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No. 15**



**Hari Selasa
14hb November, 1967**

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PARLIMEN
DEWAN RA'AYAT YANG KEDUA
PENGKAL KEEMPAT
PENYATA RASMI**

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DEWAN RA'AYAT YANG KEDUA

PENGGAL YANG KEEMPAT

Penyata Rasmi

Hari Selasa, 14hb November, 1967

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YANG HADHIR :

- Yang Berhormat Tuan Yang di-Pertua, DATO' CHIK MOHAMED YUSUF BIN SHEIKH ABDUL RAHMAN, S.P.M.P., J.P., Dato' Bendahara, Perak.
- „ Perdana Menteri dan Menteri Hal Ehwal Luar Negeri, Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ, K.O.M. (Kuala Kedah).
- „ Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Menteri Pertahanan, Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri dan Menteri Pembangunan Negara dan Luar Bandar, TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK BIN DATO' HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).
- „ Menteri Kewangan, TUN TAN SIEW SIN, S.S.M., J.P. (Melaka Tengah).
- „ Menteri Pengangkutan, TAN SRI HAJI SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR, P.M.N. (Pontian Utara).
- „ Menteri Pelajaran, TUAN MOHAMED KHIR JOHARI (Kedah Tengah).
- „ Menteri Kesihatan, TUAN BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN (Kuala Pilah).
- „ Menteri Perdagangan dan Perusahaan, DR LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).
- „ Menteri Kebajikan 'Am, TUAN HAJI ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN, J.M.N., J.P. (Batang Padang).
- „ Menteri Kerajaan Tempatan dan Perumahan, TUAN KHAW KAI-BOH, P.J.K. (Ulu Selangor).
- „ Menteri Hal Ehwal Sarawak, TAN SRI TEMENGGONG JUGAH ANAK BARIENG, P.M.N., P.D.K. (Sarawak).
- „ Menteri Buroh, TUAN V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Kelang).
- „ Menteri Penerangan dan Penyiaran dan Menteri Kebudayaan, Belia dan Sukan, TUAN SENU BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Kubang Pasu Barat).
- „ Menteri Hal Ehwal Tanah dan Galian dan Menteri Ke'adilan, DATO' HAJI ABDUL-RAHMAN BIN YA'KUB (Sarawak).
- „ Menteri Muda Kebudayaan, Belia dan Sukan, ENSKU MUHSEIN BIN ABDUL KADIR, J.M.N., S.M.T., P.J.K. (Trengganu Tengah).
- „ Menteri Muda Kewangan, DR NG KAM POH, J.P. (Teluk Anson).
- „ Menteri Muda Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri, TUAN HAMZAH BIN DATO' ABU SAMAH (Raub).

- Yang Berhormat Setia-usaha Parlimen kepada Menteri Kesihatan,
TUAN IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN, J.M.N. (Seberang Tengah).
- „ Setia-usaha Parlimen kepada Menteri Buroh,
TUAN LEE SAN CHOON, K.M.N. (Segamat Selatan).
- „ Setia-usaha Parlimen kepada Menteri Kewangan,
TUAN ALI BIN HAJI AHMAD (Pontian Selatan).
- „ Setia-usaha Parlimen kepada Timbalan Perdana Menteri,
TUAN CHEN WING SUM (Damansara).
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- „ TUAN ABDUL KARIM BIN ABU, A.M.N. (Melaka Selatan).
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(Kuala Trengganu Utara).
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(Sarawak).
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- „ TUAN ABDUL RAZAK BIN HAJI HUSSIN (Lipis).
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di-Raja (Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
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RAHMAN, P.P.T. (Rawang).
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A.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S. (Segamat Utara).
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- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SA'AID, J.P. (Seberang Utara).
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- „ PENGARAH BANYANG ANAK JANTING, P.B.S. (Sarawak).
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- „ TUAN CHIA CHIN SHIN, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN FRANCIS CHIA NYUK TONG (Sabah).
- „ TUAN CHIN FOON (Ulu Kinta).
- „ TUAN D. A. DAGO ANAK RANDAN *alias* DAGO ANAK RANDEN,
A.M.N. (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN C. V. DEVAN NAIR (Bungsar).
- „ TUAN EDWIN ANAK TANGKUN (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, J.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S.
(Batu Pahat Dalam).
- „ DATIN HAJAH FATIMAH BINTI HAJI ABDUL MAJID
(Johor Bahru Timor).
- „ TAN SRI FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM, P.M.N.
(Jitra-Padang Terap).
- „ TUAN S. FAZUL RAHMAN, A.D.K. (Sabah).

Yang Berhormat DATU GANIE GILONG, P.D.K., J.P. (Sabah).

- „ TUAN GEH CHONG KEAT, K.M.N. (Pulau Pinang Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Kapar).
- „ TUAN HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N., J.P. (Kulim Utara).
- „ TUAN HANAFIAH BIN HUSSAIN, A.M.N. (Jerai).
- „ WAN HASSAN BIN WAN DAUD (Tumpat).
- „ TUAN STANLEY HO NGUN KHIU, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ DATO' HAJI HUSSEIN BIN MOHD. NOORDIN, D.P.M.P., A.M.N., P.J.K. (Parit).
- „ TUAN HUSSEIN BIN SULAIMAN (Ulu Kelantan).
- „ TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN, S.M.K., J.P. (Kota Bharu Hulu).
- „ TUAN IKHWAN ZAINI, K.M.N. (Sarawak).
- „ TUN DR ISMAIL BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, S.S.M., P.M.N. (Johor Timor).
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- „ TAN SRI SYED JA'AFAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, P.M.N. (Johor Tenggara).
- „ PENGHULU JINGGUT ANAK ATTAN, K.M.N., Q.M.C., A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN KADAM ANAK KIAI (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN KAM WOON WAH, J.P. (Sitiawan).
- „ TUAN KHOO PENG LOONG (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN LEE SECK FUN, K.M.N. (Tanjong Malim).
- „ DR LIM CHONG EU (Tanjong).
- „ TUAN LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).
- „ TUAN LIM PEE HUNG, P.J.K. (Alor Star).
- „ DR MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD (Kota Star Selatan).
- „ TUAN T. MAHIMA SINGH, J.M.N., J.P. (Port Dickson).
- „ TUAN JOSEPH DAVID MANJAJI (Sabah).
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- „ DATO' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA, S.P.M.K. (Pasir Puteh).
- „ TUAN MOHD. DAUD BIN ABDUL SAMAD (Besut).
- „ TUAN MOHAMED IDRIS BIN MATSIL, J.M.N., P.J.K., J.P. (Jelebu-Jempol).
- „ TUAN MOHD. TAHIR BIN ABDUL MAJID, S.M.S., P.J.K. (Kuala Langat).
- „ TUAN HAJI MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- „ TUAN MOHD. ZAHIR BIN HAJI ISMAIL, J.M.N. (Sungai Petani).
- „ WAN MOKHTAR BIN AHMAD (Kemaman).
- „ TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- „ TUAN MUHAMMAD FAKHRUDDIN BIN HAJI ABDULLAH (Pasir Mas Hilir).

- Yang Berhormat DATO' HAJI MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ABDUL JABAR, D.P.M.S., A.M.N., J.P. (Sabak Bernam).
- „ TUAN MUSTAPHA BIN AHMAD (Tanah Merah).
- „ TAN SRI NIK AHMAD KAMIL, D.K., S.P.M.K., S.J.M.K., P.M.N., P.Y.G.P., Dato' Sri Setia Raja (Kota Bharu Hilir).
- „ TUAN NG FAH YAM (Batu Gajah).
- „ TUAN ONG KEE HUI (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN HAJI OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Hilir Perak).
- „ TUAN OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Perlis Utara).
- „ TUAN QUEK KAI DONG, J.P. (Seremban Timor).
- „ TUAN HAJI RAHMAT BIN HAJI DAUD, A.M.N. (Johor Bahru Barat).
- „ TUAN RAMLI BIN OMAR (Krian Darat).
- „ TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID, P.J.K., J.P. (Rembau-Tampin).
- „ RAJA ROME BIN RAJA MA'AMOR, P.J.K., J.P. (Kuala Selangor).
- „ TUAN SANDOM ANAK NYUAK (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN SEAH TENG NGIAB, S.M.J., P.I.S. (Muar Pantai).
- „ DATO' S. P. SEENIVASAGAM, D.P.M.P., P.M.P., J.P. (Menglembu).
- „ TUAN SIM BOON LIANG, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN SIOW LOONG HIN, P.J.K. (Seremban Barat).
- „ TUAN SENAWI BIN ISMAIL, P.J.K. (Seberang Selatan).
- „ TUAN SNG CHIN JOO (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN SOH AH TECK (Batu Pahat).
- „ TUAN SULEIMAN BIN ALI (Dungun).
- „ TUAN SULEIMAN BIN HAJI TAIB (Krian Laut).
- „ TUAN TAJUDIN BIN ALI, P.J.K. (Larut Utara).
- „ TUAN TAI KUAN YANG, A.M.N. (Kulim Bandar Bharu).
- „ TUAN TAMA WENG TINGGANG WAN (Sarawak).
- „ DR TAN CHEE KHOON (Batu).
- „ TUAN TAN TOH HONG (Bukit Bintang).
- „ TUAN TAN TSAK YU (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN TIAH ENG BEE (Kluang Utara).
- „ TUAN TOH THEAM HOCK (Kampar).
- „ TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB, P.J.K. (Langat).

YANG TIADA HADHIR:

- Yang Berhormat Menteri Kerja Raya, Pos dan Talikom,
TUN V. T. SAMBANTHAN, S.S.M., P.M.N. (Sungai Siput).
- „ Menteri Pertanian dan Sharikat Kerjasama, TUAN HAJI MOHD. GHAZALI BIN HAJI JAWI (Ulu Perak).
- „ Menteri Muda Ta' Berjabatan, TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN (Kota Star Utara).
- „ Menteri Muda Pembangunan Negara dan Luar Bandar, TUAN SULAIMAN BIN BULON, P.J.K. (Bagan Datoh).
- „ Menteri Muda Pelajaran, TUAN LEE SIOK YEW, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Sepang).

- Yang Berhormat TUAN ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI TALIB, P.J.K. (Kuantan).
 „ TUAN HAJI ABU BAKAR BIN HAMZAH, J.P. (Bachok).
 „ O.K.K. DATU ALIUDDIN BIN DATU HARUN, P.D.K. (Sabah).
 „ TUAN GANING BIN JANGKAT (Sabah).
 „ TUAN HARUN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N., J.P. (Baling).
 „ TUAN THOMAS KANA, K.M.N. (Sarawak).
 „ TUAN EDMUND LANGGU ANAK SAGA (Sarawak).
 „ TUAN AMADEUS MATHEW LEONG, A.D.K., J.P. (Sabah).
 „ DATO' LING BENG SIEW, P.N.B.S. (Sarawak).
 „ TUAN PETER LO SU YIN (Sabah).
 „ TUAN C. JOHN ONDU MAJAKIL (Sabah).
 „ ORANG TUA MOHAMMAD DARA BIN LANGPAD (Sabah).
 „ TUAN HAJI MUHAMMAD SU'AUT BIN HAJI MUHD. TAHIR, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
 „ TUN MUSTAPHA BIN DATU HARUN, S.M.N., P.D.K. (Sabah).
 „ TUAN D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
 „ PENGIRAN TAHIR PETRA (Sabah).
 „ TUAN TAN CHENG BEE, A.M.N., J.P. (Bagan).
 „ TUAN TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Melaka).
 „ TUAN YEH PAO TZE, A.M.N. (Sabah).
 „ TUAN STEPHEN YONG KUET TZE (Sarawak).
 „ TENGKU ZAID BIN TENGKU AHMAD (Pasir Mas Hulu).

PRAYERS

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

MENGANGKAT SUMPAH

Ahli Yang Berhormat yang tersebut dibawah ini telah mengangkat sumpah seperti yang di-sebutkan dalam Perlembagaan:

Nik Abdul Aziz bin Nik Mat.

MENGALU²KAN AHLI BAHARU

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Ahli² Yang Berhormat, saya suka mengambil peluang mengucapkan selamat datang kepada sa-orang Ahli baharu, ia-itu Yang Berhormat Nik Abdul Aziz bin Nik Mat ka-Majlis ini. Ia telah dipilih menjadi Ahli bagi kawasan pilihan raya Kelantan Hilir pada 21hb Oktober, 1967, sa-bagai mengisi kekosongan yang telah di-sebabkan oleh kematian Yang Berhormat Allah Yarham Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Abdullah pada 1hb September, 1967 (*Tepok*).

PERTANYAAN² BAGI JAWAB MULUT

PERANAN PARTI BUROH DALAM MALAYSIA

1. Dato' Haji Mustapha bin Haji Abdul Jabar (Sabak Bernam) bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri, memandangnya bahawa pehak Polis baharu² ini menyerbu pejabat² Parti Buroh di-antara-nya sa-buah pejabat di-Tampoi, merampas risalah² sabersib dan gambar² Mao Tse Tung dan kemudian menangkap 14 orang ahli Parti Buroh yang terlibat, ada-kah Kerajaan akan menimbang sa-mula peranan **Parti Buroh** sa-bagai sa-buah Parti **siasah** yang merbahaya kepada negara.

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, memang saya sedar bahawa Parti Buroh itu ada-lah bertindak dan bekerjasama dengan Parti Komunis dan juga Kerajaan telah mengambil siasat dan telah menangkap Ahli² yang bergerak chergas di-dalam pergerakan keganasan komunis itu, tetapi tidak-lah Kerajaan ada berchadang hendak

menutup parti itu atau dengan cara mengharamkan parti itu, kerana didalam siasatan Kerajaan ada banyak parti² lagi yang bersimpati, atau pun bergerak bersama dengan komunis. Jadi jikalau kita ambil tindakan atas Parti Buroh terpaksa di-ambil tindakan di-atas parti² lain juga. Dengan kerana itu Kerajaan pada hari ini chuma-nya mengambil langkah menangkap orang² yang ganas itu sahaja, tetapi sunggoh pun begitu sa-kira-nya parti² itu melangkah batasan yang halal dan menjalankan tindakan keras bersama dengan komunis harus Kerajaan kena mengambil langkah mengharamkan parti² itu, tetapi bagi sekarang ini tidak-lah ada chadangan itu lagi.

Dato' Mustapha bin Haji Abdul Jabar: Untuk penjelasan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Ada-kah pehak polis hanya mengadakan serbuan² ka-pejabat² Parti Buroh sahaja, tetapi mengapakah tidak menjalankan serbuan pada rumah² pemimpin Parti Buroh kalau kita dapati ada lebih banyak risalah² sabersib atau pun gambar² Mao Tse Tung, mithal-nya, di-rumah² Ahli daripada Batu, atau pun Ahli daripada Dato Kramat.

Perdana Menteri: Memang kalau ada keterangan kita akan jalankan dan kita pada hari ini tahu segala gerak geri kelab² Parti Buroh di-Pulau Pinang baik, di-Selangor baik, dan juga di-Johor.

Tuan Ramli bin Omar (Krian Darat): Soalan tambahan. Daripada 14 orang ahli² Parti Buroh yang ditangkap itu ada-kah Kerajaan akan menimbangkan sa-mula tentang kera-ayatan-nya sa-kira-nya mereka itu menjadi ra'ayat kita daripada saloran memohon?

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jikalau orang² itu menjadi ra'ayat kita tidak boleh buat apa² di-atas kera'ayatan-nya.

Dato' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda (Pasir Puteh): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, soalan tambahan. Boleh-kah saya dapat tahu apa-kah nama-nya parti² lain yang di-sebutkan oleh Yang

Teramat Mulia Tunku tadi di-sifatkan sa-bagai bekerjasama, atau chenderong kapada kominis sa-lain daripada Parti Buroh?

Perdana Menteri: Tidak boleh saya bagi tahu di-sini takut dia orang nanti tutup pintu dia orang (*Ketawa*).

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Untuk penjelasan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-antara parti² lain ini ada parti UMNO?

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Itu soalan tambahan atau apa?

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Soalan tambahan.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Soalan tambahan?

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Ya.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Begitu bunyi?

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Antara parti² lain yang di-sebutkan oleh Yang Berhormat Perdana Menteri termasuk Parti UMNO?

Perdana Menteri: Parti UMNO tidak. UMNO berdiri tetap, tetapi kalau ahli² UMNO di-pujuk masok, yang itu saya tidak dapat tahu (*Ketawa*).

