ini supaya përbëlajaan ini di-waktu mëmblënjakan-nya hëndak-lah juga mëmikirkan bërdikit² atau bërchermat dalam mëmblëlanjakan-nya. Kita tidak tahu sama ada \$600,000 bagi pëjabat yang sa-bësar ini tugas-nya patut atau tidak, itu tërpulang kapada bëbërapa orang anggota yang akan bëkërja di-dalam-nya dan apa alat² yang hëndak di-isi-nya. Tëtëpi yang saya harap ia-lah mëngurangkan chara mëmbuat bangunan yang hëndak bër-lawan chantek-nya dëngan bangunan² yang di-dirikan kërana këchantekan-nya. Tidak salah Kërajaan chantekkan bangunan-nya, bahkan përkara ini satu këmëgahan, tëtëpi dëngan këadaan këwangan dalam nëgëri ini patut-lah Këmëntërian ini, jangan-lah lagi mëm-buat bangunan² yang mëngkagumkan kita pada këchantekan-nya, sapërti yang saya tengok bangunan Kërajaan di-Pëtaling Jaya—chantek bënar!, Tuan Pëngërusi, dan tërasa pada saya bangunan ini lëbëh sëdap di-lëtakkan di-Amerika daripada di-Tanah Mëlayu ini. Saya akuï bahawa nëgëri ini ma'amur, nëgëri ini orang-nya sënang bëlaka, tëtëpi jangan-lah kita hëndak mënurut langkah orang, hingga-kan tidak tahan këwangan kita.

Yang Bër-hormat tëntu-lah tahu hal ini dan saya mënnyëbutkan ini, bukan kërana Mëntëri tidak tahu, tëtëpi kërana mëngingatkan Kërajaan dari satu masa ka-satu masa supaya bangunan itu di-jadikan satu bangunan yang sësuaï untuk mënjalankan tugas

Kementèrian ini jangan sa-kali² di-chuba mengadakan perlumbaan didalam bangunan Kerajaan. Tuan Pengerusi, hal ini boleh jadi dalam rangka \$600,000 yang di-sebutkan ini tidak chukup untuk asas² bangunan ini sahaja, tetapi saya mengatakan, kalau tidak chukup untuk kepentingan asas; maka tambah-lah asalkan jangan sampai berlèbeh, hingga boleh merupakan satu bangunan yang chantek di-negeri ini, sedangkan Kerajaan hendaklah mengadakan bangunan tempat bekèrja, bukan kerana bangunan chantek, saya menyebutkan ini kerana ada bukti²-nya.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tertarek benar apa yang di-kemukakan oleh Menteri yang menerima tugas ini ia-itu tentang bangunan² yang hendak di-siapkan dan menuntutkan supaya perbelanjaan ini di-luluskan. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, menyebutkan perkara bangunan yang akan di-buat atau sedang di-buat oleh Kerajaan Persèkutuan Tanah Melayu ini, saya teringat pada satu ucapan yang di-bèri oleh Yang Bèrhormat Timbalan Perdana Menteri Persèkutuan Tanah Melayu di-waktu beliau mengadakan satu pertèman yang kalau saya tidak salah dengan para Architect di-Ibu Kota Persèkutuan ini, telah mengèshorkan supaya mereka pada masa² yang akan datang segala bangunan² yang hendak di-bangunkan di-Ibu Kota ini biar-lah merupakan satu bangunan yang bèrbentuk National. Di-mana² di-dapati bangunan itu merupakan penarekan dan simbol kepada kebangsaan dalam negeri ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-bentar tadi Menteri yang menerima tugas ini meminta dalam perkara ini, telah pun menunjokkan kepada kita bahawa di-sèbelah sini kata beliau ada satu rumah yang akan siap dengan sempurna. Megah-lah kita dengan rumah yang chantek demikian itu tetapi saya tidak nampak anjoran yang di-buat oleh Timbalan Perdana Menteri itu dapat di-laksanakan oleh Kerajaan sendiri. Apa-kah erti-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau sakira-nya Timbalan Perdana Menteri menchadangkan kepada Architect supaya membuat bèntok² rumah yang bèrbentuk kebangsaan. Sedangkan

oleh pèmentah dan Kementèrian Kerajaan ini sendiri tidak hendak menunaikan anjoran Perdana Menteri atau Timbalan Perdana Menteri tersebut! ini ada-lah sangat di-késalkan.

Satu perkara lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bèrkènaan dengan rumah yang di-sebutkan oleh tèman saya tadi, rumah itu sa-bènar-nya chantek. Jadi sa-lain daripada itu, kita mengharapkan kepada Menteri ini supaya membuat bangunan² yang bèrbentuk kebangsaan dalam negeri ini. Maka ada-lah lèbeh baik supaya anjoran Timbalan Perdana Menteri itu dapat di-tunaikan dari satu masa ka-satu masa.

Bèrbalek saya kepada perkara yang lain, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, nampak-nya di-sini tidak termasuk perkara yang dapat di-gunakan oleh orang ramai, mithal-nya, talipon. Di-sini hanya di-buat rumah yang chantek sa-bagaimana di-sebutkan oleh Menteri itu "air-condition" tetapi dalam kawasan saya Tanah Merah, dalam kawasan itu tuan², susah, jauh sedikit daripada bandar dan perhubungan-nya sangat sulit. Saya rasa tadi tidak hendak champur, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bèrkènaan dengan Hospital, sebab Hospital pun telah saya kemukakan dalam mèshuarat yang telah lalu. Saya telah memandang perkara ini amat-lah mustahak-nya Kementèrian ini membuat pada tiap² kawasan dalam Tanah Merah Talipon Booth sendiri, ia-itu tempat orang ramai dapat menggunakan talipon yang di-buat oleh Kementèrian ini di-tèpi² jalan saperti yang kita tengok di-Ibu Kota ini banyak sangat Talipon Booth. Dan kalau sakira-nya di-buat di-tempat saya saperti di-Pulai Chondong; Menteri itu tergèlak nampak-nya, barangkali dia selalu melalui tempat itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sebab dia turun di-Kuala Kèrai dan lalu di-tempat itu ka-Kota Bharu. Dan kalau di-adakan di-tempat itu satu talipon dapat-lah orang ramai menggunakan-nya memanggil Ambulance di-Kota Bharu atau di-Kuala Kèrai, bila terjadi sa-suatu kemalangan di-jalan raya atau sa-umpama-nya.

Baharu² ini ada satu kejadian, kejadian itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ialah sa-orang anak murid sèkolah Arab di-Pulai Chondong di-tindeh kata orang

sana atau di-langgar oleh sa-buah lori balak, kepala-nya pèchah dan dia tēlah mati. Bèrapa susah-nya ra'ayat atau pun ibu bapa-nya mēnguruskan pèrkara ini hēndak di-panggil Ambulance, jauh, dan talipon ta' ada, untong-lah ada sa-buah Rumah Pasong di-situ maka dēngan pèrtolongan Balai Polis itu, dapat-lah di-sēlenggarakan kēmalangan itu. Tētapi kalau jauh daripada Balai Polis tēntu-lah lēbih mēnyulitkan lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua. Mēntēlahan pula Balai Polis itu tidak di-bénarkan orang² awam mēnggunakan talipon-nya.

Saya pèrnah di-panggil oleh sa-orang rakan saya kèrana ada urusan Parlimen mēlalui Balai Polis. Waktu itu rumah saya masēh bēlum ada talipon lagi dan saya tēlah di-panggil oleh sa-orang Polis kèrana kata-nya ada sa-orang kawan Yang Bèrhormat mēmanggil, maka saya pun pèrgi-lah ka-Balai Polis itu. Manakala saya sampai ka-Balai Polis, saya pun minta mēnumpang talipon kapada kawasan saya, ia-itu sa-orang Anggota Parlimen juga. Kata-nya, "tuan dukachita-lah bahawa di-Balai Polis ini tidak boleh di-gunakan talipon kèrana orang ramai. Waktu itu saya tidak sēbutkan yang saya ini sa-orang wakil ra'ayat, "tētapi kalau ta' boleh Che". kata saya, "biar-lah saya mēngundorkan diri dan mēnchari talipon yang lain". Nasib baik-lah juga ada sa-orang Officer yang saya kēnal dan mēmbénarkan saya mēnggunakan talipon-nya. Jadi itu satu bukti, Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua, bagaimana sulit-nya orang kampung kalau hēndak mēmanggil Ambulance atas pēngaduan² yang sēgēra dēngan mēnggunakan talipon Balai Polis. Sēbab itu saya mēnarek pèrhatian kapada Kēmēntērian ini tolong-lah buat rumah² talipon di-bandar² tēmpat saya itu yang saya sēbutkan Pulai Chondong, di-Labak—ada satu tēmpat lagi yang nama-nya Labak. Dan juga bandar ini orang-nya ramai, Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua, maka saya mēngharapkan supaya di-buat rumah² Talipon itu di-tiap² tēmpat yang jauh². Sakian-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua.

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak (Malacca Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua, dalam hal ini saya rasa tidak patut kita mēnimbangkan pèrbahathan-nya itu, kèrana apa yang di-sēbutkan dan

di-puji²kan itu di-mana pehak pēmbangkang yang baharu bērchakap tadi kēdua²-nya itu mēmpunyai pèrchakapan yang bērlainan di-antara satu sama lain. Pehak yang mula² tadi ialah Ahli Yang Bèrhormat dari Bachok di-mana kata-nya tidak bērhajat kapada satu bangunan yang hēndak di-buat, kèrana pèjabat² yang mēntadbirkan hal² di-Kuala Lumpur ini dēngan chara yang elok atau pun yang tērlampau elok. Uchapan tērsēbut tēlah di-sambong oleh Ahli Yang Bèrhormat dari pehak yang kēdua yang mana mēngatakan bahawa Yang Bèrhormat itu hēndak bēntok bangunan yang chantek, begitu dan bagini. Pada hal bagi pehak Kèrajaan atau pehak Kēmēntērian yang bērkènaan tēlah pun mēmbuat chorak kēbangsaan yang bērukir

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua.

Mr. Speaker: Nanti dahulu! On a point of clarification?

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Ya, on a point of clarification. Saya minta kawan saya Ahli Yang Bèrhormat itu tak usah mēnjawab-nya dahulu. Saya minta Yang Bèrhormat Mēntēri bagi mēnjawab-nya, bukan Ahli Yang Bèrhormat itu, dia tak tahu apa² dalam hal ini.

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak: Tuan Yang di-Pèrtua, walau bagaimana sa-kali pun ini ada-lah saya mēnggambarkan ia-itu apa-lah guna-nya di-sēbutkan pèrkara² yang tidak mēnasabah. Saya rasa pèrkara itu tidak ada mēmbēri kēbaikan atau kēbaikan saperti yang kita atorkan

Mr. Speaker: Itu tak boleh di-tērangkan, kèrana tiap² sa-orang ada mēmpunyai hak untok mēmbēri fikiran-nya di-sini.

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak: Jadi, apa yang hēndak saya kēluarkan daripada ulasan saya ini ia-lah pēndapat dari pehak pēmbangkang, umpamanya, Party PAS yang sa-paroh-nya bērkēhēndakkan supaya Kèrajaan mēmbuat bangunan alat kadar sahaja ia-ini asal boleh di-jalankan tugas, dan sa-bahagian lain pula bērkēhēndakkan

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak mahu fikiran orang lain menjawab-nya, di-sěbalek-nya kami minta Yang Běrhormat Měntěri yang bertanggungjawab-nya yang mana Měntěri itu lěbih tahu dari kawan saya Ahli Yang Běrhormat yang sědang běrchakap itu. Kalau chara bagini, kami pun tahu menjawab-nya, tėtapi kami minta supaya Yang Běrhormat Měntěri yang běrkěnaan dapat mėngamalkan anjoran Timbalan Pěrdana Měntěri itu. Saya tidak minta jawapan sa-lain daripada Měntěri yang běrkěnaan sahaja. Kědua, saya minta supaya di-amalkan anjoran Yang Běrhormat Timbalan Pěrdana Měntěri, dan saya tidak mėminta jawab dari orang lain sa-lain dari Měntěri yang běrkěnaan.

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, oleh sěbab kita dan saya sěndiri běrsama² bertanggungjawab di-atas pěrkara yang sědang di-binchangkan ini dan saya ada-lah běrhak běrchakap di-atas pěndapat saya. Oleh itu, apa yang kita sěbutkan ini bahawa Rang Undang² yang di-buat oleh Kěměntěrian² yang běrkěnaan memang ada hubongan-nya děngan kěadaan hidup di-kampung² walau di-mana kawasan sa-kali pun, mithal-nya, pěruntokkan ini kěrana hěndak mėmbuat urusan² pějabat yang běrsangkutan děngan ra'ayat dan pandangan bagi pehak Kěrajaan mėndirikan pějabat² itu ia-lah untok di-gunakan lama atau jangka panjang. Kita tělah pun mėngatakan bahawa sudah chukup děngan chara yang boleh di-gunakan chěpat atau pun děngan pěrlahan². Saya rasa ini ada-lah pěr-běntokkan dalam kěrja² yang mana kita hěndak mėmbena něgara kita sampai kapada pěkěrajaan² atau sampai bila² masa pun

Mr. Speaker: Ini sudah těrlampau běnar tuan běrchakap. Apa yang hěndak di-chakapkan dalam item ini; yang sa-běnar-nya jangan-lah mėnjadi hujah² di-sini pula!

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak: Mak-sud saya sěkarang ia-lah apa yang di-chadangkan dalam Head 138 dan Head 139 itu tak payah-lah kita

kěchamkan, kěrana kita sama² ma'alum di-atas asal atau tujuan yang sa-běnar-nya.