Dato' S. P. Seenivasagam (Menglembu): Supplementary question, Mr Speaker, Sir, particularly as a matter of interest. Is there any law which has declared that it is an offence

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Saya suka kalau Ahli Yang Berhormat itu hendak berchakap dalam bahasa Inggeris, sebutkan dengan izin saya dahulu.

Dato' S. P. Seenivasagam: I beg your pardon, Sir.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: If you wish to speak in English, you have got to ask my permission first.

Dato' S. P. Seenivasagam: Thank you, Sir. I thought that this was covered by the *Gazette* Notification.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: No.

Dato' S. P. Seenivasagam: I am extremely sorry. May I have permission to speak in English, Sir?

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Yes.

Dato' S. P. Seenivasagam: Thank you (*Laughter*). Mr Speaker, Sir, is there any law which has declared that the possession of a photograph of Mao Tse Tung is a subversive act, or that it is an offence to possess a photograph of Mao Tse Tung?

Perdana Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, it all depends on how that photograph is displayed. If it is just displayed in the privacy of one's home, I do not think there is any law against it. If it is displayed in a public place and at the same time accompanied by protestations of loyalty to Mao Tse Tung, then there is certainly a law to deal with that.

Tuan Ramli bin Omar: Ada-kah parti² siasah yang mengimpot idea² dari luar negeri di-anggap merbahaya kepada kedudukan negeri kita?

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, luar negeri ini bermacham². Ada negeri yang bersefahaman dengan kita, atau kita bersefahaman dengan-nya dan ada yang kita tidak bersefahaman dengan dia dan ada yang chuba hendak menganchamkan kita. Jadi propaganda yang datang daripada negeri yang mengancham kita memang-lah kita mesti mengambil tindakan yang keras di-atas perkara yang sa-umpama itu.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tadi Perdana Menteri berkata sa-kira-nya gambar Enche' Mao Tse Tung di-tunjokkan di-bangunan Parti Buroh, perbuatan itu sudah melanggar undang² di-negeri ini. Kalau sa-kira-nya itu di-adakan mengapa Kerajaan Pusat tidak membawa ahli² Parti Buroh itu ka-mahkamah?

Perdana Menteri: Itu saya tidak tahu, kalau ada patut di-bawa. Tolong bagi tahu kepada pehak Kerajaan, kita boleh-lah tangkap orang², ketua², termasuk dia sendiri. (*Ketawa*).

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Kalau begitu Kerajaan Pusat hendak Parti Buroh menunjokkan ahli² itu, bolehkah saya bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri, chawangan khas (Special Branch) yang di-adakan sekarang tidor-kah atau bangun?

Perdana Menteri: Yang itu dia boleh jawab sendiri. Saya tidak tahu hendak jawab tidor, atau bangun atau apa dia kata (*Ketawa*).

TUNTUTAN KAUM WANITA MENDAPAT HAK² SAMA DENGAN KAUM LAKI²

2. Tuan Abdul Razak bin Haji Hussain (Lipis): bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri.

(a) ada-kah beliau sedar bahawa pada waktu akhir² ini, tuntutan kaum wanita hendak mendapat hak² yang sama seperti kaum laki² telah di-suarkan dengan lebeh nyaring lagi dalam Perhimpunan Hari Wanita, Perhimpunan² Siasah dan dalam Badan² Kebajikan; dan

(b) ada-kah Kerajaan berchadang memberi peluang kepada wanita menjalankan peranan² yang lebeh chergas lagi dalam pertubohan² Kerajaan, mithal-nya menjadi Menteri² Kabinet, Menteri² Muda, Setia-usaha² Parlimen atau Ketua² Jabatan Kerajaan sa-kurang²-nya supaya mereka dapat membuktikan kecekapan dan kelayakan mereka.

Perdana Menteri: Jadi berkenaan soal ini bagi (a) yang bertanya ada-kah saya ini sedar bahawa waktu akhir² ini tuntutan kaum wanita hendak mendapat hak² yang sama seperti kaum laki² dan telah di-suarkan dengan nyaring, ada-kah saya sedar suara kaum ibu yang nyaring yang hendak meminta pangkat, atau taraf sama kaum bapa. Jawab saya, ya.

Jadi, berkenaan dengan (b) di-atas, Kerajaan berchadang hendak memberi peluang kepada wanita² menjalankan peranan² yang lebeh chergas, atau

penting lagi. Jadi, bagi pehak kita tidak ada pernah menahankan kaum ibu, atau wanita daripada bergerak chara chergas, baik pun dalam politik, dalam hal² pekerjaan dalam Kerajaan dan lain²-nya. Jadi, bahkan tidak ada larangan bagi kaum² ibu menjadi Perdana Menteri.

Jadi, di-atas tujuan yang besar ia-lah ada-kah kita ini hendak memberi kaum ibu ini taraf sama kaum bapa dalam jawatan Kerajaan. Jadi, itu biasa saya jawab kata pekerjaan yang sama memang-lah di-beri pandangan, atau pangkat yang sama, tetapi kebanyakan kaum ibu yang bekerja, wanita² yang bekerja dengan Kerajaan bukan-lah buat pekerjaan yang boleh kata sa-taraf dengan kaum bapa. Jadi, kesusahan-nya banyak berkenaan dengan kaum² ibu, lebeh² lagi apabila hendak menukarkan mereka pergi dari satu tempat ka-satu tempat. Jadi, terpaksa mereka hendak membawa suami mereka sama. Jadi, yang ini sudah buat jadi susah kapada Kerajaan di-mana di-hantar dia kena bawa suami dia pergi situ. Kalau tidak boleh bawa suami, dia tidak mahu pergi. Jadi, macham mana kita hendak timbang sama, mereka sendiri bukan sama. Kalau kita fikirkan di-atas keberatan mereka ini lain sadikit. Hendak jaga anak pun ada, hendak jaga laki pun ada, suami pun ada (*Ketawa*). Jadi, dengan kerana itu tidak dapat-lah kita hendak buat bagaimana yang kita kehendaki, tetapi tidak ada tegahan, atau larangan meletakkan mereka sama taraf dengan kaum bapa.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Ada-kah Perdana Menteri sedar Kerajaan Pusat telah berjanji mulai 1 haribulan Januari tahun 1968 kaum ibu yang memasoki kerja Kerajaan Pusat, Kerajaan Pusat telah berjanji akan memberi gaji bersama² dengan lelaki.

Perdana Menteri: Ini yang sa-benar-nya, tetapi ada sebut di-atas dasar, atau principle yang di-kata kalau di-buatkan kerjasama, ini berikan pandangan pangkat yang sama, atau taraf yang sama. Itu-lah yang

saya kata tadi, tetapi bukan-lah banyak kaum ibu yang menerima kerja sa-bagai pekerjaan laki², kalau dia bekerja sa-bagai pekerjaan laki² itu di-beri timbangan sama.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Sekarang Perdana Menteri berkata, kalau sa-kira-nya kaum ibu buat kerja bersama² dengan laki², Kerajaan boleh menimbang perkara ini, tetapi apabila Kerajaan Pusat memberi janji itu, Kerajaan Pusat tidak memberi syarat² yang di-sebutkan oleh Perdana Menteri bagitu. Ada-kah Yang Amat Berhormat Perdana Menteri sedar janji Kerajaan Pusat tidak guna?

Perdana Menteri: Nampak-nya sekarang Ahli Yang Berhormat jadi champion kaum ibu (*Ketawa*). Jadi, yang saya sebut itu betul, saya mengaku, nanti-lah kita akan buat dengan perlahan² sadikit (*Ketawa*).

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Ada-kah Perdana Menteri sedar 1 haribulan Januari, 1968, tidak berapa lama lagi, dan berapa lama lagi Kerajaan Pusat hendak menimbang perkara ini?

Tuan Muhammad Fakharuddin bin Haji Abdullah (Pasar Mas Hilir): Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Sa-bagaimana keterangan daripada Yang Berhormat Perdana Menteri tadi satu daripada sebab di-beri gaji sama itu ada-lah kerumitan² bagi pehak kaum ibu terutama sa-kali soal suami-nya. Apa kata, ada-kah Kerajaan mahu menimbang jikalau sa-kira-nya sa-orang perempuan itu dia sanggup tidak bersuami, sampai bila², sampai dia bersuami kemudian di-kira lain, ada-kah hendak di-timbang sa-orang perempuan yang tidak ada kesusahan, sa-orang diri, dia sanggup membujang barangkali sampai tua, dia sanggup hendak di-beri gaji sama dengan gaji laki²?

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sekarang pun ada bedza dalam jawatan Kerajaan antara single dengan married, atau pun yang dudok sa-orang diri dengan yang kahwin.

Dato' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ada-kah perbezaan itu meliputi semua jabatan² yang di-pegang oleh kaum wanita kita dalam Jabatan Kerajaan?

Perdana Menteri: Tidak, ada kaum wanita yang bekerja tempat kaum laki² dia dapat sama pertimbangan dan sama gaji dan pangkat. Bagaimana didalam Parlimen ini, dia jadi Ahli Parlimen dia tidak dapat kurang daripada kaum bapa (*Ketawa*).

Dato' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Maksud saya tadi apakala Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Perdana Menteri menyatakan bahawa kalau saking-lah dia itu tidak kahwin-lah umpama-nya, lain timbangan-nya dengan sa-orang perempuan yang telah bersuami. Ada-kah pertimbangan berlainan antara yang bersuami dengan tidak bersuami ini meliputi semua jabatan² Kerajaan di-mana kaum wanita itu memegang peranan didalam-nya?

Perdana Menteri: Ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, panjang sedikit saya hendak cerita hal itu di-sini. Jadi, jikalau bersetuju dengan Yang Berhormat, saya boleh dapat membuat satu surat dan memberi jawab yang tepat (*Ketawa*).

Tan Sri Fatimah binti Haji Hashim (Jitra-Padang Terap): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ada-kah Perdana Menteri ini sedar bahawa kaki-tangan Kerajaan kaum wanita yang kerja-nya sama, kelulusan-nya sama, tetapi bayaran gaji-nya tidak sama, seperti dalam jawatan guru², MCS, bahkan ada pula di-antara kaum wanita ini yang bekerja dengan Kerajaan seperti dalam Jabatan Undangan pula di-beri gaji yang sama, tetapi yang di-dalam MCS dan lain² itu tidak sama, mengapa-kah di-bedza²kan?

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, itu ada peratoran yang tertentu, jadi peratoran itu yang Kerajaan periksa sekarang ini kerana desakan daripada kaum ibu. Jadi, tidak dapat-lah kita hendak sempurnakan kehendak² kaum ibu itu, kerana perkara ini

perkara besar dan nampak-nya susah. Jadi, sungguh pun saya mengaku bahawa Kerajaan telah mengambil masa yang panjang untuk hendak menyediakan peratoran² kerja itu, tetapi, hal kaum ibu bangkit masuk bekerja dengan Kerajaan dengan mendapat kelulusan degree dan sa-bagai-nya ini baru, dahulu tidak ada, belum merdeka ini tidak banyak, lepas merdeka ini macham² berbangkit (*Ketawa*). Jadi, dengan kerana itu kita mengambil masa sedikit dan panjang.

Tan Sri Fatimah binti Haji Hashim: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka hendak mendapat jaminan di-sini, berapa-kah lama timbangan itu akan hendak diberikan kepada kami ini? Mengapa dasar Kerajaan telah mengishtiharkan hendak memberi gaji sama itu telah diishtiharkan dalam tahun 1964 bahkan hari ini, tahun 1967, ada-kah lagi tiga bulan, atau ada-kah lagi tiga tahun?

Dr Tan Chee Khoo: Tiga ribu tahun! (*Ketawa*).

Perdana Menteri: Itu saya tidak dapat hendak memberi jaminan di-sini, tetapi di-atas perjalanan Kerajaan itu berjalan memang berjalan. Jadi, dengan kerana itu tidak dapat saya hendak jawab dengan tepat di-sini.

DELINEATION OF CONSTITUENCIES

3. Tuan C. V. Devan Nair (Bungsar) asks the Prime Minister whether the Election Commission had completed its exercise to delineate electoral constituency boundaries, and if so, to state the results of its work.

Perdana Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, I do not know what the Honourable Member means by the exercise to delineate electoral constituency boundaries—whether he means it in connection with the Sarawak constituencies or here. So, I will have to reply on two.

Sarawak—As far as Sarawak is concerned, the Election Commission has completed its exercise to delineate Sarawak into 24 Parliamentary constituencies and 48 State constituencies. The Sarawak delineation report is now being studies by the Government and I

have no doubt, having seen it, that the Government will have no difficulty in approving it.

Western Malaysia—In connection with the review of the constituencies in Western Malaysia, the law provides that these constituencies must be reviewed once every 10 years and the last time it was reviewed was in 1958. Under Article 113 it says that "The Election Commission shall, at intervals of not more than ten years or subject to Clause (3), less than eight years, review the division of the Federation and the States into constituencies and recommend such changes therein as they may think necessary in order to comply with the provisions contained in the Thirteenth Schedule; and the reviews of the constituencies for the purpose of elections to the Legislative Assemblies shall be undertaken at the same time as the reviews of constituencies for the purpose of elections to the House of Representatives".

Under Section 2 this review must be held before September 1968. In fact, the Election Commission has already started to work on it.

Tuan C. V. Devan Nair: Would the Government consider coming to a decision on this some appreciable time before the next General Elections? Otherwise, the new constituencies, new delineations, and so on, might be sprung upon an unwary Opposition.

Perdana Menteri: Opposition Members will have plenty of time to study it—that I can assure this House.

Dato' Haji Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, soalan tambahan. Ada-kah Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Perdana Menteri berfikir, atau berchadang supaya mengkaji balek tentang kawasan² Pilihan Raya di-Malaysia Barat ini akan di-selenggarakan, ya'ani akan di-buat dalam tahun 1968 seperti mana yang di-nyatakan tadi tiap² 10 tahun sa-kali di-kaji samula bersamaan dengan pengesahan penyata berkenaan dengan kawasan² Pilihan Raya Negeri dan Parlimen di-kawasan Sarawak dan jika demikian, ada-kah Kerajaan berchadang hendak

mengadakan pilihan raya yang sama antara Sarawak dengan Malaysia Barat?

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, perkara seperti itu memang dari dahulu tidak ada chadangan hendak buat pilihan raya terkejut di-sini dengan tidak ada sebab. Jadi lagi satu saya sebut tadi ini Sarawak punya telah pun sedia berkenaan dengan constituency² itu, tetapi kita ini belum lagi sedia dan akan di-sediakan dahulu daripada tahun 1968. Jadi ini-lah yang saya menerangkan, jadi untuk pengetahuan Rumah ini hal itu akan review constituencies dan telah di-adakan sekarang ini dan akan di-sediakan segala² constituency, State baik, Parlimen baik, terdahulu daripada tahun 1968.

Tuan Ong Kee Hui: Mr Speaker, Sir, the delineation of the

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Saya suka Ahli Yang Berhormat chakap Melayulah, kalau tahu.

Tuan Ong Kee Hui: Sir, I am under the impression, Sir, that we from Sarawak can continue to address you in English.

May I ask the Honourable Prime Minister whether in view of the fact that the delineation of the Sarawak Constituencies has already been publicly exhibited and representations have been made on the delineation of these constituencies, whether this is now receiving the attention of the Commission and, if so, whether the Government has considered this, because the impression was given at the last meeting of the Dewan Ra'ayat that the report was to have been tabled at the last session. It was not tabled at the last session, nor has it been tabled now. Could I ask the Honourable Prime Minister what is the reason for the delay?

Perdana Menteri: This exercise is a matter of great importance to the Government and now that it has been completed, it has taken a little bit of time for the Government to find out the views and opinions of those in Sarawak itself. Having received all those views and opinions, these are now under consideration by the Government. That is why it has taken time. We could not

just accept the report of the Commission and then approve it right away. We had to send it back to find out whether the various parties agree with the views and if they so wish express an opinion on the working and the implementation of the plan submitted by this Commission.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, may I have your permission to ask in English?

(*Tuan Yang di-Pertua indicates assent*) The Government says that it wants to study the report of the Election Commission regarding this delimitation of constituencies. Is this a device whereby the Government hopes to gerrymander things in Sarawak?

Perdana Menteri: The Honourable Member is always imputing motives, bad motives to the Government and I think he is mentally out of order.

Tuan Ong Kee Hui: Could the Honourable Prime Minister tell this House whether, in view of the delay, the elections will be held as he had indicated to the House on a previous occasion?

Perdana Menteri: I do not think they will be held later than April or March of next year.

GAJI DATO' TAWI SLI SA-BAGAI KETUA MENTERI SARAWAK

4. Tengku Zaid bin Tengku Ahmad (Pasir Mas Hulu) bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri ada-kah benar bahawa Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Dato' Tawi Sli, telah tidak di-bayar gaji-nya sa-bagai Ketua Menteri kerana masalah Perlembagaan sejak Dato' itu menjawat jawatan tersebut; jika ya, apa-kah langkah² Kerajaan Pusat akan ambil untuk menyelesaikan masalah itu.

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Dato' Tawi Sli ini di-lantek menjadi Ketua Menteri pada 24 hari-bulan September tahun 1966 dan pada 10 hari-bulan Disember ada-lah pehak Kalong Ningkan, Ketua Menteri lama, telah membawa aduan-nya dalam Mahkamah. Maka dengan kerana aduan dalam Mahkamah itu belum lagi

selesai, tidak dapat-lah hendak membayar gaji kapada-nya, tetapi dia sa-bagai Ahli State Council dapat elaun sa-banyak \$500 sa-bulan. Jadi dia menjadi Ahli Parti Perikatan apa² kehendak kapada bantuan, atau pertolongan di-minta kapada Parti Perikatan dan di-mana kita dapat bantu, kita bantu; kalau tidak dapat bantu tidak dapat di-berikan kapada-nya.

BAYARAN HUTANG DARAH KAPADA SINGAPURA DAN MALAYSIA

5. Tengku Zaid bin Tengku Ahmad bertanya kapada Perdana Menteri:

(a) ada-kah Kerajaan sedar Jepun membayar sa-banyak \$100,000,000 (Sa-ratus juta ringgit) sa-bagai "Hutang Darah" kapada Singapura, sedangkan Malaysia menerima hanya \$25 juta sahaja;

(b) ada-kah benar pehak Gabongan Dewan Perniagaan China Malaysia (ACCC) tidak berpuas hati dengan sikap Malaysia sa-hingga Senator T. H. Tan menyuroh mereka itu menuntut dari British yang mendapat sa-banyak £500 dari Jepun; dan

(c) ada-kah Kerajaan membenarkan ACCC itu menuntut sa-chara ber-sendirian seperti apa yang tersiar dalam *Straits Times* pada 25hb September, 1967.

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ini saya ada dengar, tetapi saya dapati tidak sungguh bahawa Kerajaan Singapura mendapat hadiah daripada Kerajaan Jepun kerana hutang darah—tuntutan hutang darah itu sa-banyak \$100 million atau \$100 juta sa-bagai mana yang di-sebutkan oleh penyoyal tadi ini. Yang sa-benar-nya mereka dapat \$25 juta sa-bagai mana kita dapat juga. Jadi berkenaan dengan Gabongan Dewan Perniagaan China Malaysia yang hendak membuat tuntutan lain itu, kita telah memberi tahu, kita tidak ada bersangkut-paut dengan tuntutan itu, kerana perjanjian kita dengan Kerajaan Jepun ia-lah Kerajaan Malaysia tidak akan menuntut tambah, atau menuntut lagi di-atas apa yang kita telah bersetuju di-dalam perjanjian kita itu.

Dato' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda: Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Tidak-kah kebebasan yang di-beri oleh Tunku bahawa pehak Dewan Perniagaan China itu hendak tuntutan, dia tuntuti-lah, tetapi Kerajaan Pusat tidak-lah hendak champor hal itu, tidak-kah ini akan menyentoh kehormatan negara kita, erti-nya kita membiarkan suatu badan membuat tuntutan ka-atas sa-buah negara yang lain sedangkan persetujuan telah ada antara kita atau negara kita dengan negara itu.

Perdana Menteri: Yang saya tahu Dewan Perniagaan China Malaysia ini, telah menghantar wakil dengan saya, dan telah bersetuju dengan perjanjian yang telah di-chapai antara kita dengan Kerajaan Jepun dan yang saya tahu pehak Dewan Perniagaan China itu telah pun memberi keperchayaan penoh kapada saya dan di-dalam itu kalau ahli² mereka lain berchadang hendak tuntutan, kita tidak berkuasa menahankan kebebasan orang² dalam negeri ini membawa apa² tuntutan yang mereka suka. Hendak menang, hendak kalah, hendak maju tuntutan itu, itu terpulanglah antara dia dengan pehak yang di-tuntut itu. Jadi kita ini tidak berkait langsung di-atas hal ini.

KEHADZIRAN SENATOR T. H. TAN DI-SATU PERSIDANGAN ANTI-KOMINIS DI-TAIPEH

6. Tengku Zaid bin Tengku Ahmad bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri adakah benar bahawa Senator T. H. Tan telah menghadhiri satu persidangan Anti-Komunis di-Taipeh, Formosa dalam bulan September 1967, jika benar, atas sifat apa-kah Senator itu hadzir dalam Persidangan tersebut.

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-benar-nya Dato' T. H. Tan ada menghadhiri satu Persidangan Anti-Komunis di-Taipeh, Formosa, dalam bulan September 1967, dan kita tidak berhak menahan kebebasan sa-saorang ahli kita menghadhiri apa² persidangan mereka suka melainkan persidangan dalam negeri² yang menjadi seteru kapada kita. Jadi pehak Taipeh,

atau Taiwan, tidak menjadi seteru bahkan menjadi kawan dengan kita.

Dato' Mohamad Asri bin Haji Muda: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, soalan tambahan, boleh-kah saya dapat tahu bahawa kehadiran Senator T. H. Tan itu sa-bagai kehadiran peribadi-nya atau kehadiran-nya sa-bagai anggota Parti Perikatan, atau pun sa-bagai Setiausaha Agong Parti Perikatan?

Perdana Menteri: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kehadiran-nya itu ada-lah di-atas peribadi-nya sendiri.

TRAINING OF SOUTH VIETNAM POLICE OFFICERS BY MALAYSIA

7. Dr Tan Chee Khoo: (*Dengan izin*) asks the Minister of Foreign Affairs if he is not aware:

- (a) that by training South Vietnamese Police Officers in guerilla warfare and sending our Government officers to South Vietnam we are getting more and more involved in the Vietnam War;
- (b) that these efforts of ours will help to escalate the war there when we should bend all our efforts to de-escalate the war there;
- (c) whether the visit of Humphrey, Vice-President of the United States of America, is to drum up support for the American War effort in Vietnam.

Perdana Menteri: We have been training the Vietnamese Police for many many years. That is the understanding which we have with the Vietnamese Government, with whom we have been on terms of friendship; and we have been doing this work without getting involved in what is going on in Vietnam. We consider what we have done as our contribution towards the effort of Vietnam in trying to ward off the attack from the North, which aims to dominate South Vietnam which believes in democracy as we do. We also realise that, if anything happens to South Vietnam, it will be a question of time before we meet with the same trouble. Therefore, this is a very small contribution, when you come to think of what Vietnam is trying to do not

only on behalf of themselves in defence of their right to live as free individuals but also in defence of those others who believe in their own way of life. That, Sir, is contrary to what the Communists want us to believe. So, I think that the little that we do to help them is very small in comparison with what the Vietnamese are doing. To suggest that this effort of ours will help escalate the war is to over-state the facts, because I think the little help that we are giving is not going to help escalate the war. The war has been going on in a big way there, and many countries have been involved in actual fighting, but I do not think that what we are doing in a small way for South Vietnam has any effect in helping to escalate the war as suggested by the Honourable Member.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: With due deference to the Honourable Prime Minister, he has not answered (c) of my question.

Perdana Menteri: Oh, yes. I think the Honourable Member knows that Mr Humphrey's visit was purely on goodwill, and in his statement made to the Press and to the public he has given no indication that he was trying to get us involved or, as the Honourable Member has put it, "to drum up support for the American War effort in Vietnam". He never even suggested that. So, I do not think it is right to attribute any motive to his visit here other than that his visit here has been to strengthen the friendship between America and ourselves and to help us in whatever way he felt he could to stabilise our economy.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, is the Honourable the Prime Minister aware that the Americans are desperately anxious to lend Asian respectability to their war effort in South Vietnam in that apart from drumming up support from South Korea, from Thailand, from the Philippines, and of course from—they call themselves now as Asian countries—Australia and New Zealand, the Americans now desperately want others, and hence the peregrinations of not only Mr H. H. Humphrey but also President Johnson? Is the Prime Minister aware also that

we are not so naive, in this House or outside this House, as not to know that diplomatic moves are made in the open, and very often diplomats gather together and they conclude secret deals, which only with the passage of time you find out. Consequently, will he, despite his protestation of neutrality, tell us and the country that we cannot in any way get involved in the Vietnam conflict?

Perdana Menteri: Well, Sir, there is, I must admit, some truth in the American effort to try and win the sympathies of the world in what they are doing in Vietnam because, as far as I know, even their own people in America do not appreciate what they are doing there. They think that they are interfering unduly and in so doing are destroying and killing people mercilessly. But in fact, what they are doing is to try and help South Vietnam to lead a life which they want to live, unhampered and without being threatened by the forces from the North. I think what has been the trouble in this war is that many, many people do not understand the reason why America has entered in this war, and many also choose not to understand for their own particular reason. But I, speaking quite truthfully as a person, or as the leader of this country that believes in the right of man to lead a free life of his own, think that the Communist threat does pose a very great danger to us; and unless we can join together to fight them, or at least show some sympathy for what others are doing to try and help to protect our way of life, then I think we are not doing the right thing. In the same way when India was attacked by Communist China, I joined in at once, not just giving lip service to India, but collecting money and sending it to India in the cause of, as I say, democracy—a "Defend Democracy Fund", was raised. I think all this is being done to show where we stand without being hypocritical. We try to tell the world where we stand and how we propose to defend our stand, and this is the right thing to do. I think more should be told of America's effort and the world should direct their sympathy in the right place.

All of them just talk in haste, without trying to study all the implications of this war.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, I think with due deference to our Prime Minister, the Americans with their huge war effort in Vietnam do not need the still small voice of Malaysia to make apologies for the American war effort in Vietnam. Is the Honourable Prime Minister aware that several Asian powers of note, in particular India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon, and Indonesia, have maintained strict neutrality? They have not done anything to get their fingers burnt, or to put their fingers in the pie in Vietnam, and as such these countries can and have made efforts to try and de-escalate the war in Vietnam. If this is the avowed purpose of our Government, should not we also try to follow the precepts of the big powers in Asia to try and maintain strict neutrality and try to de-escalate the war in Vietnam rather than trying, we as a nation of 10 million people, to flex our muscles, saying: "We are anti-Communist. We want to contain Communism"? America, with all its war potentials, finds it very difficult to police the world, or to contain communism the world over.

Perdana Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, perhaps, they know what they are about and they know how best to protect their own interests by keeping out of all this trouble in Vietnam, and I feel they are big enough to know and to do what they are doing today. But we are too small, we cannot live alone, we cannot stand alone; we have got to make our stand clear, and with whom we side. We cannot play a double game—one day we side with the winning party; another day we side with the losing party. We know that we had our war with the Communists for 12 years. We have the threat now, the subversion is going on from the Communist side in our own country. How could we say that we can be neutral, when the Communists would not allow us to be neutral?

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, the burden of the Prime Minister's reply today as on previous occasions

is that we are anti-Communists, we also want to fight the communists. Is he aware that even in America itself, the keynote is not anti-Communism, the keynote is co-existence, in particular with Russia; and there is a strong body of opinion in America that America should try and co-exist also with the People's Republic of China?

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Is it a supplementary question or a discussion? (Laughter).

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: It is a supplementary question, since the Honourable the Prime Minister himself brought up the question of Communism.

Perdana Menteri: On a point of clarification, Sir. We are not anti-Communist. The Honourable Member knows that in a short time we are going to have diplomatic relation with Russia. We are having diplomatic relation with Yugoslavia now. So, we are not anti-Communist as such, but we are anti that force which goes under the label of communism, who try to dominate and crush other people's way of life. These are the people we are against.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: If that is what the Prime Minister says, and he has told us about diplomatic relations being started with Soviet Russia and with Yugoslavia, is he aware then of the call by the Member for Kuala Trengganu Utara that we should start a Consulate in Peking and that we should have this *tukar fikiran* with the People's Republic of China?

Perdana Menteri: We have enough trouble from Peking already and I do not think we can go in for more. (Laughter).

TOUR OF ASIAN COUNTRIES BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

8. Dr Tan Chee Khoon (*dengan izin*) asks the Minister of Foreign Affairs if he is aware that the peregrinations of Mr Sato, Prime Minister of Japan has aroused fear in some Asian countries and hostility in some, and if so, whether he will be on his guard

against being swallowed by any future Japanese hegemony over Asia.

Perdana Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, he has asked about the peregrinations of Mr Sato—his travels abroad and so on—whether I realise that the aim of Mr Sato, the Prime Minister of Japan, in his travels and contact with other Asian countries, is an effort on his part to set up a hegemony in this part of the world. Whatever may be his intentions, one thing I know, and that is he has come to Malaysia with a view to creating a stronger tie of friendship with us. One thing he has done is to agree to pay us \$25 million by way of a goodwill grant for what happened during the Japanese time. So, I am not imputing any motive to his visit here and his visits elsewhere. Other countries in Asia have of course, expressed their fears; and also the Japanese themselves, as we have heard from reports in the newspapers, there had been attempts by the students to stop him from going to America, and there were attempts made to stop him from going to Vietnam. But, that is as far as I know. We are well aware of what Japanese policy was before the War, but I think they have sufficiently learnt their lesson to change that policy. Their effort now is trying to build—as I know and as I understand from him—better relations with other countries in Asia, so that they can sell their goods and at the same time help in whatever little way they can Asian countries to stabilise their economy. That is as far as I know.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Is the Honourable Prime Minister aware that far from all foreign dignitaries wanting to come to this country to renew ties of friendship, or create ties of friendship, and to be very brotherly with us, lot of these visits may well have ulterior motives? As I have pointed out, and as the Prime Minister himself acknowledges, these travels of Premier Sato has aroused uneasiness in some areas and hostility in others. In the Philippines, for example, they openly question the usefulness of the Japanese

Prime Minister's visit to Manila. Is the Prime Minister aware that the revival of the militarist clique in Japan is a very serious matter and, perhaps, before a decade or two is over, we may well have a Greater Co-prosperity Sphere being hoisted again on Asia?

Perdana Menteri: Mr Speaker, Sir, what I am aware, first and foremost, is the threat that we face from militant communism. That is the real threat which we face, and so any other threat is small in comparison with that. So, if a person comes here and extends a hand of friendship to us, it is only right that we should accept the offer of friendship rather than attribute ulterior motives to such visit and so on. I think we have to take a person on his face value, and the face value of the Japanese Prime Minister is, as he said, that the intention of his visit here is to help us and to try to strengthen the ties of friendship with us—and so we accept it as such.

Dr Lim Chong Eu (*dengan izin*): Sir, we would like the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs to inform this House how he equates this visit made by the Prime Minister of Japan and the statement from the Prime Minister of Japan of friendship and sympathy with our rubber problem and also the intention of helping us economically, since not soon after his return to Japan an announcement was made that the Japanese nation plans to build a new rubber synthetic plant.

Perdana Menteri: Well, Sir, that is the way of the world. These people come here express a wish to help us, but when they go back they start increasing and expanding their synthetic plants. What else can we do? They have got to look after their own interests. We have been trying to seek agreement on world commodity prices, so that synthetic and natural rubbers could work together and agree on a price—that is all we can do. We cannot stop them if they want to build factories in their own country, in the same way that they cannot stop us if we want to build any factory that we want here. That is their right.

NATIONAL SERVICEMEN (R.M.A.F.) DEMOBILISATION

9. Dr Tan Chee Khoon (*dengan izin*) asks the Minister of Defence to state if he is aware :

- (a) that on 30th September, 1967, 24 National Servicemen at the R.M.A.F. Sungei Besi had their services terminated with one week's notice given orally;
- (b) that another 101 National Servicemen from the same place have been told orally that they will have to stop work by 25th December, 1967;
- (c) that these National Servicemen when discharged were not given discharge certificates; and
- (d) whether he will investigate this matter and put right the injustice to the National Servicemen concerned.