Enche' Sardon: Tuan Pěngěrusi, saya mėnguchapkan běrbanyak těrima kaseh kapada Ahli Yang Běrhormat dari Bachok dan juga Ahli Yang Běrhormat dari Tanah Merah. Kata-nya: "Saya pada hari ini wakil ra'ayat, dan lěbih mėngėtahui ĕempat tahun yang tělah sudah." Memang dia sudah tahu (*Kėtawa*) bahawa dasar Kěměntěrian Kěrja Raya di-mana pada waktu saya mėnjadi Měntěri Kěrja Raya ĕempat tahun dahulu dan pada masa ini juga saya mėmangku-nya. Bangunan² itu sa-memang hěndak di-kurangkan harga-nya děngan chukup těgoh dan baik di-pandang, sěbab itu-lah saya mėmběri bandingan tadi ia-itu kalau kita hěndak mėmbuat plan, harga² plan dan sa-bagai-nya. Ini těntu mėmakan masa yang lambat di-mana kita ada mėnengokkan harga² plan yang paling murah sa-kali dan ini-lah yang di-katakan utility office burdens

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Yang Běrhormat Měntěri itu tengok děngan saya sahaja, macham mana ini! (*Kėtawa*).

Enche' Sardon: Saya mėnengok dari sini sahaja (*Kėtawa*).

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Enche' Sardon: Yang sa-běnar-nya Ahli Yang Běrhormat itu ada běrmmain mata, kalau Ahli Yang Běrhormat itu ta' nampak (*Kėtawa*).

Mr. Speaker: Tengok pada saya sudah-lah! (*Kėtawa*).

Enche' Sardon: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, soal ini ia-lah dasar Kěrajaan Pěrિકatan dan dasar Kěměntěrian saya di-mana saya yang mėmėgang jawatan-nya pada masa yang lampau. Yang kědua, běrkěnaan děngan pěr-běntokkan yang běrkěhěndakkan kěmėlayuan, bukan sahaja Yang Běrhormat Timbalan Pěrdana Měntěri malahan saya sěndiri juga mėnggalakkan-nya, tėtapi ada bangunan-nya ada těmpat-nya. Kalau běrkěhěndakkan běntok yang sěmacham itu, harga-nya mahal, dan sěbab

itu-lah kita akan memikirkan dan menimbangkannya.

Berkenaan dengan talipon pula, saya fikir tak usah-lah di-chakapkan perkara itu kerana saya telah mengendalikan talipon selama dua tahun sa-belum dan sampai-lah merdeka. Lupa-kah Ahli² Yang Berhormat bahawa kalau tak ada talipon merdeka barangkali lebih susah jika hendak berhubung dari negeri Kelantan dan Trengganu dan lain² lagi, oleh sebab itu dalam persidangan yang akhir ini peruntukkan wang sa-banyak \$300,000 telah pun di-utuskan. Tolong-lah sadikit Ahli² Yang Berhormat itu membahagi²kan di-mana² tempat yang di-khendaki maka boleh-lah di-beritahu kepada Kementerian yang berkenaan atau boleh di-siasat untuk di-fikir dan ditimbang bagi peruntukkan-nya di-mana tempat yang hendak di-buat.

Berhubung dengan masa'alah di-kampong² yang terpenchil untuk di-adakan, maka perkara itu akan di-timbangan kerana kalau tempat² itu jauh tentu-lah banyak menggunakan wire di-samping banyak menggunakan tiang yang beribu². Tetapi kalau satu bulan chuma dua atau tiga orang sahaja yang menggunakan-nya tentu-lah Kerajaan akan rugi, sebab duit Kerajaan ia-lah duit rakyat. Oleh itu, saya memberi akuan di-sini bagi pehak Menteri Kerja Raya, Pos dan Telekom berhubung-lah dengan Kementerian tersebut mana² yang di-khendaki itu kita akan menimbangkannya.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$1,619,440 for Heads 138, 139 and 141 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1960.

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Resolutions agreed upon by the Committee be reported immediately to this House.

Question put, and agreed to.

House resumed.

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to report that the Committee appointed to consider the proposals set out in Command Paper No. 7 of 1960 has come to certain Resolutions,

namely, that the proposals set out in Command Paper No. 7 of 1960 should be approved.

Sir, I now beg to move,

That this House doth agree with the Committee in its Resolutions, namely, that the expenditure of \$2,567,493 proposed in the Statement laid on the Table as Command Paper No. 7 of 1960 be approved by this House and accordingly resolves that a sum not exceeding \$2,567,493 be expended out of the Development Fund in the financial year 1960, and that to meet the Heads and Sub-heads set out in the second column of the Paper aforesaid the sums specified in the eight column thereof opposite such Heads and Sub-heads shall be appropriated for such purpose.

Dato' Dr. Ismail: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House doth agree with the Committee in its Resolutions, namely, that the expenditure of \$2,567,493 proposed in the Statement laid on the Table as Command Paper No. 7 of 1960 be approved by this House and accordingly resolves that a sum not exceeding \$2,567,493 be expended out of the Development Fund in the financial year 1960, and that to meet the Heads and Sub-heads set out in the second column of the Paper aforesaid the sums specified in the eight column thereof opposite such Heads and Sub-heads shall be appropriated for such purpose.

FRAGMENTATION OF ESTATES

Order read for resumption of Debate on Question (14th December, 1959)—

"That this House views with grave concern the indiscriminate and haphazard fragmentation of estates and resolves that a Select Committee be appointed to make a thorough investigation into the problem of fragmentation and make recommendations for:

- (i) the control of further fragmentation, and
- (ii) for measures to be taken to remove the evils which have resulted from fragmentation." (Mr. V. Veerappen).

Question again proposed.

Mr. Chin See Yin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the causes for fragmentation of rubber estates are three: (1) the difficulty to obtain State land; (2) the existence of extensive Malay Reservation in the past; (3) the replanting grant made available for smallholdings.

The recent boom in the tin and rubber prices has given much money to all the tappers and working people in

this country. The Malay, Chinese and Indian tappers have now become a class of investors, and they like to invest their money not in companies but in rubber land. The owners of big rubber estates have also found it more profitable to sell their land by way of fragmentation and this practice of fragmentation, we all agree, is a legitimate one. To buy and sell in this country is a natural practice in a country that practises democracy and, I am afraid, if any drastic action by way of prohibition is taken as regards fragmentation of estates we are going to create a fear in the minds of the people who have invested money in this country. To prohibit a legitimate practice of this kind, you may drive away capital which we require so much for the development of this country; and it is for this reason that I say we should not do anything that is drastic as that will create a fear in the minds of the people who have invested money in this country.

Sir, there are two types of big estates for sale in this country. One is the type of big estate that has been replanted—and this replanted area is usually bought by men with capital, or a group of men with capital; and when such an estate is bought by this group of men, it is not fragmented but the new owners carry on as usual. The other type of estates—big estates planted with old trees which require replanting—they are sold by way of fragmentation, because the owners have found out that in doing so they will make a big profit. As I said a little while ago, there is a new class of investors who are mainly the people of the lower income group and they are the people who like to buy these smallholdings: firstly, because they have the money, secondly, they have confidence in the country, and thirdly, they have been stimulated by this replanting grant for smallholdings. Therefore, when these estates are fragmented, I do not think that there is the question of unemployment being created, because these fragmented estates are usually bought by men from the lower income group and they themselves will look after their own land. There may be a temporary displacement of certain

employees in such estates, but soon they will be able to secure employment elsewhere.

The argument may now be put forth that as a result of fragmentation, there will be the problem of drainage, road, water supply, lighting, health and education arising. Sir, all these that I have mentioned, we have experts in this country to look after them, and they are the responsibility of the Government. On the question of drainage, we have just passed a law; as regards roads, we have the Ministry of Transport; for education we have the Ministry of Education; and for medical treatment, we have the Ministry of Health to look after it. Therefore, fragmentation to my mind creates a fair distribution of wealth in this country, and by doing so, we will be able to provide land to the landless people so that they can own a small area of land and from which they can obtain a reasonable income. In itself, it creates a wall against the infiltration of communism, which we have spent so much money to fight and to bring the Emergency to an end in this country.

Sir, to my mind, fragmentation provides an opportunity to men who are now unable to own land—the landless people—and in this connection I wish to refer you to a statement made by the President of the Malayan Indian Congress and, in fact, it appeared in the *Sunday Times* of November 15th, 1959, in which he said *inter alia*:

“Among the workers who bought such fragmented areas, there are a few Indians”—and he went on to say or rather suggest—“The people spend about \$14 million a year on toddy and with half the amount they could buy 10,000 acres of rubber land every year.”

Sir, to my mind, there is plenty of wisdom in this statement and I feel that it is of the utmost importance that we should not interfere with the progress and the ability of the people in the lower income group to purchase land when they have got the money to do so. The practice of “the dog in the manger” is not a good thing for this country.

Sir, I have come to one conclusion, and that is if this proposed resolution

before us were to be accepted by this House it would mean that so much we have said about helping the poor men to earn a higher standard of living, to give land to the landless people, would be defeated, and for that reason, I think that this proposed resolution should be rejected by this House for the good of the country.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion. Sir, rubber is the major industry of this country and it is the life-blood of our nation's economy. It is the biggest industry in Malaya and it is the employer of 306,000 workers. Out of this figure, 44 per cent are women, 6.4 per cent are persons below the age of 16 years and 49.3 per cent are male workers. It is an admitted fact that estate workers are the backbone of Malaya's economy but they are being exploited by unscrupulous capitalists.

There are about 1.5 million acres of smallholdings in Malaya; there are 1.7 million acres of estates which range from 500 acres and over; 300,000 acres are between 150 and 500 acres. Out of this foreign investment plays a major part where it holds more than three-quarters of the plantations. Workers who have worked in about 40 estates, as a result of fragmentation have been thrown out of employment, and they have failed to find alternative employment, especially at the present moment when employment is difficult to obtain—some of them have left the country without knowing their destination.

Up to now 292,000 acres of estates have been fragmented thus depriving 12,000 workers from employment. Out of this number, I have been informed that 4,000 have been repatriated or left the country on their own accord. Fragmentation, Sir, is a great threat to the economy of this country; and if it is not checked or controlled like other countries in Asia—for example, Ceylon and India—we shall be faced with dual consequences such as a declining economy and a disillusioned and frustrated working class. Government has not shown much interest with a view to preventing fragmentation.

In Province Wellesley an estate was fragmented and the estate workers were

summoned to vacate their quarters with short notice, and failing which the employers disconnected their water supply and other amenities provided in the estate. Certain ruthless employers fail to understand human relationship and act in a manner which drive the workers to tremendous hardships and difficulties.

Due to fragmentation, estates of 500 acres and above have been reduced from 1.7 million acres to 1.5 million acres. Malaya is not similar to other countries with economy based on a variety of natural resources—unfortunately, in Malaya rubber gains the paramount place of importance in the national income. If the Government does not take adequate steps to prevent fragmentation, Malaya's economy will be wrecked and thousands will be left without employment. Capitalists and Government have looked upon fragmentation from a purely economic position and political development. What are the facts?

A Departmental Government Committee which examined the fragmentation question in 1958 reported that 42,163.9 acres had been transferred since December, 1954. There had been more fragmentation since 1958. Some 12,000 workers and 800 staffs have lost their employment due to fragmentation. Excessive hardships have been caused to a quarter of the population which could hardly be expected to withstand the strain of prolonged unemployment—and drastic social changes have been imposed on this quarter of the population.

The 1958 Report did state:

"Whether or not the change from estates to smallholdings is to be encouraged or discouraged on economic or social grounds is a more difficult question to assess."

For this, much more information is required than is available to the Committee. Why has not action been taken by the Government to obtain detailed information required to enable the working out of a realistic solution. The Government had neglected the welfare of the people affected. It is sheer hollowness to claim that on the other hand, for social reasons, the existence of a large smallholding class is of great value to a country like

Malaya. Is it considered a help towards political and social security and of great value to a country like Malaya or is it considered a help towards political and social security and of great value as a basis for sound, democratic Government? The workers, driven out of fragmented estates, have been condemned to grave social consequences. This must be remedied quickly by legislation, like in Ceylon and India. In India and Ceylon, a new enactment has been introduced by Parliament which prevents the fragmentation of estates above a certain acreage. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heard just now from an Honourable speaker—supporting fragmentation. During the time of Parliamentary elections, I personally have read a circular by this Honourable Member who spoke, against fragmentation.

Mr. Chin See Yin: On a point of information, Sir, during the elections I sent out no circular. If it is all he tried to make out, it is his own business.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can produce one to-morrow morning if it is required by the Honourable Member.

Mr. Chin See Yin: I shall be glad to see it!

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, we are not fools to be fooled.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the very Member who described fragmentation as a danger to the country to gain the sympathy and support of the workers—he went on challenging the Government.

Mr. Chin See Yin: Mr. Speaker, he is misleading the people. I never said so. I said that fragmentation provided for distribution of wealth to the people.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, I think this is purely an economic issue and this can be fully assessed by economists like Ungku Aziz and Charles Gamba. I don't think my Honourable friend . . . understands the subject.

Mr. Speaker: You must not impute improper motives.

Mr. V. David: Another argument put forward by him is land hunger. Mr.

Speaker, two-thirds of Malaya's land has not been developed, and I think there is a lot of scope for Government to provide land for the people and encourage them on cultivation and other farming programmes. But it is a really fallacious argument to say that fragmentation satisfies land hunger. There are vast tracts of under-developed land that can be alienated to satisfy land hunger.