Menteri Pertahanan (Tun Haji Abdul Razak): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya minta izin menjawab dalam bahasa Inggeris. Sir, in the Royal Malaysian Air Force there are no national servicemen as such and also we have no base at Sungei Besi. I think what the Honourable Member intends to refer to in this question is to the No. 101 Flight R.M.A.F. Volunteer Reserve. These volunteers were called up for service during the confrontation and 24 of them have been demobbed at their own request and after discussion with their employers. As regards the rest of the members of these servicemen or Voluntary Reserve, it is intended to release them in March next year and not at the end of this year. There are 70 of them and due written notice will be given to them. There is no necessity to issue discharge certificates because they are not being discharged from the voluntary reserve force, rather they are being demobbed from their full-time duty, but they would still have their role as volunteers in peace time. There has not been any injustice, Sir, and there is no necessity to hold any investigation, but I have given direction

that in future all these people, before they are demobbed, should be given written notice.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am very glad for this assurance of a written notice by the Honourable Minister of Defence, because despite the previous assurances that he has given us in this House that not only would notice be given but these people who are demobbed would be given assistance, I regret to say—and this is the information I get—that many a time, as the first part of my question says, people have been given just one week's notice orally. But he now tells us this is not so and I hope it is not so, I will accept his word and tell these people from whom I got all this information that that is wrong and that the Minister of Defence has told us that there will be written notices.

Mr Speaker, Sir, perhaps the phrase that I use here—"discharge certificate"—is wrong. Is the Minister of Defence aware that these people who have been demobbed do need a *surat* from the Service Chiefs to certify that they have done this sort of work or that sort of work, so that when they go back to "civvy street" they have got a piece of paper to show that they have done this, that or the other, and that their conduct in the services was good, so that they can get a job when they are demobbed. That is their problem and that is why I have asked whether a "discharge certificate" has been given or not. They do not want the certificate for the joy of keeping it and framing it up. They want to make use of it to get employment.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: If they want a *surat*, of course, we can give a *surat*. But, as I said, they are not being discharged—they are only being demobbed. They still remain members of the Volunteer Reserve of the R.M.A.F., and as regards the 24 who were discharged with oral notice, they were discharged at their own request and as a result of discussions with their employers, which means that they have been taken back to do their previous

jobs. So, that is why they were discharged. However, in future, they will be given written notice before they are demobbed.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, despite the assurance given by the Honourable Minister of Defence that these 24 have been discharged after consultation with their employers—perhaps these chaps are very fortunate in that they have been able to fit back into their civilian life before being demobilised—will the Honourable Minister look into this problem of trying to help these people who are demobbed to get jobs when they are demobbed?

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: We have given repeated assurances in this House that these people who have served the country will be given every assistance possible to return to civilian life.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Sir, I do know that the Honourable Minister of Defence has been very kind and I do think that he himself is sincere in all these assurances that he has given. Unfortunately, is he aware that the assurances he gives in this House do not percolate down to the people at ground level, and that is the difficulty of the people who are being demobbed?

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Sir, I have given directions that these people should be assisted in every way possible, but if there are instances in which they have not been so assisted, I would like to know and I will certainly give my personal attention.

ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENCY— MEMBERS

10. Tuan Edmund Langgu anak Saga (Sarawak) (*dengan izin*) asks the Minister of Home Affairs to state whether there are any members from the opposition parties in the Anti-Corruption Agency, and if not, why.

Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri (Tun Haji Abdul Razak): Mr Speaker, Sir, the Anti-Corruption Agency is a Government Department and must

necessarily be staffed by Government officers. Therefore, the question of appointing Opposition members or members from the Opposition parties to the Anti-Corruption Agency does not arise.

PILEHANRAYA KECHIL DI- KAWASAN PASIR MAS HULU, TAMPOI DAN KELANTAN HILIR—BILANGAN ORANG YANG DI-TANGKAP

11. Tuan Muhammad Fakhruddin bin Haji Abdullah [*di-bawah S. O. 24 (2)*] bertanya kepada Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri

- (a) berapa ramai-kah orang telah di-tangkap dalam masa pilihan raya kechil di-adakan dalam tahun 1967 di-masing² kawasan Pasir Mas Hulu, Kelantan; kawasan Tampoi, Johor dan kawasan Kelantan Hilir, Kelantan;
- (b) berapa ramai-kah di-antara yang di-tangkap itu telah di-adili dalam mahkamah terbuka dan berapa ramai yang di-lepas dan yang di-hukum;
- (c) berapa ramai-kah di-antara yang di-tangkap itu di-tahan di-bawah Undang² Keselamatan Dalam Negeri; dan di-mana-kah mereka itu di-tahan sekarang.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua:

- (a) 13 orang telah di-tangkap di-Pasir Mas Hulu, Kelantan; 14 di-Tampoi, Johor; dan 22 di-Kelantan Hilir, Kelantan dalam masa pilihan² raya kechil di-kawasan² itu.
- (b) (i) Antara mereka yang di-tangkap di-Pasir Mas Hulu, 8 orang telah di-bawa ka-dalam mahkamah terbuka—3 orang daripada-nya telah di-hukum dan 5 lagi pembicharaan di-tanggoh. 2 orang telah di-tangkap di-bawah Undang² Menchegegah Jenayah dan 3 lagi di-tahan dalam masa tempoh 24 jam untuk di-soal.
- (ii) Di-Tampoi, 2 orang yang di-tangkap telah di-adili

dalam mahkamah terbuka dan 12 orang lagi di-tahan dalam tempoh 24 jam untuk di-soal.

- (iii) 13 orang yang di-tahan di-Kelantan Hilir telah di-da'awa dalam mahkamah terbuka dan kes terhadap mereka di-tanggohkan (pending). Baki tangkapan sebanyak 9 orang ia-itu sa-orang telah di-lepas dengan bond jaminan Polis, 3 orang di-tahan di-bawah seksyen 117 Undang² Peratoran Jenayah atau Criminal Procedure Code untuk di-siasat kemudian-nya telah di-bebas.

- (c) Tiada sa-orang pun terlibat di-Kelantan itu telah di-tangkap di-bawah Undang² Keselamatan Dalam Negeri atau Internal Security Act. 2 orang yang di-tangkap di-Tampoi dan di-tahan di-bawah Undang² Keselamatan Dalam Negeri sekarang ditempatkan di-Kem Pertahanan Muar atau Muar Detention Camp mengikut Perentahan Tahanan atau Order of Detention.

Tuan Muhammad Fakhruddin bin Haji Abdullah: Soalan tambahan. Ada-kah semua yang di-tahan itu daripada parti Pembangkang?

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, undang² ini tidak mengira siapa²—siapa² juga yang melanggar undang², baik daripada parti Pembangkang, atau Parti yang lain, Kerajaan terpaksa menjalankan undang².

Tuan Mustapha bin Ahmad (Tanah Merah): Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dua orang yang telah di-tangkap di-Machang, apa-kah dua orang yang di-tangkap di-Jajahan Machang itu ada hubungan-nya dengan pilihan raya di-Kelantan Hilir, dan di-bawah Undang² Keselamatan Dalam Negeri-kah, atau pun undang² mana?

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak dapat hendak jawab di-sini, sebab banyak orang yang di-tangkap oleh pihak polis—hari² di-tangkap menurut undang² Kerajaan.

KEJADIAN² JENAYAH YANG BERLAKU, TAHUN 1966 DAN 1967

12. Tuan Muhammad Fakhruddin bin Haji Abdullah [di-bawah S. O. 24 (2)] bertanya kepada Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri berapa banyak-kah kejadian² jenayah yang berikut telah berlaku dalam tahun 1966 dan tahun 1967:

- (a) Jenayah membunuh;
- (b) Jenayah menchuri;
- (c) Jenayah menyamun dan pechah rumah;
- (d) Jenayah melarikan manusia; dan
- (e) Jenayah merogol.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, perbandingan angka kesalahan jenayah yang di-lakukan dalam tahun 1966 dan 1967, ia-lah seperti berikut:

Kesalahan	1966	1967
Pembunuhan ...	92	110
Menyamun Bersama ² (gang robbery) ...	190	213
Menyamun ...	918	1,375
Mencholek kerana wang tebusan ...	1	4
Pechah Rumah dan churi ...	5,657	6,385
Lain ² kechurian ...	16,425	18,936
Rogol ...	129	164

PENUNJOKAN PERASAAN, KAMPONG SAKAR, PASIR MAS, KELANTAN

13. Tuan Muhammad Fakhruddin bin Haji Abdullah [di-bawah S. O. 24 (2)] bertanya kepada Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri ada-kah penunjak² perasaan dari Kampung Sakar, Pasir Mas, Kelantan telah mendapat kebenaran dari pihak yang berkuasa Polis untuk melakukan tunjok perasaan di-hadapan Pejabat Setia-usaha Kerajaan Negeri Kelantan pada 23-9-67. Jika tidak, maka apa-kah tindakan yang di-buat oleh pihak Polis terhadap penunjak² perasaan sa-chara haram itu.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kumpulan tunjok perasaan ini telah di-lakukan dengan tidak ada kebenaran Polis.

Undang² yang mengawal perbuatan sa-macham ini ia-lah seksyen 27 (3) di-bawah Kanun Polis (Police Act No. 41/67) dan menurut undang² ini, sama ada satu² kumpulan itu sa-harus-nya di-perentahkan bersurai atau pun tidak maka terpulang-lah kepada kebijaksanaan (discretion) pegawai Polis yang bertanggung-jawab.

Berkenaan dengan kejadian yang di-bangkitkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, kumpulan itu telah di-adakan dengan aman dan tenteram dan ahli²-nya tidak menggendalakan lalu-lintas atau pun menunjukkan satu² bukti yang mereka akan mengancam keamanan. Oleh kerana itu, pihak Polis tidak mengambil tindakan kekerasan untuk menyuraikan kumpulan itu kerana jika kekerasan di-ambil mungkin akan timbul akibat yang buruk. Walau bagaimanapun sa-lepas berkumpul sa-lama lebih kurang satu jam sa-tengah mereka bersurai dengan aman.

Sa-lepas meneliti laporan kejadian ini saya sendiri menyokong langkah yang telah di-ambil oleh pihak polis yang bertanggung-jawab itu dan saya puji chara mereka menggunakan kebijaksanaan-nya yang telah mengelakkan kemungkinan timbul-nya akibat² yang tidak di-ingini.

Tuan Muhammad Fakhruddin bin Haji Abdullah: Soalan tambahan. Mengapa di-perintah bersurai itu sa-lama 1½ jam begitu lama sa-kali, adakah kerana ini daripada penyokong Perikatan atau bagaimana?

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya telah terangkan tadi Polis menjalankan tugas-nya tidak memilih sa-siapa, menurut keadaan yang berlaku. Saya telah terangkan tadi perkara ini Polis telah menggunakan kebijaksanaan-nya, dan kumpulan telah bersurai dengan baik sa-telah mengadakan pertunjukan sa-lama 1 jam.

Tuan Abdul Karim bin Abu (Melaka Selatan): Soalan tambahan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Saya hendak tahu berhubung dengan perkara ini berlaku penunjuk² perasaan ini apakah sebab-nya, adakah dengan sebab

kedzaliman Kerajaan PAS di-Kelantan berhubung pembahagian tanah yang tidak memuaskan hati kepada penunjuk² perasaan ini.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ini harus-lah barangkali, tetapi tidak berkaitan dengan soal Polis—Polis hanya menjaga keamanan. Sa-siapa² yang tidak menjalankan keamanan dan menghormati undang² negeri, Polis terpaksa mengambil tindakan.

Tuan Mustapha bin Ahmad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tadi daripada Yang Berhormat Timbalan Perdana Menteri dan Menteri Dalam Negeri mengatakan bahawa sa-kira-nya tunjok perasaan itu tidak menimbulkan perkara² yang merosakkan keamanan orang ramai, maka boleh jadi pegawai keamanan tidak akan mengambil tindakan, boleh-kah Menteri Dalam Negeri memberi jaminan dalam Dewan ini sa-kira-nya pada masa yang akan datang ada orang mahu tunjok perasaan dengan chara aman Polis tidak akan mengambil tindakan seperti mana yang telah berlaku tunjok perasaan sa-chara aman yang di-lakukan dalam negeri Kelantan pada masa yang lalu.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Saya telah terangkan tadi undang² ini ada memberi kuasa kepada Polis dan terpulang-lah kepada kebijaksanaan pegawai² Polis yang bertanggung-jawab bagi menjalankan kuat-kuasa mereka itu, dan mereka itu menjalankan kuat-kuasa, menurut-lah keadaan, dan saya sendiri menaruh kepercayaan penuh kepada pihak Polis bagi menjalankan kuat-kuasa-nya dengan 'adil dan saksama dan sentiasa menurut peratoran² yang tertentu.

Tuan Muhammad Fakhruddin bin Haji Abdullah: Soalan tambahan. Adakah pihak yang berkenaan sedar bahawa sa-nya tunjok perasaan itu ada-lah di-arah oleh Setia-usaha UMNO Chawangan Kendong, Pasir Mas, dan kalau ya, apakah tindakan yang harus di-lakukan kerana di-dalam surat² yang di-siarkan itu ada mempunyai ugutan² atau pun untuk mengancam menggempor Pejabat Menteri Besar lebih kurang begitu

bunyi-nya dalam surat siberan. Adakah Kerajaan sedar dalam perkara ini?

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Saya tidak dapat tahu hal ini. Saya hanya-lah dapat tahu ia-itu ada tunjok perasaan dan tunjok perasaan itu di-kawal oleh Polis dan telah bersurai sa-lepas 1 jam, dan tidak ada apa² akibat yang tidak baik berlaku, atau pun memecahkan keamanan.

BUKU SEJARAH DHARURAT— PENERBITAN

14. Tuan Abdul Razak bin Haji Hussin (Lipis) bertanya kepada Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri:

- (a) mengapa-kah buku “Sejarah Dharurat” belum di-chetak lagi, sunggoh pun tarikh ia-nya patut di-chetak sudah lama berlalu; dan
- (b) dapat-kah beliau menyatakan bila masa-nya buku itu akan di-chetak dan dalam bahasa apa.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, apabila rancangan hendak menulis buku “Sejarah Dharurat” mula² sa-kali timbul di-jangka masa 3 tahun sudah di-fikirkan boleh dapat di-siapkan buku sejarah ini, akan tetapi perkara ini telah mengambil masa yang lewat sedikit oleh sebab beberapa perkara terutama sa-kali rekod² yang di-dapati di-sini tidak menchukupi dan rekod² itu telah dibawa balek ka-United Kingdom dan fail² yang di-simpan di-United Kingdom itu tidak dapat hendak di-semak, kerana Kerajaan British tidak dapat hendak mengechualikan perkara ini daripada kuat-kuasa Peratoran Rahsia 50 tahun (50 Year Secrecy Rule). Tetapi segala daya upaya telah di-usahakan untuk mendapat ma’lumat² daripada fail² yang tersimpan itu, malang-nya sa-hingga hari ini belum dapat berhasil. Sunggoh pun bagitu penulis ini telah chuba hendak menyiapkan buku ini dan di-fikirkan mula² sejarah ini dapat di-siapkan pada bulan Jun 1967, tetapi dalam bulan Mei 1967, Enche’ Short, atau Mr Short, yang menulis sejarah ini telah mendapat sakit jari dan dengan sebab

itu menghalang dia menjalankan pekerjaan-nya.

Saya berharap tidak berapa lama lagi akan dapat di-siapkan buku ini di-chetak seperti yang di-kehendaki dengan sa-berapa segera.

Ada harapan buku ini dapat di-tulis, di-susun dan di-chetak dalam bulan Jun 1968. Pada permulaan-nya akan di-chadangkan di-keluarkan dalam bahasa Inggeris dan sa-lepas itu, akan di-terjemahkan ka-dalam bahasa kebangsaan.

KECHURIAN MOTOKAR, MOTO- SIKAL DAN SCOOTER DARI MALAYSIA KA-NEGERI THAI

15. Tuan Haji Mokhtar bin Haji Ismail bertanya kepada Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri, boleh-kah dia memberitahu berapa buah motorkar, motosikal dan scooter satu persatu-nya yang telah di-churi dan di-seludup dari Malaysia ka-Negeri Thai dari bulan Januari hingga September 1967; apakah tindakan yang telah di-ambil untuk mendapat balek kereta² yang di-churi itu dan di-pulangkan kepada ampunya kereta² tersebut.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, nampak-nya soalan ini membangkit hasil pengarah berita akhbar tempatan yang telah melaporkan bahawa 500 kereta² yang di-churi di-Malaysia telah di-jumpai di-negeri Thai. Berita ini bukan-nya terbit daripada sumber rasmi dan penyiasatan melalui pihak Polis Antarabangsa atau Interpol yang telah di-majukan maseh belum dapat mengesahkan sunggoh atau tidak kenderaan² yang kena churi di-Malaysia itu telah di-seludupkan ka-negeri Thai dan sa-kira-nya benar berapa bilangan yang terlibat.