Mr. Chin See Yin: On a point of information, Sir, satisfying is one thing, creating the distribution of wealth is another thing.

Mr. Speaker: There is no need for that clarification.

Mr. Chin See Yin: I beg your pardon, the point is that he is making unfair attributions, and is trying to mislead the people.

Mr. Speaker: There is no necessity.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, when it comes to the distribution of wealth, I purely agree with him on socialist terms. When he talks about the distribution of wealth, then the capitalists will have to give up the wealth itself—not for money, but to base equality of wealth—they should give up more than what they should have. I don't think my Honourable friend will like that, because he himself will be affected to a large extent!

Mr. Chin See Yin: He is trying to preach Communism in this Chamber! *(Laughter)*.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call upon the Honourable Member to withdraw that statement about preaching Communism because he fails to understand the difference between Communism and socialism.

Mr. Speaker: There is no necessity for that. Carry on. You must not confuse . . .

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will draw the attention of this House that I will not resign from the Alliance like him to contest the elections!

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! When I am talking, you must sit down. You have been standing all the time. I warned you several times that you are

not allowed to impute improper motives in debate.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with due respect to the Chair, I feel that the allegation made against the Member for Kawasan Bungsar is in fact more than imputing an improper motive: he has now been accused of deliberately and with malicious intent attempting to spread Communism in this House. So I think that it is he who ought to withdraw that remark.

Mr. Speaker: Have you finished? *(Mr. Lim Kean Siew indicates assent.)*

I have already given a ruling. There is no necessity for ruling to withdraw that remark.

Mr. V. David: At the latest report, Sir, it has been said there are about three reasons why the absentee landlords wish to sell their estates in Malaya. Firstly, the owners of these estates are selling their faraway plantations to acquire nearer ones in order to exercise tighter control. Secondly, they are concerned over possible political changes and are selling their estates in Malaya in order to invest in safer places elsewhere. Thirdly, they aim to make a profit in the Stock Exchange in Britain. It is also further stated, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that about 40 members of the London-registered planting companies in London have sold their estates in Malaya in the past two years to use their money on lucrative enterprises. This alone will prove that a large number of acreages have been sold in Malaya. But according to the Minister's statement, it has been said that fragmentation in Malaya has not made a serious effect on the working class. I disagree with the statement for the very reason that there have been thousands of people thrown out of employment, and if this continues, I am afraid that the Malayan economy on the whole will be wrecked. There are estates with 500 to 600 labourers, and when they have been fragmented into small acreage, not all estate workers are in the position to buy their own smallholdings. The Honourable speaker once said here that the estate workers have become rich enough to buy estates—if they

have become rich enough to buy estates, I don't think they would be working for \$2.30 or \$2.40 a day. Maybe, a small percentage of the estate workers with small savings may be able to buy shares in estates, but not all. We should concentrate on the vast majority of workers, and not on the small minority. And the expatriation of nearly 4,000 workers from Malaya has clearly indicated that people who have been on estates throughout their lives were unable to obtain alternate employment, for if the opportunity of obtaining employment existed in Malaya, I don't think they would have left this beautiful country. However, people who left this country to other parts of the world are still suffering in the respective parts of the world for the very reason that they have lost touch with the people with whom they lived before coming to Malaya. After a long time in this country and, leaving Malaya to a new place they are unable to secure a living. Therefore, we will have to consider this aspect from an economic point of view, and at the same time on a humanitarian point of view. Are we going to allow the workers who have been on estates for decades to be thrown out of employment? Are we not going to provide security for them and at the same time safeguard the economy which is going to wreck if not checked . . . in time.

Dr. Lim Swee Aun (Larut Selatan): Mr. Speaker, on a point of clarification, may I know whether the 4,000 workers included expatriate officers as well?

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Member who is engaged in a profiteering business would not understand about repatriation of the estate working class, and to clear his doubt, I say that no expatriate officers were sent away from this country out of that 4,000. If they are included, it may be 10,000. These are purely working class families who were earning an oppressive wage on estates.

It has been unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that a Committee has been appointed by the Government to study the question of fragmentation. I have had information during the last few days

that the Committee met once and was unable to ascertain factual figures to what extent estates have been fragmented and how many have lost employment. May be, the Department concerned had not the proper data to place before the members of the Committee. The Committee, however, I understand, do not possess any powers to recommend or to rectify the present situation. The Committee is purely of an advisory capacity, and I think it will take a long time to ascertain really how the economy of this country is affected by fragmentation for the very reason that the Committee do not have vast powers to go into the subject immediately and find a solution.

Mr. Speaker, I do not understand how fragmentation can solve the question of Communism in this country. It is mere nonsense to say that Communism can be eliminated in Malaya by fragmenting estates. I think you are just driving the workers in despair to extreme ends by depriving the opportunity of living of the people in this country. You are just driving them out of the estates without employment. In the Labour Department during the last few months, we find that hundreds of estate workers come early in the morning with their belongings as a result of fragmentation. May be, the Alliance may oppose this because most of their members here have been advocating fragmentation, but as far as we are concerned, we are against it for the simple reason that the economy will be wrecked, efficiency will be decreased on estates, and at the same time large numbers of workers will lose employment. If the Government is keen to take over the estates from the foreign absentee landlords, it could do so by setting up an organisation on a co-operative basis. This will encourage the ordinary people to participate in industry, and not by a few people buying over estates and selling them to certain people with a large margin of profits and thereby having everybody dismissed from the estates.

Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to view this question with seriousness and not treat it as a matter of little interest. I hope the Committee should be given more powers in order

to expedite early action and put up constructive proposals to the Government in order to draft legislation which will protect and prevent fragmentation.

Sitting suspended at 12.56 p.m.

Sitting resumed at 2.30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

Question again proposed.

The Assistant Minister of Rural Development (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government unfortunately cannot accept the motion. This is so because the Government has already appointed a Committee to consider the present extent of sub-division of estates and to assess the effect, beneficial or otherwise, which this has had on employment, health and the economy of the country bearing in mind that genuine fragmentation also has social advantages in the sense that it increases the number of small landowners who would thereby possess a stake in the country. The Committee comprises of the following members:

The Commissioner of Lands, Federation of Malaya—a nominee of the Minister of Rural Development—as Chairman;

A nominee of the Minister of Labour;

A nominee of the Minister of Health and Social Welfare;

A nominee of the Minister of Commerce and Industry;

A nominee of the Minister of Agriculture;

A nominee of the State Government of Perak;

A nominee of the State Government of Kedah;

Two representatives from the National Union of Plantation Workers; and

Two representatives from the Rubber Producers' Council.

The terms of reference are:

To consider the present extent of sub-division of estates and to assess the effect, beneficial or otherwise, which this has had on employment, health and the economy of the country bearing in mind that genuine fragmentation also has social advantages in the sense that it increases the number of

small landowners who would thereby possess a stake in the country; to report thereon to the Minister of Rural Development making recommendations as to any steps which are considered necessary arising from the assessment of the effects of sub-division constantly under review, reporting thereon as necessary from time to time to the Minister of Rural Development.

The first meeting of the Committee was held on the 17th February and the next one will be held on the 8th April. It is hoped to complete the report early and when this has been done it will be tabled before this House.

The Honourable Member for Seberang Selatan alleged that the Government, in appointing this Committee, has sabotaged his motion. This is utter nonsense because the Government had looked into the problem years ago. In 1957 the Minister of Natural Resources had appointed a Committee with the following terms of reference:

To enquire and investigate into the causes, extent and results of such sub-division of estates over 100 acres, as has occurred since the 31st December, 1954, to report on the effects on the economy and social structure of the Federation and to make recommendations thereon.

This clearly shows that the Alliance Government has not been silent on this very important problem. The Honourable Member also alleged that some of the Alliance leaders themselves were dealing in fragmentation. We challenged him before to name them, but up-to-date the challenge has not been answered.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification. If the Government bench want names, I can give them the names—for instance, one Mr. Arumugam Pillai from Penang.

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: On a point of order, Sir. We have members from the Socialist Front too.

Mr. Speaker: That is not a point of order. (*Laughter*).

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman: The points raised by various Honourable Members in the past and also this morning have been noted and will be studied thoroughly by this Committee. I take this opportunity of thanking them for their views.

In conclusion, I once again say the Government is unable to accept the motion, and I feel sure the report of the Committee when tabled will be acceptable to the Members of this House.

Enche' Mohd. Sulong bin Mohd. Ali (Lipis): Tuan Speaker, Tuan, saya bangun bagi mēnēntang chadangan yang ada di-hadapan kita pada masa ini dēngan sadikit alasan ia-itu usul ini tidak patut bērbangkit lagi dalam Majlis ini, kērana sa-bagaimana yang tēlah di-uchapkan oleh Yang Bērhormat Mēntēri Muda tadi yang mana kita sudah ada satu Jawatan-Kuasa yang tēlah mēngkaji dēngan sa-pēnoh²-nya luar bērhubung dēngan kēhēndak yang ada di-dalam usul ini.

Yang kēdua, Tuan Speaker, kalau di-kaji bētul² dasar ini ia-lah sēntiasa mēnchuba hēndak mēnghabiskan capitalist, tētapi apabila tuan² pērgi di-estate² yang bēsar yang mēnchuba hēndak mēmbahagi²kan atau mēnjual estate² kapada orang² yang tiada tanah, Yang Bērhormat itu pun bangun mēnēntang kēadaan yang sa-umpama itu. Pērkara ini tidak dapat di-ērtikan oleh kēbanyakan kita di-sini.

Yang kētiga, Ahli Yang Bērhormat itu mēnudoh Jawatan-Kuasa yang tēlah di-lantek dan tēlah bērsidang pada 17 haribulan yang mana dalam pērsidangan itu tidak ada mēmbuat kēputusan. Kami sēmuā hēndak mēmbuat kēputusan dēngan sa-bērapa yang boleh pada hari itu, tētapi wakil buroh ia-itu wakil Trade Union, Mr. Narayanan yang mana tēlah mē-minta supaya mēreka itu mēndapat bahan² yang lēbeh lanjut lagi bagi di-bawa dalam mēshuarat itu.

Pērkara yang sa-umpama itu tidak-lah patut bērbangkit lagi dēngan mēmbuat tudohan pada Kērajaan. Sa-pērkara lagi yang saya sangat dukachitakan ia-lah ucapan Ahli Yang Bērhormat dari Bungsar yang mēngatakan bahawa 4,000 orang yang sēngsara hēndak balek nēgēri, kērana tidak dapat pēkērjaan di-sēbabkan oleh fragmentation, tētapi dalam mē-shuarat yang pērtama saya sēndiri tēlah hadir dan apabila pērkara yang

sa-umpama itu di-bawa, Mr. Narayanan telah mengatakan bahawa buroh² sēkarang sedang huru hara dalam Malaya yang mana dalam tempoh 5 tahun estate² telah di-bahagi²kan. Di-sabalek-nya pula hanya 5 orang sahaja yang datang ka-Pējabat Buroh bagi mēnchari kēreja. Yang sa-bēnar-nya tidak ada huru hara, kērana sēma-nya itu ada mēmpunyai report. Bērkenaan dēngan buroh² yang balek ka-nēgēri konon-nya, saya fikir buroh² yang sa-umpama itu bukan-nya buroh ra'ayat nēgēri ini yang ta'at sētia kapada nēgēri ini; memang buroh² itu hēndak balek ka-nēgēri-nya dan tak ada sēsiapa yang hēndak mēnahan-nya baik buroh mahu pun yang bukan buroh. Tētapi kalau sakira-nya mēreka itu ra'ayat nēgēri ini maka tēntu-lah apabila mēreka itu tērlepas daripada pēkerjaan-nya akan mēndēsak Kērajaan nēgēri ini supaya mēncharikan kēreja bagi mēreka, di-sabalek-nya mēreka dēngan sēnang lenang balek ka-nēgēri-nya. Pērkarā yang sa-umpama ini tidak-lah mustahak bagi Kērajaan nēgēri ini mēngambil hal yang bērat tērhadap diri mēreka yang bukan ra'ayat yang ta'at sētia kapada nēgēri ini.

Tuan Speaker, pada pēndapat saya sēndiri pada hari ini, jika sakira-nya mēmbahagi²kan estate² kapada ra'ayat yang miskin yang ada daya upaya mēmbēli-nya maka saya fikir ini adalah satu pērkarā yang sangat baik, kērana kēhēndak kita pada hari ini ia-lah hēndak mēnaikkan tarap hidup ra'ayat nēgēri ini. Di-samping itu saudara² kita bangsa² asing ia-itu orang² China dan kita sēndiri orang² Mēlayu tidak mēngambil bērat di-atas pērkarā ini kērana kita lēbeh suka bērchuchuk tanam dan di-sabalek-nya tidak suka hidup yang sēntiasa mēnjadi buroh mēnumpang kapada orang² yang ada wang.

Saya sangat hairan, dan dukachita mēnyēbutkan di-sini, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, kērana mēnyēntoh sadikit sahabat saya orang² India. Sa-masa kita hēndak mēmbangun nēgēri dalam ekonomi, kita mēngadakan bēbērapa ranchangan bērkēnaan dēngan mēngambil tanah, bagitu juga estate, mēnchuba mēmēchah-mēchahkan tanah

hēndak mēmbēri kapada orang² yang bēkerja buroh supaya bērhak sēndiri; tētapi dukachita saya mēnyatakan sadikit sangat daripada sahabat² kita orang India yang bēkerja buroh atau pēkerjaan yang lain mēnchuba hēndak masok dalam mana² ranchangan, mahu pun ranchangan Land Development Authority atau Small Holding Re-planting Scheme—tidak ada saya dapati. Jadi, bērma'ana-lah sahabat² kita orang India ini tidak suka mēmpunyai hak-nya sēndiri dalam nēgēri ini, barangkali mēreka itu tidak suka mēnjadi ra'ayat nēgēri ini dēngan sapēnoh ta'at sētia kapada nēgēri ini dan pērkarā ini nampak-nya chuma mēngēlirukan Kērajaan kita pada hari ini kērana bētul² mēnunjukkan orang itu bukan-nya orang yang ta'at sētia dan juor kapada nēgēri ini. Ini-lah pērkarā yang patut kita fikirkan panjang², dan pērkarā yang sa-umpama ini telah di-ambil tindakan oleh Kērajaan dan saya sēndiri sa-orang daripada Jawatan-Kuasa yang akan mēnyiasat pērkarā ini dēngan sahalus²-nya. Saya nasihatkan sa-patut-nya tuan yang mēmbawa usul ini mēnarek balek usul ini supaya dia dapat mēnengok bagaimana kēputusan mēnyiasat dan mēnyēmpurnakan kēhēndak² Kērajaan pada masa yang akan datang.

Juga saya suka mēmbēri tahu rumah ini ia-itu pērkarā fragmentation ini nampak-nya ta' usah-lah kita hebohkan, dan kita fikirkan sēbalek-nya fragmentation atau sub-division of estate ini satu pērkarā yang mēnjadi kēbajikan kapada nēgēri dan ra'ayat-nya, kērana bagaimana ucapan sahabat saya di-bēlakang barisan pehak pēmbangkang ia-itu kata-nya, boleh mēmbēri pēluang kapada orang² yang tidak dapat tanah pada hari ini mēndapat tanah, dan tērus boleh mēndapat hasil daripada-nya. Dan juga ada tudohan daripada sa-bēlah pehak mēngatakan akan mēnjatuhkan ekonomi nēgēri ini. Kata mēreka itu fragmentation tidak boleh mēnyēlamatkan ekonomi dan hanya mēmbuat susah, dan tidak boleh mēndatangkan kēbaikan kapada estate kalau kita pēchah-pēchahkan. Tētapi saya suka mēngingatkan, di-nēgēri ini ada Rubber

Research yang menjaga pěkëbun² kěchil supaya mēmbaiki chara mēmbuat gētah dan kita sēndiri tēlah nampak dan orang² kampong tēlah tahu ia-itu mēreka mēsti mēmbaiki kěadaan gētah mēreka kērana hēndak mēlawan gētah synthetic. Jadi, pada pandangan saya mēngēchilkan atau mēmēchah² kēbun tidak ada mērbahaya-nya bahkan mēmbaikkān kēhidupan ra'ayat sēluroh-nya dan kapada ekonomi nēgēri ini 'am-nya. Itu bērgantong-lah kapada Kērajaan atau pun Lēmbaga Pērusahaan² Gētah dan juga mēreka² yang bērsēndirian mēnjaga gētah mēreka kērana waktu ini ada-lah waktu pērniagaan yang mēndatangkan kēuntungan bagi ra'ayat nēgēri ini. Itu-lah sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, yang saya hēndak uchapkan dalam Majlis ini.

Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Saaid (Sēbērang Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, saya ia-lah wakil daripada Sēbērang Utara dan sahabat saya Yang Bērhor-mat itu wakil Sēbērang Sēlatan, pēndapat-nya nampak bērlainan sadikit. Yang Bērhor-mat wakil Sēbērang Sēlatan mēngēmukakan chadangan ia-itu mēnahan pēmēchahan estate² pada masa yang akan datang, yang kēdua bagi jalan² untok mēngelakkan sēgala kēchēlakaan yang tēlah tērjadi oleh kērana pēmēchahan estate² itu.

Di-atas pēr-kara ini saya dukachita mēnērangkan, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, Yang Bērhor-mat wakil Socialist Front itu harus dia kēliru dan dia mēnganut fahaman Socialist itu pun barangkali tidak tēpat tujuan-nya. Jadi orang yang mēnganut fahaman itu sa-patut-nya dia sambut ranchangan mēmēchahkan estate yang bēsar² itu dan di-bēri kapada orang² yang bērmodal kēchil dan pērsaorangan atau pun dēngan chara Sharikat Bēkērjasama² untok mēmbela dan mēnuntut balek hak kita yang mana patut di-sokong oleh pehak pēnganut Socialist.

Yang kēdua, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, saya bērasa sēram² mēnakala dia mēngatakan kēchēlakaan di-atas pēmēchahan estate² ini. Harus Yang Bērhor-mat itu pun tidak dapat tahu. Kapada diri saya dan orang² di-tēmpat saya ia-lah sa-bagai satu kēbahgiaan yang bēsar di-atas pēmēchahan estate²

ini. Dalil-nya saya boleh mēnunjokkan ia-itu Bērtam Estate sa-banyak 7,000 ekar tēlah di-bēli oleh pēnduduk² di-tēmpat itu dan di-pēchah² mēnjadi kēpunyaan hak masing² sa-harga \$2,500,000 dēngan chara Sharikat Bēkērjasama² dēngan tolong arahan dan nasihat daripada Yang Bērhor-mat Mēntēri Pērtanian kita, dan kalau-lah ini sa-bagai satu kēchēlakaan, saya tidak tahu bagaimana kēbahgiaan bagi pehak Socialist Front.

Di-Nibong Tēbal sēndiri, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua,—Yang Bērhor-mat itu tinggal di-Nibong Tēbal, pada 5 tahun dahulu Nibong Tēbal itu satu pēkan yang hēndak mati. Orang mēlēngong sahaja tidak ada dagangan, kalau ada dagangan pun hēndak di-jual tidak ada orang hēndak bēli, orang banyak tidak ada wang. Sēkarang sērōnok, pēkan ramai sēbab banyak dagangan dan pērniagaan laku dan orang pun bērtambah² di-tēmpat itu. Tiga tahun dahulu sēbab pēkan itu hēndak mati, di-buat satu chadangan hēndak mēmindahkan kēpala jajahan Nibong Tēbal itu ka-Sungai Bakap sēbab di-Sungai Bakap itu ramai orang. Tētapi sēkarang chadangan itu di-hēntikan sēbab pēkan Nibong Tēbal itu tēlah hidup balek. Apa sēbab-nya hidup, tidak lain dan tidak bukan ia-lah oleh kērana pēmēchahan Caledonia Estate kapada orang² yang bērusaha dan bēkērja kēbun di-kēliling kēbun itu yang ada sadikit sa-banyak wang simpanan dan yang mēnjual lēmbu untok mēmbēli tanah gētah itu sa-orang sa-ekar atau dua ekar dan ada yang tiga ekar mēngikut kēmampuan masing². Jadi, dēngan jalan ini dapat-lah mēreka itu mēnchari pēnghidupan dēngan bērdiri di-atas kaki sēndiri, mēreka mēnureh gētah dan mēnjual-nya, duit pun mewah, sēbab itu Nibong Tēbal sēkarang orang ramai. Jadi, jikalau-lah kita hēndak mēngambil bērat di-atas pēkērja² di-kēbun itu, pēkērja² yang asal-nya ia-lah sa-bagai contract labour yang di-bawa oleh Manager estate ka-nēgēri kita. Dan kalau orang² ini bēr'azam hēndak dudok di-nēgēri kita, yang kita bukakan dēngan luas-nya untok jadi kēra'-ayatan, tēntu-lah mēreka itu simpan duit, dan sa-balek-nya pula di-hantar-nya balek ka-nēgēri-nya, mēreka bēli

tanah dan rumah, jadi tidak ingat hendak duduk di-sini. Manakala kebun itu di-jual di-bëri sagu hati sa-hingga \$2,000 sa-saorang itu dapat, dengan duit itu ia duduk bëli sa-ekar atau dua, dengan ini mërèka itu mempunyai hak sëndiri, ini ada-lah këlengkapan yang bësar pada mërèka itu; jadi ini ia-lah satu këbahagian, ranchangan ini bukan dengan anjoran Kërajaan bahkan timbul dengan sëndiri, di-atas ranchangan pëmëchahan estate ini sangat baik bagi pëndapat saya bagaimana yang telah pun saya tërangkan tadi.

Jikalau-lah pehak Yang Bërthormat itu hendak mëmëbela pëkërja² di-këbun², saya ingat ta' payah-lah di-bela, kërana Plantation Workers Union itu ia-lah satu union yang bësar—300,000 orang ahli-nya, dia-lah yang bërhak mëmëbela untok pëkërja² itu, jika di-aniaya, jika mërèka kënà apa² përkara yang ta' patut dan yang ta' baik. Jikalau hendak mëmëbela pëkërja yang ta' masok Plantation Workers Union—itu ta' banyak, sadikit di-sana, sadikit di-sini, ta' masok mana² union, mërèka boleh hidup dengan sëndiri dan baik. Jadi saya ta' nampak yang chadangan ini hendak mënahan pëmëchahan estate dan juga këchëlakaan²-nya saya ta' nampak, mëlainkan ada këbaikan yang lëbeh daripada këburokan, kalau ada këburokan, boleh-lah kita tinggalkan, kërana sadikit sangat kalau di-pandang dan di-bandingkan dengan këbaikan yang akan di-bërikan itu. Bagi pehak sahabat saya itu patut mënggalakkan supaya kalau ada pëmëchahan estate², sahabat saya itu patut mëngambil bahagian, buat Co-operative Society, panggil orang² pënureh gëtah di-mana² estate yang hendak di-pëchah, boleh-lah tolong uruskan, supaya mërèka itu bërhak mëndapat sa-ekar atau dua ekar tanah mënjadi hak këpunyaan mërèka itu, ini bukan-kah baik! daripada mëmëbangkang mënahan pëmëchahan estate itu. Pada masa orang Puteh mënjaga estate ini dahulu dan Manager estate yang bësar², barang² këpërluan ada-lah di-jual dalam estate itu dan tiap² pëkërja mëngambil barang² këpërluan-nya hari² di-situ dan chukup bulan di-potong gaji-nya, jadi dengan ini untong bagi contract yang mënjual

barang² këpërluan itu. Dalam estate sëkarang tiap² orang yang bëkërja dalam estate itu bebas boleh mënggunakan wang-nya sëndiri mëmëbëli di-këdai², itu sëbab pada masa ini di-pëkan Nibong Tëbal tëlèh ramai. Dari sëgi kësihatan dan përubatan pula, kalau sahabat saya itu fikir dan rasa ragu² bërkenaän dengan Nibong Tëbal itu, saya ingat Hospital di-Sungai Bakap itu chukup dëkat, lëbeh kurang 2 batu. Dan kalau estate ini sudah di-pëchahkan, maka urusan mënjalankan atau mëlèhat kësihatan pëkërja² itu tërtanggung-lah kapada Kërajaan, ini tëlëpas daripada këlolaan Manager estate, ta' payah-lah di-khuatirkan, kërana di-Nibong Tëbal banyak-lah saya dapat tahu bërkenaän dengan békalan electrik, ayer dan Hospital pun dëkat, ta' payah-lah di-bangkitkan² përkara itu, sa-kian-lah, Tuan Yang di-Përtua, tërima kaseh.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to give full support to this motion which has been introduced. In doing so, I wish to make it clear that we of the P.P.P. group believe in the right of an individual to do what he likes with his property; in other words, to sell it to any other person or persons who may want to buy it. But in dealing with this question of fragmentation, one must appreciate that it has reached a proportion where it is time for the Government of the country to step in and take a hand, and for those reasons we give full support to this motion. We have heard the Honourable Member for Bungsar giving us a fairly long outline of why it is necessary for this House to adopt this motion, and those reasons are substantial reasons. In a matter of this nature there are always two conflicting views. Are we to consider the sufferings and the misery of the labourers and workers and their families who are employed on the estates? Or, are we to have primarily in our minds the monies which go into the pockets of the owners who sell the estates? If, as some Members of this House have said, these estates are fragmented, the people who benefit are the workers because they buy a few acres here and a few acres there, then perhaps we may have to

consider very seriously whether it is time for any action to be taken by the Government. But what happens in a normal case? What happens in the majority of cases of fragmentation? Take, for example, Mr. Arumugam Pillai—I am just using a name—sells his estate to Rengasamy Pillai and Rengasamy Pillai sells his estate to Periasamy Pillai—those are three actual living persons, and if anybody challenges us for names, those are the three names from the M.I.C. who are fragmenting estates.

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: On a point of information, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I refuse to give way on a point of information.

Mr. Speaker: You can speak later on.

Mr. D. R. Seenivasagam: Those are the three gentlemen who fragment estates, who buy estates for the purpose of chopping them up and selling them in small pieces, not for the benefit of the workers but for anybody who would pay the highest price.

Now, there is a genuine, real and apparent unemployment problem because of fragmentation, and that unemployment problem must be tackled and it can only be tackled by controlling fragmentation. The motion says: to legislate, to control further fragmentation; the motion does not say that there should be no fragmentation at all. Under any circumstances the motion only says: let us consider, if there should be fragmentation, how that fragmentation should be controlled. It does not ask for the absolute prohibition on the sale of estates. It may well be that any Committee appointed will recommend that further fragmentation can only take place with the approval of certain authorities; and that fragmentation can take place only by sale to certain people who are interested in estates in the sense that they will work the estates themselves—there are thousand and one ways in which fragmentation can be properly controlled without disturbing the economy of the country, without

interfering with the right of the individual to do what he wants with his own property.