Kedua-nya, Polis Antarabangsa di-Bangkok telah di-hubongi supaya menyiasat untuk mendapatkan butir² yang sah bagi membolehkan tindakan yang sesuai di-jalankan. Pihak Polis Malaysia sekarang ini menunggu apa² pengesahan daripada pihak Polis Antarabangsa di-Bangkok untuk menjalankan sa-barang tindakan yang patut.

(Tempoh Pertanyaan Mulut telah chukup, dan jawapan kepada pertanyaannya No. 16 sampai No. 30 ada-lah di-beri di-bawah ini.)

PENUBOHAN SUATU KAWASAN KOSONG DI-ANTARA PEKAN PADANG BESAR DENGAN NEGERI THAI UNTUK MENCHEGAH PENYELUDUPAN

16. Tuan Haji Mokhtar bin Haji Ismail bertanya kepada Menteri Kewangan, memandangkan bahawa Padang Besar, Perlis ada-lah sa-buah bandar yang betul² terletak di-atas garisan perenggan Malaysia-Negeri Thai dan dengan kerana itu sangat sukar hendak mengawal-nya daripada kechurian², penyeludupan dan sa-bagai-nya bagi menjaga ketenteraman negara, maka ada-kah beliau berchadang hendak menuboh satu kawasan kosong $\frac{1}{2}$ batu di-antara pekan Padang Besar dengan sempadan Negeri Thai.

Tun Tan Siew Sin: Saya tidak fikir suatu kawasan kosong sa-tengah batu di-antara pekan Padang Besar dengan sempadan Negeri Thai yang di-chadangkan itu dapat mencheгах penyeludupan di-antara kedua negeri itu. Penyeludupan boleh berlaku di-beberapa tempat sa-panjang sempadan itu. Penubohan kawasan kosong itu sahaja tidak akan dapat mencheгах kesemua perbuatan² penyeludupan. Pada masa ini pegawai² dari Jabatan Kastam ada menjalankan ronda tetapi oleh sebab kesulitan yang di-dapati di-kawasan yang tersebut maka penye-ludupan tidak-lah dapat di-hapuskan semua sekali di-antara sempadan kedua buah negeri itu. Walau bagaimana pun saya beri jaminan kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat bahawa kami sedang berusaha bersungguh² untuk mengurangkan perbuatan² penyeludupan itu.

MENGHANTAR ENCHE' HAMID TUAH KA-INDONESIA

17. Tuan Haji Mokhtar bin Haji Ismail bertanya kepada Menteri Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri ada-kah benar bahawa Kerajaan berchadang hendak menghantar Hamid Tuah balek ka-Indonesia, jika benar, bila.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Belum ada keputusan di-perbuat atas perkara ini. Tetapi saya mendapat tahu bahawa pada satu masa yang lalu Enche' Hamid Tuah telah membuat rayuan kepada Kerajaan Selangor untuk di-hantar balek Indonesia.

AMOUNT OF MONEY FROM FEDERAL FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR BUILDING OF MOSQUES AND SURAUS

18. Tuan Edmund Langgu anak Saga (Sarawak) asks the Minister of National and Rural Development to state how much money from *Federal Funds* had been used since September 1966, for the building of mosques and suraus in:

(a) Malaya; (b) Sabah; (c) Sarawak.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: The amount of money allocated for building of mosques and suraus is as follows:

(a) Malaya—

(i) Masjid ...	\$3,350,211
(ii) Surau ...	691,900

(b) Sabah—

(i) Masjid ...	\$593,000
(ii) Surau ...	76,200

(c) Sarawak—

(i) Masjid ...	\$361,300
(ii) Surau ...	92,500

GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN THE RUBBER MARKET

19. Dr Lim Chong Eu (Tanjong) asks the Minister of Finance to state, in view of the fact that the Government has announced its intention to further intervene in the Rubber Market if necessary;

- (a) what guarantees the Government can secure to ensure that the agents selected will not profitably exploit the particular situations arising; and
- (b) what is the extent of the financial commitment for these stock-piling manoeuvres.

Tun Tan Siew Sin: The statement which I made yesterday afternoon

when asking the House to approve the setting up of the Government Rubber Trading Trust Account dealt fully with this question and I have nothing further to add.

E.P.F. CONTRIBUTORS TO BORROW FROM THEIR CREDITS TO BUY HOUSES

20. Tuan C. V. Devan Nair (Bungsar) asks the Minister of Finance that, in view of his assurance in the August session of Parliament that a "definite decision will be made by the Employees Provident Fund Board shortly" on whether contributors would be allowed to borrow from their E.P.F. credits to buy houses, to state whether such a decision had been made, and if so, to give details.

Tun Tan Siew Sin: The Government still awaits the recommendations of the Employees Provident Fund Board on this matter. I am advised that this is a subject of great complexity which requires an examination of the various issues involved with great care. The Honourable Member may rest assured, however, that whilst I cannot announce a decision at this stage, this matter has not been forgotten.

MEMBAIKI KEADAAN PERKHIDMATAN KERETAPI

21. Tuan Abdul Razak bin Haji Hussin (Lipis) bertanya kepada Menteri Pengangkutan:

- (a) ada-kah Pentadbiran Keretapi mempunyai rancangan bagi mengatasi kerugian² yang di-'alami sejak beberapa tahun yang akhir² ini, dan
- (b) ada-kah beliau sedar bahawa Perkhidmatan Keretapi di-Pantai Timor tidak memberi keselesaan dan tidak berjalan mengikut Jadual sa-bagaimana di-Pantai Barat, dan Sumpitan Emas mithal-nya tiada mempunyai gerabak yang berhawa dingin; jika sedar, ada-kah Pentadbiran Keretapi berchadang membaiki

keadaan itu, dan jika tidak mengapa.

Menteri Pengangkutan (Tan Sri Haji Sardon bin Haji Jubir):

(a) Pentadbiran Keretapi memang mempunyai rancangan bagi mengatasi kerugian² yang di-'alami-nya yang sa-bahagian besar-nya ada-lah di-sebabkan oleh faktor² yang di-luar kawalan Pentadbiran Keretapi sendiri. Walau bagaimana pun rancangan² Pentadbiran Keretapi itu ada-lah pada asas-nya menyentoh dan berkaitan dengan masalah dasar keseluruhan sistem pengangkutan di-Negeri ini. Saperti yang di-ketahu² satu kajian sedang di-jalankan sekarang ini oleh pakar² Bangsa² Bersatu mengenai seluruh sistem pengangkutan di-Negeri ini termasuk Keretapi dan ada-lah di-harap bahawa daripada laporan pakar² itu kelak akan dapat digubal suatu dasar pengangkutan dalam mana kedudukan dan peranan Keretapi dalam keseluruhan sistem pengangkutan di-Negeri ini akan dapat ditentukan dengan tegas-nya.

(b) Saya sedar bahawa Perkhidmatan Keretapi di-Pantai Timor kurang memberi keselesaan kepada penumpang². Bagi mengatasi perkara ini Pentadbiran Keretapi sedang menjalankan usaha menubohkan bahagian penyelidik dan perancang kemajuan yang akan menyiasat dan menentukan supaya faktor² yang dalam kawalan Keretapi yang kurang memuaskan dapat di-perbaiki saperti ketetapan perjalanan Keretapi dan sa-bagai-nya.

Sa-benar-nya Perkhidmatan Keretapi sudah pun mengadakan satu gerabak berhawa dingin dalam perkhidmatan-nya ka-Pantai Timor. Mungkin ada kala-nya alat hawa dingin di-gerabak tersebut telah rosak. Pentadbiran Keretapi akan mengambil tindakan untuk membaiki keadaan ini bagi memberi keselesaan yang lebih kepada pengguna²-nya.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BATU GAJAH DISTRICT HOSPITAL

22. Tuan Ng Fah Yam (Batu Gajah) asks the Minister of Health to state what is the immediate plan to improve and increase the number of beds as well as the number of adults and maternity wards in the District Hospital in Batu Gajah as I have received complaints that patients are very congested in every ward and no new ward has ever been erected since after Merdeka.

The Minister of Health (Tuan Bahaman bin Samsudin): In recent years improvements made to Batu Gajah Hospital include various items including extensions and improvements to wards. Under the First Malaysia Plan a sum of nearly \$½ million has been set aside for this hospital.

With the completion of the first-class beds in a new ward block in Ipoh and a new second-class ward block due to come up in Ipoh Hospital, there will be more space in Batu Gajah Hospital in future.

IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES IN VILLAGES AND LOCAL COUNCIL AREAS

23. Tuan Ng Fah Yam asks the Minister of Health to state what plans if any he has to improve the health situation, in the villages and local council areas, such as provision of sanitation and public latrines.

Tuan Bahaman bin Samsudin: In the rural health services programme of the Ministry of Health there is a network of health centres and clinics throughout the rural areas of West Malaysia and this includes villages and local council areas.

In this programme curative work is given in addition to preventive services such as:

- (a) midwifery services;
- (b) infant and maternal care;
- (c) dental services for school children and nursing mothers;

- (d) immunization against many local diseases;
- (e) nutrition programmes;
- (f) advisory services on environmental sanitation and water supplies; and
- (g) health education.

EMPLOYMENT OF NURSES IN ENGLAND

24. Tuan Ng Fah Yam asks the Minister of Health to state whether nurses who have been trained in private hospitals in England will be employed in the Government hospitals in Malaysia or not; if the answer is in the positive, please list the names of such nurses who have been employed. If the answer is in the negative, please give the reasons.

Tuan Bahaman bin Samsudin: Nurses who have been trained in approved hospitals in England and Wales which are recognised by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales are normally registrable with our Nursing Board in West Malaysia and are acceptable for employment in Government hospitals.

The names of such nurses who have been employed are:

Lim Lee Fung	Kalpna Kaur
Ho Kim Nghoh	Lim Sai Koh
Chandarawan	Oh Poh Lan
Tandavanity	Chang Kim Hoh
Gurusamy Grace	Tan Beng Kee
Paramsothy	Geh Suan Beng
Teo Bin Sie	Wan Sau Lin
Ho Chooi Heng	<i>alias</i> Wan Sow Chun
Lim Bee Luan	Yim Pooi Luan
(Mrs Loo Hock Beng)	Shamsher Kaur Gill
Shameen Sultanah	Hiew Sin Ying
Syed Ismail	Low Lai Chok
Chong Tay Poh	Toh Lai Nghoh
Chan Hup Thoe	Seong Sow Lan
Olive Ratnam	Lee Hooi Kheng
Malar Navaratnam	Lim Ah Mooi
Ho Suet Mei	Ragaratham
Chong Ming Foon	Saraswathy Vellu
Bik Shan Lee	Lai Fong Sun
(Mrs P. Nadarajan)	Marie Joan Ooi
Tan Yoke Wah	Saw Hooi
Mrs Hoh Yoke Wah)	Teng Hong Kiew
Low Guat Lee	

Ng Chai *alias*
 Ng Chai Imm
 Chew Chooi Pin
 Cheah Soke How
 Indrani Sundram
 Tiong Hai Tong
 Lim Yew Choo
 Rahmah binti
 Mohd. Amin
 Lee Moy Moy
 Chuan Bo Land

Tay San *alias*
 Tay Siew Fong
 Teoh Juet Keow
 Mimi Hasiah binti
 Mohd. Ramthan
 Wong Chuy Kin
 Lem Woon Lan
 Chan Yew Sim
 Chung Lai Kheng
 Mrs Greig Isabella
 Rose Marie Nguk
 Eng Ling

SARAWAK MEDICAL DEPARTMENT—NURSING SERVICE

25. Tuan Sim Boon Liang (Sarawak) asks the Minister of Health to state:

- (a) why Local Staff Nurses with Sarawak State Registration Nursing Certificates, who have been serving in hospitals for more than 15 years with good experiences, are not given the chance for promotion to Nursing Sisters;
- (b) how many Nursing Sisters are in the whole of Sarawak hospitals;
- (c) how many of them are local girls; and
- (d) who are the others.

Tuan Bahaman bin Samsudin:

- (a) Sarawak joined Malaysia only in 1963. The terms and conditions of service of the personnel in the Sarawak Medical Department differ from that of West Malaysia. The Chief of the Medical Services then was an expatriate until very late in 1966 when the State Government agreed to the appointment of a local Sarawak doctor as Director of Medical Services, Sarawak. Discussion is now on the way with a view to normalising the conditions of services for the whole of the country.
- (b) 22;
- (c) 8;
- (d) 5 are West Malaysians, 1 is from Singapore, and 6 are expatriates.

FALL IN PRICE OF RUBBER AND HIGH COST OF LIVING IN SARAWAK—MEASURES TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT

26. Tuan Sim Boon Liang asks the Minister of Commerce and Industry to state:

- (a) whether he is aware of the drop in price of rubber and the continued increasing in price of rice that cause the hardship to the people, and
- (b) what counter measure will the Government propose to take in order to deal with the urgent problem of the high cost of living in Sarawak.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Dr Lim Swee Aun):

- (a) The Government is aware of the drop in the price of rubber and the increase in the price of rice.
- (b) As regards rubber, the Government has taken the following measures:
 - (i) The Government has operated in the rubber market.
 - (ii) The Government has held consultations with the United States in order to enlist the latter's co-operation on international trade in rubber.
 - (iii) The Government has called for a Conference of N.R. Producing Countries which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 2nd to 4th October, 1967. The Conference attended by the main natural producing countries has made recommendations on the international short-term and long-term measures to cope with the situation; and
 - (iv) On the invitation of the Malaysian Government, the International Rubber Study Group, at its recent meeting in Sao Paulo, has decided to set up a Consultative Committee of natural rubber and synthetic rubber producing and consuming

countries to consider problems of mutual concern to natural rubber and synthetic rubber producing industries with particular regard to present problems facing them and to make appropriate recommendation to the Group.

- (v) The Government has also taken the initiative at the Algiers Conference of the 77 developing countries of UNCTAD held recently to request the Trade and Development Board of the UNCTAD to convene a Conference of Rubber to discuss the matter and to formulate recommendations for implementation by Governments concerned.

The increase in the price of rice is mainly due to world price fluctuations as a result of a shortage in world production. When compared to other rice consuming countries, the prices in Malaysia are considered very much cheaper. To prevent shortage of rice in Malaysia and excessive increases in prices, the import of rice has been liberalised and Government is continuing its releases from its stockpile which are sold at not more than 33 cents per kati. In Sarawak alone about 13,000 bags of Government rice are released monthly by Government depots in various centres.

In the case of flour the price has remained steady at 25 cents per kati for a long time whilst the price of sugar is 25 cents a kati in East Malaysia compared to a maximum of 32 cents a kati prevailing in West Malaysia.

GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN RUBBER MARKET

27. Tuan Lim Kean Siew (Dato Kramat) asks the Minister of Commerce and Industry to state how and to what extent the Government considers the direct purchase of rubber will solve the depression in the price of rubber and how long does he expect

this "rescue operation" to go on and to what extent does the Government commit itself in such purchases.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: The Government intervention in the rubber market is to provide confidence in the rubber market by countering the bearish activities of certain market manipulators. The intervention by Government is not aimed at solving the long-term trend of rubber prices as this will be dependent on world conditions. In the national interest, the amount which Government has committed itself in such purchases cannot be disclosed but Government will intervene as and when it is necessary to counteract any action to depress prices artificially.

NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCTION

28. Tuan Lim Kean Siew asks the Minister of Commerce and Industry to state whether or not there is over-production of rubber in the world and whether or not consideration for such over-production was taken into account in the scheme for the replanting of rubber, and if so, what were the concrete steps taken to make certain that there would not be this over-production.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Statistics of rubber production and consumption over the last six years show that there is no over-production of N.R. in the world. What has taken place is that because of stockpile releases there have been in recent years a surplus of supply over demand of N.R.

MEASURES TAKEN TO MEET THREAT FROM SYNTHETIC RUBBER

29. Tuan Lim Kean Siew asks the Minister of Commerce and Industry to state whether or not the Government had been forewarned of the fall in the price of rubber and what steps were taken after 1960 to meet the threat of synthetic rubber.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: The Government is aware as early as the early fifties that because of the tremendous expansion of the S.R. industry and its consequent pressure on N.R. prices that in

order for the N.R. industry to remain competitive and meet the adverse effects of any fall in the price of N.R. that steps should be taken to reduce the cost of production and to improve its presentation and grading. This the Government has done through the rubber replanting schemes which were introduced in 1953 and the vigorous research and development efforts which have been carried out to make N.R. more competitive price-wise and technical-wise with S.R.