We regard it necessary to remove the evils resulting from fragmentation—those evils are present because thousands of estate workers and labourers who have given the major portion of their lives to this country—some may say that they are not loyal, but I say nobody in this House or outside this House has any right to challenge the loyalty of a person who is a Federal citizen of this country—and they are entitled to say: we want employment, please try and stop this indiscriminate fragmentation of estates so that we can live like decent human beings in this country. There are labourers who walk right down to the South from Alor Star looking for employment; there are labourers who walk right down the port of some harbour in this country to take the first boat back to India, because they cannot get employment in this land and they are treated as if they have done nothing for this land.

We support the move for control of further fragmentation, and I give it the strongest support.

Enche' Abdul Rauf bin Abdul Rahman (Krian Laut): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya berdiri di-sini tidak hendak bercakap panjang hanya sedikit sahaja ia-itu sa-masa usul ini di-bentangkan di-dalam Majlis Dewan ini, saya sudah mendengar sedikit sebanyak apa² yang telah di-ucapkan oleh Yang Berhormat yang membawa usul ini, dan juga daripada Yang Berhormat Menteri Muda dan juga kepada Yang Berhormat sahabat saya dari kawasan Seberang Perai. Bagi pehak diri saya, saya mengucapkan ta'niah kepada Kerajaan yang telah menubuhkan sa-buah Jawatan-Kuasa untuk menyelideki berkenaan dengan jualan Estate² dan di-belah² dan di-jual di-kecil²kan. Dan juga saya mengucapkan ta'niah kepada Ahli² Jawatan-Kuasa yang telah di-tubuhkan oleh Kerajaan itu untuk menyelideki dan berusaha yang begitu giat menyiasat keadaan² yang telah berlaku berkenaan dengan penjualan Estate² ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hanya hendak mendapat tahu sedikit daripada pihak Kerajaan berhubung dengan tanah daripada Ahli Jawatan-Kuasa yang menyiasat berkenaan dengan perkara ini. Ada-kah Ahli Jawatan-Kuasa ini samata² menyiasat berkenaan dengan jualan Estate² sahaja-kah atau ada-kah Ahli Jawatan-Kuasa ini menyiasat atas jualan tanah bëndang—tanah sawah? Sebab-nya saya suka mendapat tahu ini, didalam kawasan saya ia-itu ada 1,000 ekar tanah sawah dan 500 ekar daripada tanah ini di-jual oleh tuan punya tanah itu kepada orang lain dan orang lain itu pula menjual tanah itu dengan di-pěchah²kan sa-bagaimana juga di-Estate². Jadi, di-sini hal keadaan penduduk² 124 orang yang menyewa tanah ini mempunyai tanggungan lebih kurang 800 orang sa-hingga pada hari ini belum lagi sělėsai. Apa-kah akibat-nya kepada penduduk² yang menyewa tanah bëndang tadi? Jadi, di-sini saya suka mendapat tahu sama ada daripada pihak Kerajaan atau pun daripada Ahli Jawatan-Kuasa yang menyiasat perkara ini, ada-kah penyiasatan ini akan di-sampaikan penyiasatan itu kepada tanah² bëndang. Bersangkutan dengan tanah bëndang kerana dalam kawasan saya, 80 peratus luas kawasan ini ia-lah tanah bëndang dan ada di-antara-nya sampai 200, 300 ekar di-punyai oleh sa-orang tetapi itu di-punyai oleh orang Mělayu. Dan saya pěrchaya tanah ini tidak di-jual tetapi yang saya kata tadi ada-lah tanah ini di-punyai daripada kawan kita orang China dan di-jualkan kepada Cheti dan Cheti ini pula jual kepada orang lain dengan chara pěchah². Jadi ini-lah yang saya suka mendapat tahu ada-kah penyiasatan itu di-khaskan dengan Estate sahaja-kah atau di-panjangkan penyiasatan itu kepada bëndang² juga. Sakian-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

The Minister of Labour (Enche Bahaman bin Samsudin): Mr. Speaker, my Ministry is concerned primarily with the possibility that fragmentation may cause unemployment. As I have already informed this House at the last meeting, no complete statistics on this matter are available. There is no law which requires that fragmentation

of estates should be reported. There is no law which requires a person who loses employment to register himself at an employment exchange or elsewhere. Such figures as have come to the notice of the Department of Labour and Industrial Relations indicate that some 3,000 persons were dismissed during 1958 and some 2,500 in 1959. There are no records to show how many of these persons remained unemployed, but cases are known that dismissed labourers have been re-engaged by new employers to work on the same land after it had been fragmented. An *ad hoc* Committee which reported on this matter in 1957—admittedly some time ago—found that there was no reason to suppose that workers found work elsewhere with difficulty, and I can assure the House that relatively few workers displaced by fragmentation have ever approached the labour exchange or the Labour Office to ask for employment.

Sir, as far as the rubber industry is concerned, we have a well-organised employers' body—the M.P.I.E.A.—and also a well-organised workers' body, the N.U.P.W. Consultation between the parties on matters of common interest takes place at frequent intervals. In addition, the officers of my Ministry are in close contact with the parties at all times. The representatives of the N.U.P.W. sit on the Government committee that has already been appointed to look into this matter.

Sir, I oppose the motion.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been informed that a Committee has been set up with terms of reference including, among other words, the words

"to bear in mind the beneficial effects of fragmentation".

Mr. Speaker, while not saying anything else, we notice the bias in favour of fragmentation already even in the terms of reference. The terms of reference should be worded impartially so that whether there is any good or bad that will come from investigation, and not put forward to the Committee before it has carried out its investigation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the last session, the Honourable Member from Larut Utara had charged the Socialist Front with being opposed to fragmentation. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are opposed to indiscriminate and haphazard fragmentation of estates and we are proudly opposed to that because haphazard and indiscriminate fragmentation of estates can lead to the destruction of the national economy. We from the Socialist Front are opposed to fragmentation because we as Socialists believe in a proper economy, in an economy better than that which exists at present. But we are not anarchists. We cannot condone or accept the anarchy of indiscriminate and haphazard fragmentation of estates because such fragmentation brings chaos into the economy of a country, and it throws thousands of labourers out of employment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member from Seremban referred to small people—people with a little money—buying to become owners of small bits of land. But we must not forget that before they become the owners of these small bits of land, they are well fleeced by the speculator who trafficks in fragmentation. One transaction of fragmentation can bring millions of dollars to the person engaging in it, and this money comes from these same small people whom our Honourable friend had cited were so happy in being in possession of these small pieces of land. Even these small people lose very heavily to the speculator before they come into possession of these pieces of land. Mr. Speaker, any economist would inform this House that economic progress is from small-scale production to large-scale production, and the breaking up of large estates into small estates is a backward economic movement which is reactionary because whereas under large-scale production and large-scale manufacture of rubber

Dato' Dr. Ismail: On a point of information, Sir, it is probably the reverse!

Mr. K. Karam Singh: . . . and it is this backward progress or backward

stride that the Government is permitting to be taken in the economic sphere. It is this that we are opposed.

There may be land hunger. But we must know how we are to satisfy that land hunger. We cannot do it at the expense of our national economy. There are thousands upon thousands of acres of virgin land in our country, and the land hunger could be directed towards this virgin land. We are not against buying and selling, but this buying and selling again must not be done at the expense of the national economy, because haphazard fragmentation of estates can lead to an economy being disrupted, whereas before, people did produce in common, where hundreds of thousands did work upon an estate and have a factory and smokehouse in common, after fragmentation they have to resort to hanging their rubber sheets on wire and drying in the sun.

The Honourable Member from Seremban also said that the President of the M.I.C. had said that \$14,000,000 a year was spent by Indian estate rubber tappers, and that if this money was directed to the purchase of land, 10,000 acres could be purchased. But we like to remind our Honourable friend that it is not on a single rubber estate that the rubber tappers consume this \$14,000,000 worth of toddy a year. . . .

Mr. Chin See Yin: On a point of information, Mr. Speaker—I am merely quoting the statement of the President of the M.I.C. I am not saying anything on that.

Mr. Speaker: Please proceed.

Mr. K. Karam Singh: And if all these people joined together and collectively took over estates and it is beneficial to the country, we have nothing against.

Again, we must stress that this fragmentation of large estates and the sale of them in pieces is an act of speculation which does not increase the production of rubber in this country, and the man who makes millions out of this speculation does not contribute one single ounce of rubber in real production to this country.

Above that, we have seen that thousands of labourers are displaced. We would like to know what the Government has done to give alternative employment to these people who are displaced. To allow this problem to continue would be to spread a problem which the Government is sadly lacking in its attention to at the moment. Sir, we would urge this House to take into consideration what has been said and to check haphazard and indiscriminate and harmful fragmentation of estates and we appeal that the evil that has already occurred, be removed, but if there is any benefit let it stay so that the country can gain.

Mr. V. Manickavasagam: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been accused here by Members of the Opposition saying that the employees are exploited. Sir, the Honourable the Minister of Labour has just stated that we have strong and democratic trade unions. The rubber industry has got the National Union of Plantation Workers which is quite capable of looking after the interests of the rubber industry. We have been advocating consultative committees at estate levels too to see that there is good liaison between the management and the unions at all levels.

Secondly, Sir, the question of fragmentation by Mr. Arumugam Pillai has been brought up by the Honourable Member for Ipoh. For his information, Sir, I can say that Mr. Arumugam Pillai was very kind enough to give a very large piece of land, at very much below price, to the Co-operative Department. And here again, the Honourable Member, I think, failed to mention the fragmentation that is being done by Members of the Socialist Front in Negri Sembilan (*Applause*). Sir, as has been assured here, the conditions of workers are being well looked after by the Malayan Trade Union Congress.

Mr. V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of information. I would like to state that certain things cannot be achieved through bargaining alone. It needs legislation in this country.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita telah mendengar beberapa fikiran berkenaan dengan perkara ini. Saya bagi pihak Persatuan Islam sa-Tanah Melayu adalah membangkang dengan keras-nya chadangan ini. Dalam sa-buah masyarakat memikirkan sa-bahagian golongan orang yang tertentu dengan memandang kepada bahagian lain dengan chara yang tidak berapa mengambil berat maka itu amat-lah membahayakan. Nampak saya perbahathan ini sudah di-jalankan atas chara yang sa-demi-kian ia-itu memandang kepada apa yang telah di-pikul atau di-rasa oleh pekerja² ladang yang telah di-pechah²-kan.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pekerja² ladang ini juga kalau tidak semua-nya ada-lah ra'ayat negeri ini yang patut mendapat pertimbangan dan saya akan chuba menunjukkan chara pertimbangan yang di-beri kepada mereka itu hendak-lah sesuai dengan kedudukan ekonomi ra'ayat negeri ini. Menggalakkan mereka menjadi buroh dan mengikhtiarkan dengan jalan² yang akan menyebabkan mereka itu di-jadikan buroh dari awal hingga akhir hidup mereka pada fikiran saya bukan-lah satu jalan bagi membahagiakan kepada ra'ayat. Kita tahu bahawa kalau ladang² itu di-pechahkan maka ada kemungkinan yang besar dan kecil kerana kemungkinan ini bergantung kepada angka² yang dapat kita buktikan. Tetapi ada kemungkinan bahawa mereka itu akan menganggor. Sebalak-nya, kalau kita biarkan mereka itu menjadi buroh maka akan kekal-lah mereka itu dalam keadaan yang demikian dengan tidak ada mempunyai satu kedudukan ekonomi yang kuat bagi sa-orang peribadi ekonomi dalam negeri ini. Ekonomi sa-suatu negara bukan-lah hanya di-timbulkan dan di-pandangan dari perusahaan² atau ladang² yang besar, tetapi juga dari kesanggupan tiap² sa-orang ra'ayat yang hidup dengan tarap yang tertentu dan hak² yang tertentu bagi diri-nya. Belum tentu bahawa dengan chara pemecahan itu kita sudah dapat meng- hubungkan perkembangan dan kekuatan ekonomi negeri ini. Ini belum tentu, sebab kita masih mempunyai masa untuk membuat susunan² yang akan membolehkan tiap² sa-orang

ra'ayat nēgēri ini mēmpunyai tanah dan mēmpunyai kēsanggupan ekonomi yang akan mēbolehkan mēreka pula mēmbēri sumbangan yang sēmpadan dēngan tuntutan ekonomi nēgara. Maka sa-kira-nya kita mēngambil langkah dēngan mēnahan pēmēchahan tanah² itu, maka akan kēkal-lah ladang² itu dan ladang² itu akan mēnjadi puncha yang saya rasa sapērti yang di-akuī oleh kawan² saya Ahli² Yang Bērhormat sēkalian yang ada di-sabēlah saya ini akan mēnjadi puncha pēmērasan ekonomi yang tidak akan habis pula dan pēmērasan ini hanya dapat kita kunchi dēngan chara mēmbēri tanah kapada mēreka itu. Di-samping itu akan di-jawab-lah oleh orang² yang ingin mēnjawab bahawa tanah yang di-pēchah²kan itu tidak di-bahagikan kapada buroh² itu. Ini bukan-lah mēnjadi pērsoalan di-Majlis ini pada hari ini, sēbab jikalau pērkarā itu mēnjadi kēsulitan maka itu-lah yang kita fikiran. Yang mēnjadi soal kapada kita ia-lah supaya Kērajaan Pērsēkutuan Tanah Mēlayu akan bērikhtiar mēmbbolehkan tiap² sa-orang ra'ayat akan mēndapat hak ekonomi yang mēmbbolehkan ekonomi yang unique dan yang kuat dalam nēgēri ini.