BROADCAST FROM RADIO MALAYSIA, SARAWAK

30. Tuan Edmund Langgu anak Saga asks the Minister of Information and Broadcasting whether he is aware of the lies and inaccurate information as well as false political statements that were being broadcast by Radio Malaysia Sarawak, and if so, what steps have been taken to prevent the Broadcasting Station from being used not for the benefit of the listeners.

Menteri Penerangan dan Penyiaran (Tuan Senu bin Abdul Rahman): Sir, the trouble with the Honourable Member from Sarawak and for that matter most Opposition members is that they are very fond of making sweeping statements and allegations against the Government.

I can categorically state here that Radio Malaysia Sarawak or for that matter any Radio Malaysia Station will only report true facts even though they may sound unpleasant to the ears of the Opposition. In any case, I appreciate the fact that nothing done by the Government, no matter how beneficial to the public, will meet the approval of the Opposition.

RANG UNDANG² DI-KEMUKAKAN

RANG UNDANG² PERTAROHAN POOL

Rang Undang² bagi membuat peruntukan berkenaan dengan pengeluaran lesen atau penubuhan sa-buah Lembaga bagi menjalankan atau menganjorkan pertarohan pool; di-kemukakan oleh Menteri Muda Dalam

Negeri; bacaan kali yang pertama; akan di-bachakan pada kali yang kedua pada meshuarat ini.

THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Rang Undang² the Education (Amendment) Bill; di-kemukakan oleh Menteri Pelajaran; bacaan kali yang pertama; akan di-bachakan pada kali yang kedua pada meshuarat kali ini juga.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua: Persidangan ini di-tempohkan.

Persidangan di-tangguhkan pada 11.20 pagi.

Persidangan di-sambong sa-mula pada pukul 11.45 pagi.

(Tuan Yang di-Pertua *mempengerusikan Meshuarat*)

USUL

THE GOVERNMENT RUBBER TRADING TRUST ACCOUNT

Perbahathan di-atas usul di-keluarkan oleh Menteri Kewangan yang berbunyi demikian di-sambong sa-mula:

Bahawa Majlis ini mengambil ketetapan ia-itu menurut sharat² sekshen-kecil (4), sekshen 10 Ordinance Peratoran Kewangan, tahun 1957, Jadual Kedua Ordinance tersebut hendak-lah di-pinda dengan menambah kadalam-nya suatu perkara baharu yang bertajuk "Government Rubber Trading Trust Account". (13-11-1967)

Tuan C. V. Devan Nair (dengan izin): Mr Speaker, Sir, in his speech yesterday, the Honourable Minister of Finance assured the House that the Government's intervention in the rubber market had a very limited objective. According to the Honourable Minister, "this is to curb excessive speculation and nothing more." But, it must be pointed out that the earlier indications of the Government's expectations as a result of its intervention in the market were not so modest. The *Straits Times* of the 15th September, 1967, quotes the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry as saying, "We hold the view that the present market price is not a fair one. It has been depressed. Our idea is to bring it back to the fair price level".

The turn of events has indicated that the Government's intervention in the market has done nothing of the kind. After a short-lived rise, prices returned to roughly where they were before the Government's intervention, and it looks as if things will remain that way until international factors improve. Things will not change for the better even if the Government were to introduce a completely new system of rubber marketing to curb foreign manipulation, as the Minister of Commerce and Industry warns, might be necessary. It must be recognised that the basic problem is not that of excessive speculation which, even though it might distort or exaggerate market trends, is definitely a short-term phenomenon. The Honourable Minister of Finance admits that it will be "foolhardy in the extreme to expect to reverse long-term trends", and, to quote him again, "any action to stabilise rubber price must be a concerted action on an international scale if the operation is to have any chance of success."

Even the purchase of rubber by the Government might have had a chance of some limited success, if the governments of other producing countries could also have been persuaded to intervene in the rubber market in the way the Malaysian Government has done. But it would appear that at the recent International Conference of rubber producing countries in Kuala Lumpur no agreement on price support was in fact reached. In other words, none of the rubber producing countries showed any inclination to embark on the kind of rubber purchasing measure which our Government embarked upon. This would perhaps explain why when rubber again fell below 50 cents a pound soon after that conference, the Government failed to intervene. So, if the only intention in setting up the Rubber Trading Trust Account is to curb excessive speculations, then we might as well not embark on any such measure. As the *Straits Times* leader, I believe, of yesterday remarked, "Stopping the gamble in paper rubber is not as easy as it may look, for the line between gambling and hedging is sometimes thin and hedging

is both legitimate and essential, if the dealer is to be able to carry out his functions successfully."

The Honourable Minister of Finance in his speech has made it quite clear that we do not have the financial resources to go on buying merely in order to support the price of rubber. In his words, Government purchases cannot even begin to make any impact until at least 150,000 tons of excess stocks have been skimmed off the market and this would involve an outlay of something like \$150 million, not taking into account the U.S. stockpile. All the evidence seems to indicate that the Government's intervention in the rubber market was a gamble which failed. It was a shot in the dark and like most shots in the dark it failed to hit the target. This is not the first time that our Government has shown itself susceptible to the pulls of the gambling instinct. Shots in the dark are bad enough, but the present measure is tantamount to a shot in the dark with a blank cartridge.

Everything that the Honourable Minister of Finance has said in his speech, the admirable analysis that he has given of the combination of international factors which have influenced trends in the rubber market, goes to show that this is so. I would have been happy to support this measure, if satisfaction could be given that it would really serve to prop up the price of rubber. By the Minister's own admission, it would not do anything of the kind, and it is extremely unlikely that it can curb to any appreciable degree the effects of manipulation, of speculation, on the free rubber market. What I find heartening in the Minister's speech is the recognition that Malaysia cannot play a lone hand, that we cannot secure stable rubber prices on our own. The Malaysian Government must continue to press in international councils for an end to the attrition between synthetic and natural rubber producers as well as the attrition between the natural rubber producing countries among themselves.

Natural rubber production will continue to increase as a result of (a) new plantations having been started in Africa and Asia, (b) the eventual rehabilitation of Indonesian production, and (c) technical improvement in natural rubber production with new high-yielding strains. Unless world consumption of natural rubber increases fantastically, supply is in great danger of out-running demand, with the result that our smallholders will be reduced from one meal a day to, perhaps, a quarter meal a day.

One must, therefore, share the Minister's hope that the concerted action on an international scale to stabilise rubber prices will become a reality in the near future. But, in the meanwhile, we must also hope that the Government will review the order of priorities in the First Malaysia Plan and press on with more determination and with greater expedition to diversify the economy. The nation's over-dependence on rubber must come to an end and we must strike out, as a matter of the utmost urgency, in new fields of economic endeavour. I would have welcomed such a drastic re-ordering of our priorities instead of, as I said, this shot in the dark with a blank cartridge. Much obliged, Sir.

Tuan Lim Kean Siew (Dato Kramat) (*dengan izin*): Mr Speaker, Sir, I think that the fall in the rubber prices recently did not come without warning to those who knew rubber. In fact, I remember that some time in 1960 this matter was brought up in this House by me, when I informed this House that there was a very serious threat to our natural rubber by synthetic rubber and that there were polyisoprene and polybutadiene rubbers being produced at a price of between 21 and 23 U.S. cents, which would work out approximately to about 60 Malaysian cents a pound on the average. I think it was also said in this House that in time to come the price of synthetic rubber would go below the 20 U.S. cent mark—to about approximately 16 to 18 U.S. cents a pound, and if that happened, natural rubber prices would go below the 50-cent level, or would

come to approximately the 50-cent level. We were assured, in this House, I think, by the present Honourable Minister of Finance that the Government was in fact aware of the threat of synthetic rubber. Well, now this threat has become a reality. It did not come, as I said, as a surprise, because I believe it has come as another warning to us, that we can no longer depend upon natural rubber to continue as our main earning commodity. It is a warning of the doldrums that lie ahead in this rubber industry, and it is more than just a straw in the wind.

At this stage it would, of course, be very tempting for us to criticise the Government and to turn criticism to our advantage. However, I do not think that in this it is only the Government that is concerned, but that we all share the same concern. And because of this, one turned to the newspapers for Government attempts to solve the problem, and without going into the history of the statements and without going through the statements themselves, as they have been gone through by the other Members of this House, I think we can summarise the statements as follows: that the fall in the price of rubber is due, firstly, to manipulation and, secondly, to the excessive production today and the threat from synthetic rubber. Therefore, perhaps, it would be worthwhile now to deal with these two points separately.

First of all, let us take manipulation. Is it true that the fall in the rubber price is due, from the long-term point of view, to manipulation, that is to say, speculation in paper rubber, the buying and selling of rubber that is non-existent by groups of people who sit symbolically, perhaps, around a ticker-tape machine in order to decide upon the fates of other people and in order to make some profit for themselves? Well, in the long run, I do not think that is true, but nevertheless, traditionally paper rubber has to a large extent brought about fortune to some and disaster to many, and it can depress the market unnecessarily. In this instance, how do we meet this manipulation? According to the Honourable

Mover of this motion, the Government has set up a Government Rubber Trading Trust Account and will go into the market with the limited objective of preventing slips in rubber prices which would, in the opinion of the Government, not be necessary and which can be checked by direct Government intervention through purchase in the rubber market. According to the Honourable Mover of this motion as well, we have, in order to affect the price of rubber to any appreciable extent, to spend about \$150 million, because we have to purchase 150,000 tons of excess rubber at the value of \$100 per ton. If that is so, then we must say that the \$10 million is a mere pittance. What the Government is trying to set up is a kind of a small pool to tap the excess "water" from a deluge of sterling and silver dollars from international operators operating in New York, London and Singapore. We must admit that not only is \$10 million too small but that it would be ineffective. The Honourable Mover of this motion has said that, "we cannot divulge the secret, that we cannot say how much we are prepared to spend in the rubber market to attain the objectives of the Government." But when this House is asked to approve \$10 million, we know and everybody will know that that is the limit that the Government is prepared to go to—\$10 million or slightly over £1 million, or less than US. \$3 million. I know that the Government would like to spend more, but then this is the reality. We have not got enough money to go into the market and try to manipulate with manipulators. You see, we cannot hope to kill a devil by joining Satan's circus. So, perhaps, the Government will consider some other methods by which to prevent this manipulation of our market. This must make us realise that we should now re-examine the whole of our marketing problem, the whole of the marketing process of rubber, which system was started as a system of clearing houses, first in Holland, which was exploiting the spices of the East and then later on in London, developed by the East India Company, during the growing ages of exploitation of the Eastern jewels, which even today

emboss the British Crown and in the heyday of British colonialism.

In 1960, we said in this House that the Government should do direct trade not only with Europe but with Russia, the Eastern European countries and with China. Now, today it would not sound very far-reaching. But in 1960, if we can cast our minds back, we were hostile even to Eastern Europe and to mention that was practically to say something considered to be subversive. Today, it is a reality. We deal with Eastern Europe and we are seeking markets in China. Why? Because, as was again said in this House, if a country starts a synthetic rubber plant that rubber plant must continue to produce 24 hours a day, and in order to consume its products, synthetic rubber will be used in place of natural rubber.

In 1960, there was talk and the beginning of the erection of a Du Pont synthetic plant in Moscow and a Dunlop tyre factory, both of course under licence. It was the intention of Russia to make itself free from dependency on natural rubber, just as much as synthetic rubber was developed in America, because of Japanese occupation of South-East Asia and the denial of natural rubber to America by the Japanese occupation.

We must now not only look for markets in Europe, but we must also look to the expanding markets of Asia. Part of the problem today is that production is growing beyond consumption—this I will deal with later on. But when we say that, what we mean is that the traditional markets for our natural rubber is not growing—because of synthetic rubber. What we do not mean is that we have examined the growing markets of Asia, such as Mainland China.

My Honourable colleague from Batu has said that he understands that China has said that she is able to purchase the whole of the rubber production of Malaya, if the Bank of China is allowed to be re-established in Kuala Lumpur. Sir, I do not know if that is true or not, but the point is this: that there is a hope that we may find a new market

in China and I do not think that rubber has politics. Rubber is a commodity. Whilst we are encouraged to buy and import from America, our main product, that is our rubber, is being challenged by the synthetic rubber of the United States; whilst we are trying to fight for national survival, we are threatened with stockpile releases; whilst we are looking for alternatives, tin prices are also depressed and at the mercy of the manipulation of the stockpile releases in America. On the one hand, the Vice-President of America comes to Malaya and says, "We will send you rice experts". On the other hand, we are prevented freedom of decision and freedom from manipulation by Wall Street. That is a sad fact which, I think everybody in this House must accept. Now, if we can break away from this manipulation by direct trading agreements with the various countries, perhaps, to that extent, we would have freed ourselves from international manipulation. But to do this, I would like to make the following proposals.

Will not the Government seriously now consider using some of the money of the Government Rubber Trading Trust Account into setting up a special commission to review the whole system of rubber trading as far as Malaya is concerned?

Will not the Government set up an agency to deal direct with consumers by long-term contracts, by direct sales to people who want our rubber instead of allowing our rubber to be sold through other exchanges?

Will not the Government consider the establishment of a special rubber exchange board, whereby we can exchange rubber for goods of other countries who wish to export to us? We buy American shirts, we buy American pants. How much does America buy back from us? That is what this commission or this board should look into. In the case of the socialist countries it would be easier, because most of the purchases would be direct purchases by the Government, who can decide how much rubber they want per year and can enter into such agreements

with us. Or alternately, they can agree to buy rubber from us as part of a barter agreement, in order to allow for the sale of their products to cover for the purchases of natural rubber from us.

Mr Speaker, Sir, part of the money of this Government Rubber Trading Trust Account should be used for investigations into new marketing methods for natural rubber to free ourselves from this canker of the paper rubber exchange.

Now, the other point, Mr Speaker, Sir, that was dealt with in this House regarding this question of prices is that there will be shortly coming about an international agreement on commodity prices. It is unfortunate that we had to have a shock in order to wake up into action, but it is not too late. However, the international agreement on commodity prices cannot be limited to only a few countries. It was admitted by the Honourable Mover of this motion that the United States is no longer the biggest consumer of our rubber. Well, that is because of their production of synthetic rubber. But the other way of looking at it is to say this: that America today is a competitor to Malaya in rubber and in order that we may come into an agreement with America, we also have to come into agreement with the other people, with the other States who may be consumers—such as Russia, China, Japan, and so on. If we do not come into agreement with them, then there is nothing to prevent America from selling synthetic rubber factories to the other countries, in order that more synthetic rubber may be produced.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I now turn to the question of excessive production. Unfortunately, I have perhaps to start off with the rubber smallholders and smallholdings. In fact, from the point of view of rubber production, they do not really count very much, but nevertheless the most number of people affected by the falling price of rubber are the rubber smallholders. First of all, they do not have the yield. A smallholder owning five acres of estate, or three acres of estate, or seven acres of

estate, cannot replant or have a proper replanting programme; secondly, he cannot or does not provide for enough fertiliser; thirdly, he cannot get the best tappers; fourthly, he does not have the milling facilities; fifthly, he does not have the marketing facilities. Rubber companies such as the Malayan-American Plantations or Lee Rubber provide their own mills, provide their own transport, have their own research departments, have the best management possible, and have direct contact with sales overseas; not only that, they have the technical know-how and are able to obtain fast information from the Rubber Research Institute and from the other chemical firms with regard to fertilisers and insecticides. This does not happen with the smallholder, so that whilst rubber costs per pound of the big estates vary between 36 cents to 38 cents per pound, the cost of the rubber from smallholders is higher.