Saya amat bērsimpati dēngan fikiran yang mēngatakan banyak akibat yang burok kapada buroh² dan saya bēlum lagi mahu mēnērima pēnapian oleh Yang Bērhormat Mēntēri yang bērsangkutan dēngan mudah mēngatakan ini akan bērlaku, tētapi saya mērasa bahawa maseh boleh di-bētulkan kēadaan nama dēngan aturan² Kērajaan itu sēndiri dēngan tidak payah mēnjadi satu asas bagi hidup-nya ekonomi nēgēri ini di-pērbalekkan ia-itu asas² yang hēndak mēmbēri kēchukupan ekonomi ra'ayat kapada asas² yang hēndak mēmbērikan hidup buroh bagi ra'ayat nēgēri ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, biar pun kita katakan bahawa sa-kira-nya ekonomi nēgēri ini di-sērahkan kapada small-holdings pēmunya² ladang yang kēchil, kata-nya ini akan mērosakkan ekonomi nēgēri. Saya bēlum yakin sēbab sa-kira-nya di-atorkan pēraturan yang sapērti bagaimana mēreka mēmpunyai hak ekonomi nēgēri ini mēsti mēnyusun pēnanaman-nya, pēkērjaan-nya

dan sa-bagai-nya, maka akan mēmbbolehkan kita mēnegakkan ekonomi; sēbab pēranan bagi orang² ra'ayat nēgēri ini mēsti-lah kita atur supaya jangan lagi ada pēnyērahan kapada mēreka dalam pērkarā ini. Tētapi, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, kalau-lah kita kēkalkan ladang² ini siapa pula boleh mēlarang ladang² ini mērupakan dirinya sa-bagai bēbanan ekonomi dalam nēgēri ini dan mērupakan diri-nya sa-bagai pēnēkanan mēmēras ra'ayat mēnjadi buroh dalam ladang² ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, dēngan pēmēchahan tanah dan dēngan aturan yang di-buat di-dalam pēmēchahan tanah ini tēlah banyak orang² yang mēndapat fa'edah, boleh jadi orang² itu tidak buroh pada rupa-nya tētapi manusia yang sama dēngan buroh di-nēgēri lain dan boleh jadi mēreka ini buroh pula pada asal-nya. Jadi pada fikiran saya mari-lah kita mēmikirkan soal ini bukan dari sēgi buroh samata² tētapi dari sēgi pērķembangan ekonomi ra'ayat bagi sēluruh nēgēri ini.

Saya bēlum dapat mēngaku bahawa tanah dalam nēgēri ini amat banyak, sēbab sa-tahu saya kēsulitan yang kita hadap pada masa ini ia-lah kēsulitan tanah dan oleh kērana kēsulitan ini ada, maka kita rasa sa-tēngah daripada kaum tani kita ini banyak yang kita katakan bēri-lah hutan² itu kapada ra'ayat. Tētapi, Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, sa-tēngah ra'ayat ada mēmpunyai kēsanggupan untuk mēnēbang hutan dan mēnam gētah untuk mēndapat hasil-nya dalam masa 6 tahun, tētapi bukan sadikit ra'ayat yang tidak sanggup mēmbuat dēmikian yang mēngharapkan supaya mēndapat hasil dēngan sēgēra dalam ekonomi hidup.

Tuan Yang di-Pērtua, dalam chadangan ini ada bēbērapa pērkarā yang mēnarek pērhatian saya ia-itu "indiscriminate and haphazard". Yang sa-bēnar-nya pērkatāan ini sangat baik di-lētakkan dalam chadangan yang sapērti ini, tētapi sa-tēlah saya bacha panjang² saya rasa bukan-lah indiscriminate and haphazard ini yang mēnjadi soal pokok dalam hal ini tētapi ia-lah soal buroh² yang tidak

mendapat kerja sa-sudah di-péchah-péchahkan estate itu. Jadi kalau soal indiscriminate and haphazard ini mējadi soal, maka buat-lah chara yang tidak mērosakkan asas fragmentation yang s/suai dēngan kēwajiban kita hēndak mēmbēri tanah kapada ra'ayat.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak-lah mahu mēnēgakkan di-sini faham yang mēngatakan bahawa kalau kita péchah estate² ini maka bērērti-lah kita mēnyokong faham² yang mēmēchahkan capitalist. Pada saya bukan soal capitalist dan bukan soal communist. Sēbab apa, kalau kita péchahkan manusia ini kapada class², rasa saya payah-lah kita hidup. Kita sēntiasa bērfikir dēngan class dan sēntiasa kita bērpērang di-antara satu dēngan lain dēngan tiada sēbab yang mēnyēbakkan kita bērbuat dēmikian.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam mēngēmukakan ranchangan saya ini, sapērti chadangan ini, saya tidak-lah lupa mēmintā supaya kawalan di-adakan supaya jangan buroh² itu tērlantar sa-sudah pēmēchahan itu di-lakukan.

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us remember that the Government, in appointing this Committee to look into this question of fragmentation, would like not only an impartial investigation but also a very thorough investigation into the whole business. That is the reason why the Government has framed its terms of reference in such a way that both the disadvantages and the advantages of fragmentation will be gone into, but apparently one Honourable Member from the Socialist Front objects to the Government's insistence that in this enquiry the Committee should look into not only the disadvantages but also the advantages of fragmentation. The reason why the Government has chosen this course is obvious. As I have said already, the Government wants the Committee to make an impartial enquiry and to arrive at its conclusions after taking into consideration all the factors involved, both beneficial and otherwise. I, therefore, am at a loss to understand why one Honourable Member from the Socialist Front should object so violently to

this Committee looking into the advantages of fragmentation.

The other thing which rather puzzles me is this: all over the world, socialist parties and progressive parties have always pleaded that land should be held by a greater number of people. In other words, we go on the maxim of the greatest good of the greatest number. However, our friends of the Socialist Front evidently believe in the maxim of the greatest good of the smallest number, (*Laughter*) because in all their speeches they have advocated that it is an excellent thing for land to be held by as few people as possible and in as large units as possible. For example, we hear of countries where a very high proportion of land is held by a very small number of people and social reformers all over the world in such cases have always advocated that there should be a break-up of large holdings of land so that more people can own that land instead of that land being held by a comparatively small number of people. But our friends apparently think that that is a bad thing and that the less people there are to hold land the better it is, not only socially but economically and in all other respects. I must say that I am at a loss to understand the logic of our friends who profess to call themselves socialists and who profess to have so much concern for the "underdog". (*Applause*).

Now, our friends from the Socialist Front have also gone into the realm of economics—I, of course, am no economist and acknowledge that they are far superior in the subject than I am. Now, what is the acid test of economics? If fragmentation were to result in land that is fragmented being idle, being unproductive, then I would say there is some reason for us to be concerned, for us to be worried about fragmentation. What has happened is probably the opposite. I think no one can dispute the fact that fragmentation has not resulted in one acre or in one square foot of land being idle. On the contrary, I think, it is safe to say that fragmentation has resulted in the areas in question being cultivated more

intensively and probably being cultivated to such an extent that the production is probably greater. So I do not see how or in what way fragmentation has had an adverse effect on the economy of this country.

One last point, Sir, I believe the Honourable Mover of this motion, when introducing his motion, referred to the belief that four thousand labourers—I think that was the figure he mentioned—had to be repatriated to some country or other as a result of that operation. The very fact of repatriation implies that the labourers in question are not Federal citizens—in other words, they are aliens—and therefore it cannot be said that fragmentation has affected the Federal citizens of this country. That may not be a very strong point from the economic point of view, but at least it does go to show that even where there have been adverse effects, in point of fact, as my Honourable friend the Minister of Labour says, the unemployment caused has been relatively negligible and the people affected have not been citizens of this country.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have heard the views of Honourable Members of the Government Bench as well as others on the question of fragmentation in regard to the various aspects of it, particularly the adverse effects, and the comment stated by the Honourable the Minister of Finance that it has no adverse effect economically. However, first of all I would like to address my reply to comments made by the Honourable Member for Bachok. I am of the view that the Honourable Member for Bachok in saying that the Socialist Front is merely concerned with the consequences suffered by labourers in rubber estates in putting up this motion, is quite wrong. I think that he is under a misapprehension. The proposer of this particular motion has stated very clearly in his resolution that he is merely calling for a Committee to enquire into this. We must point out here that in our view there are quite a lot of adverse economic effects due to fragmentation. It must be pointed out here that when

an estate is fragmented, it is usually fragmented to less than 25 acres, because according to labour laws, if an estate is under 25 acres, the Labour Department has no jurisdiction whatsoever over the control of labour over-demanding for minimum standards, etc. As a result of this, you have what you may call exploitation of labourers in such an estate, but that is quite outside the point. My colleagues have pointed out very clearly about this.

What I would like to speak is on the adverse economic consequences. The Honourable the Minister of Finance is of the view that there is no adverse economic effect. It must be realised that in a small estate though in the initial stage, in the short run, it may result in even greater production because what the buyers of small estates are interested in is to get as much money as they can, to get back their capital in the shortest possible time. So, as a result of this, they go in for what is called slaughtered tapping, and in the long run you will find that all the rubber trees in these smallholdings are literally slaughtered.

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of explanation . . .

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: I refuse to give way, Sir. I think the Honourable Minister has ample opportunity of speaking and he should have utilised the time more usefully.

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: Are you against smallholdings?

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: So in the light of that, a smallholder also will find great difficulty in replanting . . .

Mr. Tan Siew Sin: What is wrong with the smallholder?

Mr. Speaker: No interruption, please. Proceed.

Mr. Tan Phock Kin: . . . because the smallholder cannot afford to replant and not because he does not want it. If a smallholder owns only 25 acres, he needs all the money, he needs all the income, and as a result you will find that a smallholder is unable to replant and to derive all the advantages of replanting. There are other disadvantages as well. It is a

well-known fact, and I think the Honourable the Minister of Finance should realise it, that there is such a thing as economies of large scale production. I am saying this not because I am in favour that estates should be owned by a small group of individuals. I am saying this merely to indicate to the Minister that by fragmentation an estate will suffer economically—it will not enjoy the advantages of large scale production. We in the Socialist Front do not believe that only the rich can enjoy the monopoly of large scale production. Even the poor can enjoy that similar opportunity. It is our view that if a Committee is so constituted it can make some recommendations on the lines that in the case of an estate to be fragmented the Minister for Agriculture and Co-operatives may play a great part in assisting the transfer of estates from big monopolies to co-operatives. This, I submit, is a very logical view-point. So, in the light of my explanation, I think the Honourable Member for Bachok can see the view-point of the Socialist Front. We are not merely concerned with the lot of one class of labourers, because we sincerely believe that the national wealth of this country will be reduced considerably in the long run, though in the short run it may not, because of what I described just now as slaughtered tapping. We may have increased production, immediately but in the long run the industry is bound to suffer and it is with this in view that this motion is being put forward.

The Government has already appointed one Committee some time ago and its recommendations are of such little significance that Government did not take any action about it. It is not the fact that the Government did not realise the consequences of fragmentation. As early as 1956 the Labour Department in a report during that year has indicated the consequences and bad effects of fragmentation and it is in the light of that report, in 1957, a Committee was appointed, but the Committee's recommendations must be of such a nature that Government was not prepared to do anything about it. So, in

view of that the Honourable Member for Seberang Selatan moved this motion, but before this motion can be discussed in this House, we have heard that Government has already appointed another Committee. But in the view of the Honourable Member for Seberang Selatan a Select Committee of this House should be able to serve the purpose much better and I hope Honourable Members will support the motion.

Enche' Abdul Aziz: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hesitate to stand, but since my name was mentioned and as the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, I feel that I must say something. Sir, without the advice of my Honourable friend opposite there, it has, in fact, been our policy so far, and we have been working on the estates to be fragmented—actually, there have been several estates which have come to us and we have assisted them. In one case which concerned a very big estate of over 7,000 acres, Bentong Estate, we have gone to their assistance by buying it outright on a co-operative basis. The other case concerned the Tanjong Dua Belas Estate. When it was announced that it was to be sold, we called together all the workers in that Estate and they came to us for assistance. We negotiated with the Agents of the Estate but at the last moment when we said that we were earnest in buying it, they changed their minds. There were also several other estates with whom we were negotiating with the intention of buying them on behalf of co-operative societies. But the important point is that before we undertake to do anything, the workers will have to organise themselves and become strong, efficient and loyal co-operative members of a co-operative society, otherwise we would not be able to help them.

I do know that I am also a Socialist—but not of the same colour (*Laughter*). I work for the same principle, but I am afraid on the very same principle we disagree. However, my method has been proved, but I do not think the methods so far employed by my friends opposite have been proved and found worth.

Mr. Cheah Theam Swee: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one thing has become very clear in the course of this debate and that is the Socialist Front is against smallholdings. It cannot be more apparent from the deliberations that they are utterly against people holding a small acreage of, perhaps, rubber land.

Now, the Honourable mover of the motion has referred to an earlier report of an earlier Committee on the question of fragmentation, and it has been in many quarters described as a fragmented report on fragmentation. However, if I may, Mr. Speaker, I would refer to one fragmented piece of that report and quote a passage from page 4 of it dealing with changes in cultivation methods—where the Committee looks into the social and economic aspects of fragmentation:

"On the other hand, for social reasons the existence of a large smallholding class is of great value to a country like Malaya. It is a considerable help towards political and social security and of great value on the basis of a sound democratic Government."

I sincerely believe each and every Honourable Member of this House is working towards this aim. We may have differences of opinion, but the aim is the same. And now I will continue to quote—

"The holder is also most important as a producer of smallholding crop such as fruits and vegetables. The Committee can do no more than draw attention to the fact that in a country like Malaya the existence of both forms of agriculture is of great value, that there is no general case for doing away with one or the other, and that the scale on which fragmentation is now taking place is not sufficient to alter the present balance between large-scale agriculture enterprises and smallholders."