Then, when it comes to sales, the smallholder has to take his rubber to be milled and to be smoked by another agency, sometimes by a collector, because he cannot afford his own smoke house; not only that, he has to sell his rubber forward at times at a much lower price. In order to solve this problem not only must the Government look into the question of marketing rubber abroad but also the marketing of rubber within our national boundaries. How is the smallholder to sell his rubber? Is the Government going to provide centralised rubber factories for the production of the new heveacrum rubber or the oil-extended rubber, or is the rubber going to be exported or sold as latex foam or is the rubber going to be smoked? This is essential. If we do not have these proper marketing facilities for the smallholders, then they become the victims of the middleman who must of necessity keep a margin for himself. Therefore, in order to help this middleman as well, what the Government should do is that agencies and agents should be appointed with a fixed margin of profit to be given to them. But we must admit that even then this is not going to help the smallholder. The big estates can use modern machinery to replant, they can

use modern machinery to bulldoze their old rubber, they can afford replanting because of the large acreage of producing rubber they still have to cover for the added expenditure of replanting—this the smallholder cannot have. Secondly, the smallholder cannot have the machinery; thirdly, he cannot have the management, because he cannot afford it; fourthly, he has to tap his own rubber, and if he is a bad tapper, then to that extent his cost is increased. Furthermore, small rubber plantations do not produce the best rubber. The Government must therefore—I am not suggesting that Government should do it because they would probably say that this matter has not been looked into—look into the very serious problem of amalgamation of the smallholdings, so that the land which is now fragmented will be consolidated again, so that whilst ownership which the Government does not wish to touch (but which I will not hesitate to touch, of course) can remain in separate hands whilst the estate physically is one, so that where you have an area of 100 five-acre estates, you can have one 500-acre estate with shares owned by 100 people. This will allow for proper management, will allow for proper fertilisation, proper tapping and proper marketing facilities. Of course, when I say 500, I am only giving an example. We all know that even at the present state a 500-acre estate is considered very small. The Government must now prevent physical fragmentation of estates whilst allowing for divisibility of ownership, if the Government wishes to protect the owners—land cannot be sub-divided, estates cannot be sub-divided, but ownership may.

Thirdly, on this question of smallholders, we are confronted with a very serious problem. Should some smallholders be allowed to carry on with more efficient rubber estates or should they close down and should there be diversification of crops? If we are going to make smallholders more efficient in rubber production, we are confronted with the problem that excessive production is going to be made more excessive, we are going to have more rubber, which may further depress the

prices. At this stage, perhaps, I can touch upon the Honourable Prime Minister's statement in the papers that Malaya is considering selling to or providing Indonesia with our latest clone 600. The clone 600 is the highest yielding clone that we have cultivated in this country. Its output is tremendous. Its life is short—20 to 25 years perhaps—but the yield is such that if it were to be planted in Indonesia on the fertile Indonesia soil, the production of Indonesia rubber would outstrip that of Malaya in ten years; on the top of that Indonesia has got very rich soil, and in many cases, there is no need for fertilisation, which is necessary in Malaya. Therefore, the cost of that rubber is going to be lower than that of Malayan rubber. The Honourable Prime Minister said this morning in reference to Prime Minister Sato of Japan that people look after their own national interests and, in this instance, I ask the Government to consider very seriously whether or not clone 600 should be supplied to Indonesia as we must protect our national interests.

Finally, Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to deal very shortly with the question of the type of rubber to be produced and marketed. One of the most serious problems confronting our rubber industry is the fact that when our rubber is sent to the factories of Europe and America, there has to be a selection of rubber because not all rubber has the same qualities—some rubber is better for bounce, some is better for wearing quality and so on. We do not, unfortunately, in Malaya have the process of selection of rubber. I think we ought seriously to look into this as a long term project. Synthetic rubber has this advantage over natural rubber in that the quality and the type of synthetic rubber can be produced according to the demand of the consumer with regard to the quality of the rubber he wants and the use to which that rubber is to be put and what is to be produced out of that rubber. We do not have it in Malaya and, because we do not have it in Malaya, there is some waste which increases the difficulties and the cost of rubber to the consumer who buys

our rubber. It is, I understand, a function of the Rubber Research Institute to look into this matter, and I think with support from the Government it would not be difficult for the Rubber Research Institute to come out with a practical answer, although they do, I understand, already possess the theoretical answer to this problem.

Mr Speaker, Sir, rubber is the mainstay, as I have said, of our country. With the collapse of rubber, MARA, FAMA, and everything else, die with it. With the collapse of rubber we are in for a bleak future, and we must face it.

What I am suggesting is not going to increase the price of rubber but merely to make our production methods more efficient, in order that we might continue to survive.

We have to face the fact that tin is a wasting asset and maybe in ten to twenty years' time the known deposits would have been all but exhausted. We have to face also the prospect that rubber price will not increase, that as consumption in the various countries grows more and more synthetic plants will be set up, and synthetic rubber is improving in quality and also in quantity today. But, nevertheless, we have rubber estates in this country, our mainstay is rubber, and we must do all possible to try to save it. On this, Mr Speaker, Sir, I cannot agree with the Government that \$10 million is enough, or that what is proposed is sufficient.

I have read the Honourable Minister of Finance's speech with some care and the speech has told us a great deal, but it has not told us all. Most important are the reasons given for the fall in natural rubber prices. It is only in the last sentence that we are told that there is excessive production of synthetic rubber and that this has, to some extent, contributed to the fall in prices. We have been given the Suez Canal closure as a reason for the fall in natural rubber prices. Well, Mr Speaker, Sir, I disagree that the Suez Canal closure has in any way contributed to the fall in rubber prices.

After all, if they need our rubber it will be shipped through the Cape, and goods coming from Europe have not decreased because of the Suez Canal closure but increased in price because of the closure of Suez Canal. We are told that the recent upheavals in China have brought about a lowering of consumption and that that also has contributed to the fall in rubber prices. Unfortunately, we have not been told to what percentage the Chinese Government is responsible for rubber consumption as far as Malaya is concerned. We are also aware that China used to buy rubber from Indonesia and still buys rubber from Ceylon, and with the closure of the Indonesian market to China there is no reason why China cannot now purchase from Malaya, if we wish to sell her rubber. So that reason, I am afraid, does not go deep enough. We are also told that with the availability of the Indonesian market to America rubber prices have fallen. But then, again, I say, whilst Indonesia's rubber has been made available to America, it has been denied to China, and therefore it is only a question of substituting of markets. Well, Mr Speaker, Sir, I hope that the Government will seriously again reconsider the steps it is taking as a result of what has been said in this House.

Tuan Tajudin bin Ali (Larut Utara): Dato' Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menyokong usul yang telah di-kemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan pagi sa-malam.

Dato' Yang di-Pertua, sa-lagi kita menjadi satu negeri yang baharu membangun, tidak ada kita balance ekonomi, pada pendapat saya yang singkat, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, sa-lama itu-lah kita akan di-buli, di-tekan, di-perkutak-katekkan oleh negara² yang besar. Dan begitu-lah juga kedudukan getah kita, Dato' Yang di-Pertua. Kita telah mendengar keterangan dan huraian dengan panjang lebar-nya daripada Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan sa-malam bagaimana harga getah kita jatuh dan Kerajaan memang sedar harga getah itu mula jatuh sejak tahun 1960 lagi.

Pada pendapat saya, kita Ahli² Parlimen, tidak dapat mengaku Ahli Parlimen kalau sa-kira-nya kita terkejut di-atas kejatohan harga getah ini, kerana orang² yang ada sedikit pengalaman, pelajaran dan pengetahuan, kejatohan harga getah ini sudah samesti-nya sa-rupa-lah keadaan badan kita, satu hari kita segar, dan satu hari kita sakit. Sudah mesti.

Pada tahun 1930, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, waktu penjajahan dahulu, getah sudah jatuh harga sampai dua sen satu pound. Saya chari² dan fikir² ada-kah masa itu saperti Ahli daripada Batu itu, saya rasa masa itu dia sudah besar barangkali dalam Standard VII-VIII Sekolah Inggeris bertanya pada ayah dia, dan dia gadoh pada ayah dia, mengapa harga getah bagini jatuh ayah? Rasa saya dia tidak bertanya, tetapi masa Kerajaan Perikatan ini dia-lah yang heboh sa-kali. Jadi, ini-lah saya rasa tidak puas hati dan telatah Pembangkang ini tidak jujur dalam negara kita yang sedang membangun ini. Patut sa-kali pehak Pembangkang, termasuk-lah intelek kita daripada Universiti dalam perkara ini berat kapada ra'ayat jelata, buat-lah rayuan. Kalau takut kapada Menteri² jumpa saya kerana saya rasa, saya pandang saya itu berdiri kalau di-bandingkan di-pehak Pembangkang saya lebeh tinggi darjat saya daripada mereka itu dan saya bawa kapada Perdana Menteri dan kapada Timbalan Perdana Menteri, kita huraikan macham mana-kah kita hendak atasi perkara ini. Ini-lah penting sa-kali bagi negara kita, bukan chuma hendak menghentam Kerajaan.

Dato' Yang di-Pertua, dalam satu masa yang sengkat, Kerajaan kita sudah menempohi dua masaalah yang besar dan kita sudah pun dapat menghuraikan, mengatasi dengan senang sahaja, ia-itu kita dapat kemerdekaan dengan senang. Ini satu kejayaan yang besar bagi kita dan yang kedua-nya lepas kita menchapai kemerdekaan, dharurat kita hadapi. Kerajaan British, kekuatan Kerajaan British chuba mengatasi dharurat ini, tidak dapat. Saya teringat satu pantun, Dato' Yang di-Pertua,

saya minta kebenaran berchakap orang puteh ia-itu bunyi-nya :

“Humpty-dumpty sat on the Wall”.

Jadi, all the Queen's men apabila jatuh, dia chuba hendak save, tidak dapat juga, tetapi kebijaksanaan Kerajaan Perikatan, kita telah mengatasi perbelanjaan dharurat, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, telah memakan perbelanjaan yang besar, ia-itu dalam \$350,000 sampai \$400,000 sa-hari. Jadi, itu-lah besar-nya.

Jadi, saya hendak menarek perhatian Dewan ini, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, perkara ini ia-lah satu masalaah biasa sahaja kepada kita Ahli² Parlimen; datang masalaah ini kita chuba hurai-kan, selesaikan; ini satu ekonomi recession bagi seluroh dunia.

Saya sangat tidak puas hati di-atas ucapan Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Batu sa-malam dia kata, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, di-sini dalam *Straits Times* dia kata: “The Government must be indicted for the fall of the price of rubber”. Jadi, ini satu kalimah yang sangat berat di-pakai terhadap Kerajaan. Saya harap Ahli daripada Batu itu berfikir dua kali apabila hendak memakai kalimah yang berat saperti ini terhadap Kerajaan. Tidak siapa dapat menahan kejatohan harga getah ini. Kerajaan Perikatan bersunggo² chuba menghuraikan perkara ini, saya ucapkan tahniah kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Tun Razak dan Yang Berhormat Tun Tan Siew Sin kerana bersusah payah chepat mereka telah pergi di-Washington chuba menghuraikan perkara ini kepada Kerajaan Johnson, tetapi begitu-lah juga kedudukan negara, saperti saya telah nyatakan terlebih dahulu, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, nasib kita, sa-lagi ekonomi kita tidak ada stable dan balance sa-lama itu-lah kita akan di-buli oleh sa-siapa sa-kali pun, wa-ima kapitalis atau pun daripada Kerajaan Sosialis. Jadi, ini satu pelajaran yang kita telah dapat dan kita mesti hadapi sa-bagai satu Kerajaan yang baharu merdeka berhati² dan tidak lama kita mesti atasi dan dapat kejayaan lebih besar lagi.

Dato' Yang di-Pertua, pada kita boleh-lah bandingkan kechergasan

Kerajaan kita dengan waktu kita dalam penjajahan dahulu. Saya telah nyatakan tahun 1930 harga getah jatuh sampai dua sen satu pound, ada-kah Kerajaan British masa itu bersunggo² berusaha chuba menaikkan harga getah? Tidak. Tetapi kita sa-balek-nya bersunggo², pehak Pembangkang saya katakan, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, chuba menghuraikan masalaah ini. Saya bukan-nya orang yang senang, orang daripada kampung. Saya katakan masa susah ini, kalau betul² orang, terutama daripada Parti Buroh, berhati² sadikit-lah kepada pehak yang susah, terutama sa-kali di-kampong², umpama-nya kalau ada orang bela anjing berhentilah bagi anjing itu dengan daging, bagi keju dan sa-bagai-nya dan duit itu beri-lah kepada orang kampung. Ini sosialis yang sa-benar bukan synthetic sosialis.

Dato' Yang di-Pertua, saya teringat juga satu ucapan yang baik yang telah di-buat oleh Yang Berhormat Enche' Manickavasagam dalam Bangsa² Bersatu di-mana dia minta pertolongan daripada hati yang ikhlas dan jujur di-mana beliau telah menyatakan, saya sempat mendengar ucapan-nya menerusi talivishen mengatakan kita berkehendakkan bukan-nya synthetic friends, tetapi sympathetic friends. Perkara ini besar ma'ana-nya kepada Kerajaan Amerika, kalau mereka itu sa-benar²-nya boleh menjadi champion dalam negara yang bebas ini, tetapi mereka berperangai sa-balek-nya. Bagi pehak Kerajaan kita, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kita telah memberi segala bantuan, segala kerjasama kepada pehak Amerika. Saya sendiri telah menyatakan berapa berat Kerajaan kita menyambut Presiden Johnson apabila datang ka-sini dan baru² ini Timbalan Presiden-nya, kita sambut. Tetapi, apabila mereka buat janji kepada kita, janji itu tidak pun di-pegangi oleh Amerika.

Dato' Yang di-Pertua, chara² mengatasi masalaah ini, saya suka shorkan kepada Dewan Yang Berhormat ini, saya rasa kalau getah kita ini boleh hidup di-Amerika, perkara ini saya telah menyatakan terlebih dahulu, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kalau getah kita

ini hidup di-Tokyo, nasib getah kita ini tidak bagini; bermacam², sa-ribu satu macham boleh di-gunakan dan harga ini tidak jatuh bagini. Saya menitek-beratkan perkara ini, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kapada R.R.I. kita. Saya rasa tidak-lah pejabat itu di-rumahkan di-dalam satu rumah yang mahligai bagitu banyak pegawai²-nya tetapi chara research-nya tidak sa-kali memuaskan sa-kurang²-nya saya sendiri. Ada menyatakan bakat baru telah di-keluarkan macham mana 600 dan sa-bagai-nya, perkara ini memang benar, tetapi tidak chukup, banyak perkara lagi. Kalau getah ada hidup di-Amerika, atau di-Jepun atau di-Australia dan di-New Zealand, beribu perkara lagi, saya ulangi, boleh dapat di-jalankan dan dengan jalan ini getah kita tidak jatuh. Jadi, ini saya rasa kechuaian pehak research kita.

Perkara yang kedua, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, saya sangat sedeh hendak menyatakan chara kita export getah. Kerajaan kita terlampau menaruh ke-perchayaan kapada private sector. Orang² ini pun boleh di-katakan orang hendak meniaga. Boleh di-katakan mahu sa-tengah daripada sa-tengah mereka itu mahu menjadi lintah darat.

Jadi, ini-lah yang kita hendak jaga. Kita tengok macham biji kopi hendak di-keluarkan daripada Brazil di-keluarkan pada satu tempat sahaja ia-itu di-sahkan oleh Kerajaan. Kita tengok macham mana gula yang di-keluarkan daripada Queensland menerusi co-operative sahaja—satu channel sahaja. Jadi, dengan ini terjamin-lah harga barang² yang di-keluarkan oleh negara, atau pun orang ramai. Ini kita berpechah belah dan apabila Kerajaan kita menghantar wakil² keseluruh negara berunding dengan hal getah ini saya tengok, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, chuma Kerajaan hantar sa-orang sahaja, orang itu-lah selalu, kalau hendak disebut nama, tidak baik. Tetapi, saya rasa elok-lah orang bertukar² sadikit dan jangan harap sa-mata² orang yang ada kena mengena dengan getah sahaja, chari-lah orang lain sama.

Yang ketiga-nya, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, saya fikir pada pendapat saya yang singkat, satu faktor yang sangat²

burok yang di-jalankan oleh Amerika Sharikat ia-lah stockpile. Ini perkara-lah yang menahan getah naik. Barang di-ingat, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, stockpile ini telah pun di-tubuhkan masa dharurat dahulu, ia-itu masa peperangan, elok sangat masa itu kerana pehak Allies dia tidak dapat getah daripada sini; itu patut, kerana hendak memenangkan satu daripada chara hendak memenangkan peperangan. Tetapi, sekarang ini kita tahu sangat² pada hari ini, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, harga getah ia-lah 49 1/8 sen hari ini. Tetapi, pehak Amerika tidak berhenti, umpama-nya dia boleh dapat getah daripada Ceylon harga 40 sen, dia beli daripada sana, dia simpan banyak². Jadi, dia pukul—pukul mati barang² daripada kita, walhasil dia menyatakan dia hendak berkawan dengan kita. Inilah chara-nya pehak Amerika mendapat keuntongan yang besar sa-kali, menekan kita dan dengan ada-nya stockpile ini maka dia mendapat keuntongan yang besar.