This is the situation which exists. The report continues—

"More particularly in the opinion of the Committee the smallholdings that are taking the place of estates in Province Wellesley are doing well and have every promise of continued productivity provided the drainage problems are solved in Penang area and the growth of population in Penang and on the mainland is providing an expanding market for poultry, eggs, fruits, vegetables and other smallholder crops which the new smallholdings can supply."

That is, the new smallholdings on fragmented estates can supply these new crops.

Mr. Speaker: You are not going to read the whole thing, are you? *(Laughter).*

Mr. Cheah Theam Swee: No, in fact I have also been fragmenting this report, Mr. Speaker, Sir. May I read three more lines?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Mr. Cheah Theam Swee: The report continues:

"In this area the change from estate to smallholdings is an inevitable development, with which it would be advisable not to interfere, and the same may be true of the fragmentation elsewhere."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, between the years 1957 and 1958 there has been change of hands in estates of up to a quarter million acres and out of this only one-sixth has been fragmented—perhaps half of this has been in Province Wellesley. Now, this particular passage which I have quoted has particular reference to Province Wellesley.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, I would refer also to a remark made by an Honourable Member from the Socialist Front—he says that estate fragmentation is a backward step in the economy of this country. Well, I beg very strongly to differ from that opinion and, if I may, I will support it with figures. The rubber production of this country in 1958 was 664,000 tons and in 1959, 696,000 tons. If there is a backward step in the economy of this country, Mr. Speaker, I cannot see the increase in the figures unless the weighing machines have been distorted *(Laughter)*, and to this amount, the increase contributed by estates was only five per cent but the increase contributed by smallholders was eight per cent. It is also well for us to note that the increase in production by the smallholders was of a greater percentage than that of big estates.

There is one other point which I would like to mention, Mr. Speaker, and that is on the estates that have been fragmented—I do not know why we use the word "fragmented"; in fact it is a sub-division or redistribution of land. Fragmentation is a word which perhaps the Socialist Front would like to use for sub-dividing or redistribution

of land to the local people. In these estates that have been sub-divided into smallholdings, the holders become low-cost producers, i.e., they produce at a lower cost than the big estates and in so doing they are more adaptable to the violent price changes of the market; and if they are adaptable, then our economy is enhanced as when a violent fluctuation of prices exists the low-cost producers will be able to compete in the market, even with synthetic. Then there is the case where big estates have not replanted and where they have been sold—I would refer to them as firewood estates—and which the smallholders have bought perhaps at market price or perhaps at firewood estate price and they have replanted those estates, which in the long run would contribute to the increase of productivity.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with this in mind, I do not see why Honourable Members of the Socialist Front should bring up a motion of this nature. Of course, I am very eagerly awaiting the report of this Committee, but at the moment I cannot understand why they are bringing this motion, unless they want to protect the capitalists.

The Minister of External Affairs (Dato' Dr. Ismail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in all the years that I have been a member of the highest legislative body in this country—and I have been in that body for quite a number of years—never have I heard such impassioned speeches in defence of free enterprise, or big business such as that advocated by the Socialist Front speakers. (*Applause*). They almost grovelled at the feet of big business people to-day. They even go so far as to slander the smallholders. They call them inefficient, indulging in slaughter tapping, and useless to the economy of the country, because their production is smaller than that of the big estates. And yet, what are the facts? We know that what they are after is, that we should preserve these big estates for them to be nationalised later on (*Laughter*). I have stated in this House repeatedly and so often: "This Government will not do the work for the Socialist Front; come to power first and do your policy." (*Laughter*). Sir,

the fact is that we have elections by popular vote in this country and it is very difficult for the Socialist Party to go to the country: the rubber plantations in this country are in the hands of smallholders and with a policy of nationalisation, they will not get one vote from the smallholders. What they are hoping for is that if we were to preserve the big estates, we would be preserving them for the Socialist Front to nationalise. (*Laughter*).

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Mr. Speaker, Sir, never in my life have I heard so much irrelevancy until I came across the Ministers on the opposite side of this House. Although it is quite true that while we were discussing this motion we were to some extent discussing the disadvantages of fragmentation. Nevertheless, it is quite true that this motion says nothing about that. The motion is simply that we view with grave concern the indiscriminate and haphazard fragmentation of estates and resolve that a Select Committee be appointed to make a thorough investigation into the problem of fragmentation and to make recommendations for:

- (i) the control of further fragmentation, and
- (ii) for measures to be taken to remove the evils which have resulted from fragmentation.

This motion does not say that the mover is against fragmentation, nor does it say that the mover is for fragmentation. Neither does it say that the mover of this motion is against the goodness or otherwise of fragmentation. It says that a Select Committee be appointed in order to control further fragmentation and to take measures to remove the evils of fragmentation. Now, are there any evils in fragmentation? The Honourable Assistant Minister of Rural Development—and I presume he must know his job because this deals with rural areas—has stated quite clearly that the Government is aware of this problem and has been aware of this problem for several years. He also said quite clearly just now that the Government has in fact set up a Committee to go into this problem. Now our quarrel is not on whether there should be

investigation or not because both sides agree that there should be investigation: otherwise, why should the Government set up a Committee of Enquiry? But what we are arguing about is the kind, the nature and the type of the enquiry. We ask for a Select Committee which is directly responsible to this House and which should be chosen from the elected representatives in this House. The Honourable the Minister of External Affairs has quite clearly and repeatedly stated: "wait till you come to power". All right, we are not in power, but we are in Parliament. So let us have a voice by setting up a Select Committee consisting of the Members of Parliament, so at least we could give them, as he said, the benefit of our impassioned speeches (*Laughter*).

Now, when we come to the question of fragmentation, we are also dealing with the question of policy as regards the future of our rubber estates. The first misunderstanding came from the *Yang Berhormat* the Member from Seremban Timor when he accused my friend the Member from Bungsar of trying to preach Communism. Well, when a person is trying to do his duty, he should not be accused of motives which may be illegal and if in his duty my friend has tried to preach some ideology. I must say that the Honourable Member from Seremban Timor is a very clear example of the ideology of opportunism (*Laughter*).

Mr. Chin See Yin: May I explain, Sir?

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: I will not give way, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: No, he is not giving way.

Mr. Chin See Yin: He is immature. (*Laughter*).

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: We have only to listen to his argument to see the history of his public activity within this House and outside this House to know what I mean.

Mr. Speaker: You should not go into the character of a person. I rule you out.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: I referred to him in reference to his political activity. But I apologise, as I suppose in his case political and personal activities come together. He stated quite clearly just now that fragmentation will help the people and it brings about a more equal distribution of wealth. Well, in the first place, the Honourable Member from Bungsar made it quite clear that this question of more equality of wealth may be quite different from the equality of distribution of wealth. Then, of course, the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and, of course, the smaller Ministers behind (*Laughter*) stood up saying that we have been contradictory.

Mr. Speaker: They are Assistant Ministers: do not call them small Ministers (*Laughter*).

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Well, the Honourable Assistant Ministers behind (*Laughter*) have stated that "Oh, the Socialist Front is against big estates and they are also against smallholders" but I find that the other members of the Government on the other side of the House standing up and clearly stating "Ah, we have done a good job"—for example, the Member from Selatan Utara who stated . . . (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker: There is no Member for Selatan Utara.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Sorry, Seberang Utara, who stated that in fact an estate was bought for \$2,500,000 for a co-operative and he said: "Look, what a wonderful example of fragmentation." Yes, we say "Bravo, in that case wonderful." But let us look at the other estates—for example, in the south of Province Wellesley where estates were purchased and where a certain person made over four million dollars in two or three months, and in another case somebody made \$3½ million, and yet in another case somebody paid a deposit of \$30,000 on an estate and he made \$1½ million—at other areas where the estates have not been bought up by co-operatives. In such instances, can we say that

there has been good done and the co-operatives have bought these estates? So, we have certain contradictions. It is accepted by the Government Bench that we must have free enterprise, and what we ask for is controlled enterprise. There ought to be no such thing as absolute freedom when we come to something like a national industry such as the rubber industry—of course, if the other side believes in free enterprise we must state that free enterprise be under proper control. Otherwise, it might get out of control. The land price may skyrocket; there will be slaughter tapping in times of boom; there will be no replanting; and when a slump comes the estates are closed down, weed starts growing and when a boom comes again there will be no estate left to be tapped. In such instances, we ask that there should be control. Now, is it true that the Socialist Front is against the smallholders because there are certain speeches made here? Well, I would refer to the policy statement of the Socialist Front which obviously the other side has not read.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Not in this House.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Mr. Speaker, it seems that the other side is very fond of interruptions.

Mr. Speaker: May I appeal to the House that there should be fewer interruptions.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Yes, Sir, I agree with you entirely (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker: Whether you agree or not, it is my order (*Laughter*). Proceed.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: We say that it is true that from smallholdings we get groups of estates which sometimes appear in the form of co-operatives in a controlled economy, and in monopoly concerns in a free economy. It is our hope that when an estate has moved to that category it will finally move itself under State control—that does not mean to say that we are against the smallholders. For example, in Pahang, the Government itself has set up a scheme in the new land replanting areas where several persons are given

certain number of acres of land in which to plant rubber and these people are organised under co-operatives in the belief that by having one big organisation the smallholder can survive better, and to his greater advantage. We believe that if there is any estate to be sold by the foreign companies the Government should take steps to prevent its sale except to an organ set up by the Government at prices fixed by the Government and payments by instalments to be decided by the Government so that these estates are not broken up. The ultimate advantage of a big estate under co-operative control or under State control is this: that we do get the greatest benefit for the greatest number. In this sense, where the State controls the estates, the benefits go back to the people, and where the monopolies control the estates the benefit goes into the pockets of the monopolists.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: He is preaching Socialism.

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: Yes; we are trying to distinguish why there has been so much misunderstanding on this motion and why there has been apparent contradiction. There is in fact no contradiction. We are asking that the Government set up a Select Committee to investigate into the problems of fragmentation in order to control it properly and remove its evils. If you all agree to fragmentation, you must agree also that the evils must be removed, and I do not think that we need make our stand clearer than I have made it to-day.

Mr. Speaker: Would you like to exercise your right of reply?

Mr. V. Veerappen (Seberang Selatan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as several Honourable Members have pointed out, certain Honourable Members have looked at the wrong end of my motion. (*Laughter*).

As it has been explained, I call for a Committee of Investigation to control further fragmentation, and control is in so many ways. We have so many types of control—we have movement control, food control, traffic control, birth control (*Laughter*) and so many other controls—and I do not see why

Honourable Members should be against a Committee to control fragmentation, especially when the Government itself knows that this is a problem, and has admitted that this is a problem, as can be seen from the fact that it set up a Committee in 1957. But did it implement its recommendations?

Talking of controls, we all want to have controls (*Interruption*.)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order!

Mr. V. Veerappen: I just want to give an example, and that is, if we want to have a better transport system in Kuala Lumpur, can we allow all sorts of buses, all sorts of cars and all sorts of traffic to come to Kuala Lumpur without any traffic control, without any traffic lights? Naturally, we do not want that. I am just asking for a Committee, Sir, and where do I disagree with the Government? The Government has set up a Committee, but that is its own Committee whereas I have asked for a Select Committee. The fact is that my motion was 10 days before the Government's motion, and that is why I said the Government was trying to sabotage. But the Honourable Assistant Minister said it was nonsense. I will leave it to Honourable Members themselves to conclude whether it was nonsense or not nonsense. The thing is this: in 1957 the Government itself set up a Committee, and that Committee consisted of:

- The Commissioner for Land,
- The Director of Agriculture,
- The Commissioner of Labour,
- The Chairman of Government Rubber Replanting Board,
- The Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources, and
- The Controller, Exports Commodities Division.

What is the difference between this and what was announced just now? Instead of Controller, it is the representative of the Minister. Therefore, I put it to the House that there is no difference in the structure of this Committee. If the 1957 report was not accepted and implemented, I do not see what the present Committee can do. Sir, that is why I am asking the House to appoint

a Select Committee of this House who are elected representatives of the people. I am sure we have a duty to discharge. We shall deal with it impartially. I am asking for this, and I do not see why the Government should fight shy of this. Is it because of the opinion that Members of this House are not capable of discharging their duty in that respect? This is the first Select Committee of this Parliament I am asking, but even that I think will be turned down. (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker: How do you know that—I have not taken the vote yet. (*Laughter*).

Mr. V. Veerappen: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not asking for something out of the blue; I am not asking for things which I have only thought of: in fact, Sir, I am only trying to give expression here to things which have already been said. In fact, just now you would have heard from the Minister of Labour that there is no law to control fragmentation. Well, we are trying to give him that law. Why should the House be against it? Why should anyone be against it? On 3rd December, 1958, he said in the former Legislative Council, as Minister of Natural Resources, "Government has at present no legal powers to prevent free transfer of land and has therefore taken no steps to prevent fragmentation." Because it has no legal powers, it has taken no steps. In other words, Honourable Members, the Minister admitted then that there was a case against fragmentation but because there were no legal powers he could not take steps. Now, what am I asking for? I am asking for a Committee to see if we can give the legal powers to the Minister. That is all I am asking for. I am not saying that it be stopped; I am not asking for prohibition.

Several Honourable Members have said that fragmentation does not bring about unemployment: I have here certain figures from the 1956 statistics pamphlet. In 1952, it says, there were 318,000 people employed on rubber estates; in 1954 there were only 297,000. That shows a shortage of 20,000. Now I ask Honourable Members what

happened to these 20,000 people between 1952 and 1954?

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: They have become smallholders. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! Please proceed.

Mr. V. Veerappen: Now, if they have become smallholders, would the Government say that they have 20,000 new titles registered? And the other thing is that if the Government itself cannot furnish evidence, what evidence has the Government to say that fragmentation is not a problem. You see, Sir, on 2nd October, 1957, the then Minister of Natural Resources said—it is on column 3260 of the last Council Debates—that 50,000 was the number of acres fragmented and then on column 3378—that was on 13th November—the same person is attributed to have said 34,549 acres. So, you see at first it was 50,000 and then it was 34,549. They do not know what they are talking about, because they do not have facts. What I am asking for is a Committee of Enquiry into this to help the country to know the actual situation. The Committee may recommend that fragmentation is very good, but we are of the opinion that it is not so very good because it causes difficulties to others. Other countries, Ceylon for example—I have got the Ceylon Control of Fragmentation Act with me here—have seen the evils, the flaws and they have passed legislation controlling it. Here the Minister himself says that he has no legal powers—that is why we are trying to help him (*Laughter*).

I would quote here from the 1958 Labour Report—in fact, every year the Labour Department makes a report—the Report is almost the same in this respect as the report on fragmentation:

“In one respect fragmentation is undesirable because it means that there can be no control over the housing and ancillary facilities provided on such smallholdings.”

And then it says—

“From the end of 1955, a number of large estates have been sold and sub-divided into smallholdings. In this process little regard was had for the labour force formerly employed.”

Now, this is the Government's own statement—the Labour Department. I leave it to Honourable Members to

think of it for themselves. And it says there:

“Little regard was had for the Labour Force formerly employed by the large estates, and in many cases such workers were compelled to seek employment elsewhere.”

And now, Sir, I come to this question of economic effect. Just now, the Minister himself said he is not an economic expert. I am not, either. But he referred to certain economic facts. Here I have got a Report from the World Bank on the Economic Development of Malaya—the Mission organised by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in September, 1955. It says, Sir:

“Fragmentation leads to uneconomic holdings, concealed unemployment, increased indebtedness, reduced productivity of the land.”

I wonder whether there is anybody who wants to challenge this Mission's statement. I have already quoted before a statement by one of the senior lecturers in the University of Malaya who has made extensive research on this matter of fragmentation.

Well, Sir, several Honourable Members and Ministers have referred to the fact that there is an employers' association—the M.P.I.E.A.—and that there is a workers' union. Of course we will not believe, and I am sure they do not agree that the M.P.I.E.A. represents all estates, least of all fragmented estates. If the estates are broken up, how can they be members of the M.P.I.E.A.? Does the Government mean that all those people who bought the fragmented estates become members of the M.P.I.E.A.? Secondly, where estates have been fragmented, the workers, since they cannot afford to pay their dues, automatically cease to become members of the union. Apart from that, I am sure Honourable Members here know that the National Union of Plantation Workers have made constant fights, especially in the last few months, against fragmentation and asking Government to take steps in this direction.

My Honourable friend from Seberang Utara—I do not know why he should bring in the question of the shifting of the capital from Nibong

Tebal to Sungei Bakap, but I leave it to him to get a reply from the Minister when he goes to Nibong Tebal. But it is not because of fragmentation that the shift was thought of, but because the opposition put up by the local people of Nibong Tebal in not allowing the capital to be shifted, and also the opposition put up by the people of Sungei Bakap in that they didn't want the capital shifted there, because their lands would be affected—but it was not as a result of fragmentation.

Last of all, I was asked to produce the names of people who had been concerned in fragmentation . . .

Mr. Lim Kean Siew: This is policy!

Mr. V. Veerappen: I was challenged. I would just like to conclude with this, Sir, and that is that at least in my area, almost the whole of the estates has been fragmented—that is, 11 out of 13 estates or 30,000 acres out of 40,000. Three-quarters of the area has been fragmented, and the effect has been very bad. Fragmentation has spread to Kedah, Perak and several other places, and I hope that a Select Committee of this House will be set up to consider the effects and make recommendations. I would just like to conclude that my very presence here in a way has been helped by fragmentation, in that the people of this place have been dissatisfied with the policy of the Alliance in allowing fragmentation to go on. (*Laughter*).

Question put, and negatived.

Mr. Speaker: I don't think we have time for Mr. David's motion, because I am sure he will take some time to introduce his motion—I have no doubt about that (*Laughter*) and I will therefore ask the Government to move the adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

Tun Abdul Razak: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move that the House do now adjourn.

Dato' Dr. Ismail: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Harun bin Pilus (Tréngganu Tengah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dan sidang Yang Bèrhormat sakalian, saya

dalam ucapan pènanggohan pada hari ini, suka mènarek pèrhatian kapada pehak Kerajaan ia-itu-lah bèrkènaan dèngan Pèrusahaan² Kèchil di-kampong². Saya rasa di-dalam mèmberì pèmandangan dan bagi sidang Majlis ini ia-itu bètapa rëndah-nya darjah hidup ra'ayat² di-kampong² dan kèrana kèlèman darjah hidup-nya di-kampong² itu-lah maka bèbèrapa ranchangan tèlah di-sèdikan oleh pehak Kèrajaan untuk mèniggikan darjah hidup ra'ayat² yang tèrutama sa-kali bagi di-luar² bandar. Maka dalam ranchangan² itu—Ranchangan Pèmbangunan Luar Bandar pehak Kèrajaan tèlah mènadakan ranchangan dèngan bèsaran² maka ini-lah saya suka mènarek pèrhatian kapada Pèrusahaan Kèchil di-kampong². Pèrusahaan² Kèchil di-kampong² ini tèlah bèbèrapa lama kita mèmperhatikan ada juga Kèrajaan mènadakan ranchangan² itu. Maka dalam masa ranchangan itu di-jalankan tidak nampak kita mèmberì apa² pèrubahan kapada ra'ayat² di-luar bandar atau di-kampong² itu, bahkan sa-makin sa-hari sa-makin banyak lagi kèmlaratan² di-kawasan² luar bandar. Dan bèbèrapa chontoh yang boleh di-katakan sèlalu tèrdapat ia-itu bèrkènaan dèngan kèchurian², rompak mèrompak, samun dan sa-bagai-nya. Maka ini, ada-lah mènunjokkan kènyataan yang di-kawasan² luar bandar atau di-kampong² itu ada-lah pènyakit pèndèritaan hidup itu ada-lah mëndalam. Maka sangat-lah elok kalau sa-kira-nya Kèrajaan mènarek pèrhatian yang bèrat dalam mèmbera Pèrusahaan² Kèchil di-kampong² dèngan mèmberì alat² yang mènasabah untuk mèmbera pèrusahaan itu bukan-lah dèngan chara campaign, tiori² dan sharahan² sahaja. Kèrana apa, di-kampong² yang kè-banyakan mèreka ada-lah kèkurangan alat untuk mèmbera pèrusahaan² sapèrti machine kèchil untuk di-boleh mèmbangunkan mèmbuat sa-suatu Pèrusahaan Kèchil dèngan bèrsèndirian. Maka ini-lah bènda yang sangat² mustahak bagi orang di-kawasan luar bandar.

Sa-lain daripada jalan² pèrhubongannya yang sangat² mustahak maka ada-lah supaya di-baiki Pèrusahaan² Kèchil

di-kampung, itu-lah yang pertama-nya untuk menambah mata pencarian hidup sa-hari². Dan sa-lain daripada itu juga latehan² kapada anak² muda yang tidak ada kesempatan hendak melanjutkan pelajaran-nya yang lebih tinggi lagi itu pun beberapa banyak menganggor di-kampung² dan mereka itu tidak dapat menentukan ka-arrah mana yang mereka akan hidup. Terutama sekali bekas² sekolah² rendah jenis umum (kebangsaan), mereka ini tidak ada peluang untuk pergi belajar atau pun melanjutkan pelajaran yang lebih tinggi. Maka dari itu juga mereka tidak sanggup bekerja dengan satu kerja yang boleh di-pertanggungkan maka di-situ-lah timbul-nya penganggoran dan kemelantaran. Maka Perusahaan² Kecil, jika di-beri satu pimpinan yang tegas dan di-beri modal² dengan bantuan benda² yang menasabah maka saya rasa tentu-lah dengan chara ini dapat perubahan yang baik daripada satu masa kapada satu masa. Kerana walau bagaimana maju-nya Perskutuan Tanah Melayu ini, walau bagaimana besar-nya Ibu Kota Kuala Lumpur ini dengan electict-nya, jalan² raya-nya, selagi penyakit masyarakat di-kampung² itu tidak di-ubati dengan sunggo²h maka itu-lah puncha-nya kemelantaran yang berpanjangan bagi orang² di-Tanah Melayu ini. Saya rasa dengan sebab itu, saya sangat-lah berharap kapada pihak Kerajaan yang berkenaan untuk menyelami lebih dalam lagi dari segenap segi mata pencarian hidup ra'ayat² di-kampung². Sakian-lah ucapan saya.

Mr. Ng Ann Teck (Batu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, and Honourable Members, the cream of Malayan youth who are urgently needed for the building of our nation are not being properly channelled or utilised by our Government. We find that the Malayan youth of our country, some thousands of them, are practically lost to this country in the policy formulation and execution stage. In spite of Malay being the national language, thousands of school children attending the Sekolah Kebangsaan find that there is no place for them at secondary level. Those lucky few who do get a chance to go to a Secondary School find that they have been led to a fool's paradise, because there is no

university, etc., whereby they can have a "finish" to their education. This prevents them from serving the country in the top bracket of the Government. Through no fault of their own, the country is being penalised in the sense that the cream of the Malayan educated youths are debarred from serving the country in a more useful way.

There is the same problem with the Chinese educated youths in this country during the last few years. The cream of our vernacular educated youths are lost to us, but a few years back the Chinese fortunately realised this situation and they set out to get a University whose medium of instruction in the main is Chinese, and where the students could also have a knowledge of English and Malay. Support for it was more or less spontaneous and finance rolled in from big philanthropists, commercial firms, the poor trishaw riders and petty shopkeepers, and which eventually made the Nanyang University a reality.

We find that more than 60 per cent of its 1,900 odd students come from the Federation. These youths with neither financial aid nor normal aid, from the Government are struggling their way through hoping that one day they will be able to do their bit for this country. Instead of being appreciative, what has the Government done? It chose to do nothing about this but goes round crying that the future of our country is in the hands of the youths and the youths must have undivided loyalty to this country, etc. What is the use of crying about this when the youths, in their endeavour to equip themselves better for their future, find that the Government is not only penny wise and pound foolish but also is so mute that they cannot even voice words of encouragement.

Singapore, most unfortunately separated from the Federation, because of political bias, has already set up an admirable State by tapping as well as refilling its resources by youths—youths from the vernacular educated. Without talking too much they have granted free education from primary right up to the university level to all Malays.

Mr. Speaker: You have one minute more to go.

Mr. Ng Ann Teck: They have already employed some Nanyang University graduates, actively helping them to put things right. What is the Federation Government's answer to this? The Government should without further delay take steps to improve the chances for secondary education in Malay and make preparations for higher studies in that language. With regard to the Nanyang University, the Government should make its stand clear and if any change are required, it be advised to make it known so that the feasibility of the changes required may be assessed. The Government should also grant financial aid to at least our own youths who are going there to equip themselves to serve this country. Thank you.

Tun Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagi menjawab pandangan yang di-datangkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Trëngganu Tëngah, saya suka mënërangkan bahawa përkara Pëmbangunan Luar Bandar tëläh masok dalam ranchangan Kërajaan atau Ranchangan Këmajuan Luar Bandar yang Kërajaan tëläh pun mëmberi këtutamaan yang tinggi sàkali. Oleh itu, saya përchaya dëngan kërjasama dari pëhak Kërajaan Përsëkutuan dan Kërajaan Nëgëri dapatlah ranchangan² di-jalankan sa-bërapa yang boleh bagi mëmberna këadaan di-kampung² dan juga mëmberi përtolongan kapada përusahaan² yang patut di-jalankan di-kampung².

Enche' Abdul Rahman: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Batu has touched upon the subject of secondary education for the Malays, but I think he is driving more towards the financing of the Nanyang University. I think the Honourable Member has misconceived the ways in which Government funds should properly be spent, especially how can they be spent abroad outside this country.

There are many Malayan students in educational institutions to-day all over the world and the Government cannot accept the general principle that when a Malayan student attends an institution abroad outside the Federation either that institution or the student must be subsidised from the funds of the Federation Government. Sir, no Government could accept a liability of this kind. Of course, the Government does offer scholarships to selected students to go abroad for higher education and training. Those scholarships are given for special purposes and the holders of these awards are required to undertake to serve the Government on their return to Malaya. Also institutions of higher education in many parts of the Commonwealth reserve a certain number of places for students from other parts of the Commonwealth. This is the normal and welcomed role of Commonwealth co-operation in the educational field, but the establishment of such a quota does not carry with it any obligation on individual territories to subsidise educational institutions outside their own jurisdiction.

Sir, this morning some Honourable Members opposite tried to prevent my Ministry from obtaining funds to spend on education for our own children in Malaya. Now they are asking me to spend money on a non-Malayan educational institution outside this country. Sir, where does their loyalty lie? How serious are they in their desire to build up Malayan education for our children within Malaya? I am quite sure that all true citizens of this country will agree with me that educational charity such as that referred to by the Honourable Member should begin at home. (Applause).

Mr. Speaker: The House adjourns till 10.00 a.m. to-morrow.

House adjourned at 4.55 p.m.