Saya menchadangkan kalau dapat kita rundingkan dengan negara² yang mengeluarkan getah di-dunia ini, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kita pakat dan kalau pehak Amerika jujur dan sehat persahabatan kita, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kita pakat ramai² dan dengan persetujuan Kerajaan Amerika, kalau kerugian mereka itu negeri² yang mengeluarkan getah ini, sanggup ganti rugi dan Amerika hapuskan stockpile itu; ini-lah perkara yang burok sa-kali pada pandangan saya. Kalau stockpile ini dapat di-hapuskan saya kata harga getah akan meningkat. Harga getah, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, bukan tak laku, tetapi dia tidak dapat harga sa-patut-nya dengan usaha dan tenaga yang di-keluarkan oleh ra'ayat jelata Malaysia kita ini.

Akhir-nya, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, bagi pehak kita yang susah, penoreh² getah, saya merayu-lah pada pehak Kerajaan memikirkan perkara ini dengan segala kejujoran, segala kebajikan-nya di-atas dua perkara. Orang² estate, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, saya shorkan supaya elaun, atau pun potongan E.P.F. itu di-berhentikan. Dan dengan itu, potongan E.P.F. itu

kita berhenti sementara dan umpamanya satu penoreh getah daripada estate itu di-beri bayaran di-antara \$5 sampai \$10 sementara harga getah ini meleset. Bagi orang² kampung, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kita ambil registration-nya dan kita bayar daripada cess getah antara \$5 sampai \$10 juga, bukan kepada tuan² getah, tuan² tanah bukan, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, kepada orang² yang menoreh getah. Maka dengan jalan ini pada pandangan saya yang sengkat dapat-lah sedikit sa-banyak orang² kampung itu merasa satu bayaran yang tetap daripada Kerajaan kita yang adil ini daripada tiap² bulan kepada mereka itu yang susah. Sekian-lah, Dato' Yang di-Pertua, terima kaseh.

Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad (Kota Star Selatan): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya ingin mengambil bahagian sedikit di-dalam perbathasan berkenaan dengan satu chadangan baharu yang di-buat oleh Kerajaan ia-itu mengadakan Government Rubber Trading Trust Account. Saya perchaya tujuan Kerajaan mengadakan chadangan ini, langkah ini, ia-lah satu langkah yang boleh di-buat dalam jangka pendek untuk mengatasi keturunan harga getah. Langkah ini tidak-lah boleh di-jalankan dengan jangka panjang oleh kerana kalau kita selalu membiayai harga getah sa-macam ini, kita bukan menolong negeri kita sahaja, tetapi sa-balek-nya wang di-dalam negeri ini di-guna untuk mempertahankan harga getah untuk faedah negeri² yang lain yang mengeluarkan getah dan kita sendiri tentu-lah tidak sanggup menolong bukan sahaja negeri kita tetapi juga negeri² lain. Tetapi, sa-bagai satu langkah untuk jangka pendek, ini ia-lah satu langkah yang menasabah dan tentu-lah saya perchaya dapat sokongan daripada semua ra'ayat di-dalam negeri ini.

Saperti mana yang kita tahu dengan ada-nya langkah ini, maka harga getah yang telah turun dengan begitu chepat telah pun di-pertahankan. Sungguh pun harga tidak naik dengan cukup tinggi untuk mendatangkan faedah kepada ladang² getah dan

pekerja², tetapi langkah ini telah dapat juga di-pertahankan sedikit sa-banyak. Chadangan² yang datang-nya daripada pehak pembangkang, saya kaji semua-nya chadangan jangka panjang ia-itu tidak ada satu chadangan pun yang menasabah yang boleh di-buat oleh Kerajaan pada masa ini untuk mempertahankan harga getah. Berkenaan dengan chadangan jangka panjang, saya perchaya bukan sahaja pehak pembangkang, tetapi Kerajaan juga telah memikirkan berkenaan dengan perkara ini.

Bagi pehak saya, saya ingin menarek perhatian pehak Kerajaan berkenaan dengan usaha di-dalam research untuk menggunakan getah. Sa-panjang yang kita ada research di-dalam getah chuma kebanyakan-nya ia-lah berkenaan dengan pengeluaran getah. Inilah tugas yang pertama bagi R.R.I. Tetapi, berkenaan dengan kegunaan getah kita tidak begitu mementingkan. Sa-balek-nya kita berharap kepada negara² yang menggunakan getah membuat research untuk kegunaan baharu bagi getah. Jikalau mereka ini membuat research untuk kegunaan tidak baharu, maka kegunaan getah tidak-lah meningkat kepada tingkatan yang tinggi. Pada masa sekarang ini kebanyakan getah yang di-keluarkan baik pun getah synthetic, atau pun natural, di-gunakan di-dalam membuat tayar² kereta. Tetapi saya perchaya kalau di-adakan research yang systematic, tentu-lah kita dapati bahawa getah ini dapat di-gunakan di-dalam lain² benda, atau pun lain² consumer goods, atau pun capital goods. Perusahaan yang sa-macam ini, research yang sa-macam ini, tidak di-utamakan oleh Kerajaan. Kita di-sini ada satu Research Institute ia-itu R.R.I., tetapi ini tidak-lah menchukupi. Research untuk kegunaan getah mesti-lah di-buat di-tempat² yang mana consumers-nya amat banyak, umpama-nya, di-Amerika yang mana ekonomi-nya ia-lah ekonomi mass consumption, di-situ-lah yang patut di-adakan research.

Jadi saya menchadangkan kepada Kerajaan supaya di-minta kepada beberapa perusahaan research di-Amerika yang di-jalankan oleh private

enterprise di-buat research supaya getah ini dapat di-pergunakan didalam lain² barang yang di-keluarkan sa-bagai consumer goods, atau capital goods. Saya tahu beberapa perusahaan di-Amerika telah berjaya mengeluarkan bermacam² barang yang menggunakan bahan² lama yang kalau tidak ada research-nya tentu-lah tidak timbul sama sa-kali. Research² yang sa-macam ini, saya perchaya, tidak dapat di-buat di-negara kita ini oleh kerana barang² itu tidak di-gunakan di-sini. Jadi saya meminta supaya Kerajaan juga membuat peruntukan supaya boleh Kerajaan ini mengambil Research Organisation yang ada di-Amerika untuk menyelidik kegunaan getah yang lain daripada kegunaan yang biasa. Kalau-lah kita adakan penyelidikan yang sa-macam ini, maka boleh jadi getah boleh di-gunakan di-dalam serba serbi yang akan membanyakkan kegunaan getah.

Saya maseh ingat pada masa Jepun di-waktu mana di-negara kita ini kekurangan minyak, pada masa itu getah di-gunakan sa-bagai minyak untuk menjalankan motokar. Minyak ini tentu-lah satu minyak yang mutunya terlampau rendah, tetapi saya perchaya kalau-lah kita ada research untuk membuang apa sahaja yang kotor di-dalam getah yang menahan getah itu di-gunakan untuk minyak, barangkali juga dapat kita menggunakan getah sa-bagai satu daripada bahan untuk mengeluarkan minyak untuk kegunaan yang lebeh banyak lagi. Jadi ini-lah yang patut di-buat oleh Kerajaan di-dalam jangka panjang ia-itu menchari jalan supaya getah ini di-gunakan di-dalam lebeh banyak lagi benda² yang di-gunakan oleh manusia.

Sa-lain daripada itu, saya ingin mengingatkan Kerajaan supaya berusaha menchari jalan supaya diversification di-dalam agriculture ini di-utamakan. Saya perchaya kalau getah harga tinggi tentu-lah tidak guna kita menukarkan perusahaan getah kepada perusahaan tanaman yang lain, tetapi sekarang ini apabila harga getah telah turun, kalau-lah kebun² getah kita ini dapat di-tukar kepada kebun² yang

lain, ini akan mendatangkan faedah kepada negeri ini. Apa yang patut di-buat oleh Kerajaan ia-lah membuat Marketing Research untuk menchari apa-kah bahan yang di-kehendaki oleh dunia yang boleh di-tanam di-sini, umpama-nya, kalau di-dalam dunia ini berkehendakkan kapada starch yang lebeh banyak maka di-negara kita ini chukup sesuai untuk menanam ubi kayu. Ini patut di-galakkan oleh Kerajaan, dan jikalau di-dalam dunia ada lagi benda² yang di-kehendaki yang boleh di-tanam di-dalam negeri ini, maka Kerajaan mesti-lah menyelidik berkenaan dengan marketing di-dalam bahan² baru yang sa-macam ini.

Chadangan saya yang kedua ia-lah chadangan di-dalam jangka panjang, tetapi berkenaan dengan jangka pendek, saya tidak nampak lain chara, melainkan Kerajaan sendiri menjaga tentang speculation di-dalam paper rubber dan juga mengadakan apa yang di-chadangkan oleh Kerajaan ia-itu Government Rubber Trading Trust Account ini untuk membeli getah, kalau-lah harga getah turun terlampau chepat. Terima kaseh.

Tuan Tan Toh Hong (Bukit Bintang): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan izin Tuan, saya akan berchakap bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we are here today participating in a debate of tremendous importance. The crux and dimension of the problem are how to stabilise the price of rubber in the long run and how to counteract against excessive paper rubber speculation, which has accentuatedly depressed the price in the short run. On the solutions to these problems will determine whether we will have an expanding economy, developing economy, a better life for our children and our children's children. Whether we like it or not, rubber is still the kingpin of our economy. Yet, at this critical juncture, having heard the leaders of the Opposition in this House, we have yet to hear a single good, workable constructive suggestion on how to overcome this problem. So far we have heard from them nothing but destructive criticisms.

Sir, I submit these problems are serious matters and too serious for them to make political capital out of.

It is misleading for the Member for Batu to suggest that the Alliance Government's action to enter the rubber market has not benefited the small-holders. It is arguable and it is very difficult for the Honourable Member to disprove that had not the Government entered the rubber market the price of rubber might go down much lower than the present level. Rubber market forces and price determinants are such that it might be worse—it might have even gone down to 40 cents. This is very possible in face of determined manipulation on paper rubber and economic subversion by a small but powerful group of tycoons operating from a foreign base.

The Honourable Member for Bungsar suggests that the Government should not enter the rubber market and should not act or take counter-offensive action against excessive paper rubber speculation. Sir, I beg to differ on this point. I submit there is only one course of action against this group, namely, a more determined unmerciful action on the part of the Government to eliminate them.

Persidangan di-tanggohkan pada pukul 1.00 petang.

Persidangan di-sambong sa-mula pada pukul 4.00 petang.

(Tuan Yang di-Pertua *mempengerusikan Meshuarat*)

Perbahathan di-sambong sa-mula.

Tuan Tan Toh Hong: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan izin tuan, saya berucap dalam bahasa Inggeris oleh sebab pemasaran getah ini ada-lah sangat technical.

As I was saying, Mr Speaker, Sir, I submit that there is only one course of action against this group of tycoons, viz, a more determined unmerciful counter-offensive on the part of the Government to eliminate them. While they are playing with dollars and cents and bigger profits, we are fighting an

economic battle of life and death. The livelihood of thousands of people depends on the well-being of the rubber industry. In the final battle between this small group of tycoons and the Government of Malaysia, the Government with its immense power and immense resources cannot help but win.

It is equally ridiculous, Mr Speaker, Sir, for the Honourable Member for Dato Kramat to suggest that, because only \$10 million is voted for, the Government's trading operations would be ineffective, and for the operations to be successful a much more substantial sum is needed. Surely, the Honourable Member from Dato Kramat underestimates the Government's monetary resources to which the Finance Minister could resort. In addition, surely, the Honourable Member is aware of the first basic principle of business, viz, to trade in a turnover of \$100 million, one does not need a capital of \$100 million? To counter the excessive manipulations of paper rubber, one deals in buying and selling, thereby trading on the price margins or price differentials. Put it in another simple crude way, one does not need 50 cents to trade in a pound of paper rubber that is quoted at 50 cents—only a fraction of the 50 cents as capital would be sufficient. To deal over a period of time in paper rubber quoted, let us say, as worth \$100 million, it only needs a fraction of that \$100 million in actual currency.

Sir, if Members of Opposition could kindly suggest good workable alternatives, I have no doubt the Honourable Ministers concerned would not hesitate to consider them. But please, I appeal to some of the Opposition Members, do not take the attitude that if the Government does nothing, the Opposition criticises the Government for doing nothing, and if the Government takes action, they criticise the Government for taking action. What is the logic, Sir?

Hence, Mr Speaker, Sir, the Alliance Government ought to be congratulated

for its decision to enter the rubber market on September 13, 1967, with the limited objective of countering excessive paper rubber speculation. Can the Members of the Opposition suggest an alternative measure which would have the same effectiveness? The decision to enter the market has been bold. It was carried out with swiftness and decisiveness to meet the limited objectives of the operations. 'Sir, this has been a timely and an appropriate measure to counter the actions of the manipulators, who sought to enrich themselves by ruining our economy.

Sir, I submit that the long-term problem is that while we are the largest producer of natural rubber and sell our rubber in an international market, we only occupy a comparatively small position in the world market. As the Honourable Minister of Finance has said, we only produce 17% of the total natural and synthetic rubber production in the world. Because of this, it is unfortunate that Malaysia has no real control on a market of such world-wide mechanism.

We have heard that the present unduly depressed price is due to a combination of factors, viz., a build-up of the synthetic and natural rubber stock, surplus capacity of synthetic rubber plants, reduced consumption of rubber in the United States of America and Western Europe. Under these circumstances, I suggest that the following major courses of action should continue to be pursued and pursued with vigour.

Sir, if we aim to achieve in the long run orderly marketing of rubber on a global basis to maintain steady equitable prices free from all unnecessary ups and downs which affect adversely both the producers and the consumers, the Government should spare no efforts to continue its good work of getting all the producers together, both the natural and the synthetic producers. Only through organising themselves into a joint market organisation on an international basis to co-operate and co-ordinate their sales efforts could there be orderly marketing. After all,

the present unduly depressed price of rubber hurts not only the natural rubber producers but also the synthetic rubber producers.

It would be ideal, Sir, if an international rubber commodity agreement could be executed, comprising both synthetic and natural rubber producers, with a view to control production, to operate a stable price-range within a minimum and ceiling price through a price stabilisation fund. There exists already other types of commodity agreements which are quite successful within the limited objectives set by the respective agreements, viz., the International Wheat Agreement, the International Tin Agreement, the International Sugar Agreement, etc.

Sir, in the short-run the Government must continue its trading operations in the rubber market to check excessive paper market manipulation. There is no other way. In addition, it has already done good work in pioneering the production of new forms of rubber such as S.M.R. and Heveacrub, which fetch a better price than the R.S.S. rubber. I would like to urge the Government to assist our rubber producers, especially the smallholders and tappers, so that they can produce these types of rubber. This will relieve somewhat the impact of depressed R.S.S. price. I am sure, Mr Speaker, Sir, all small rubber holders and tappers will support fully the suggestion by the Honourable Minister of Finance that more agricultural land be given to them to cultivate cash crops to supplement their income. Cash crops like maize, bananas, sweet potatoes, yam, tapioca, etc., will definitely help them to tide over the low price of rubber.

In conclusion, Sir, the Alliance Government has done much to make Malaysia enjoy a comparatively high standard of living by Asian standards, and despite the present difficulties my Alliance colleagues and I on this side of the House will continue to support the Government in its efforts and determination to maintain that standard of living (*Applause*). We know the

Government has the capacity and the capability to do so. Thank you, Sir.

Tuan T. Mahima Singh (Port Dickson) (*Dengan izin*): Mr Speaker, Sir, in supporting the motion brought forward by the Minister, I would like to compliment the Ministry for the timely action at this time, when could be called almost a time of economic disaster. It is the same kind of leadership that helped to save the country when we were faced by the communist menace. The same timely and bold action helped to steel the country against Confrontation, and I am sure the same leadership and timely action will find a solution to this economic threat to our country. It is very gratifying to note that the Ministry has taken a very timely lead in bringing together the producing countries, and also efforts are being made to collect together the opinion of the synthetic producers, because the time has now come when the two groups of rubber producing scientists must get together in a friendly manner to be able to face the future.

The measure being suggested by the Ministry now, I am confident, is a temporary measure. In the meantime perhaps, other ways and means would be found to stabilise the price of rubber and to give the producers and the country fair price. I would call these ideas almost a stockpile of ideas. If may be allowed to contribute my humble suggestions, I would follow up the suggestion given by my colleague that the smallholder, the producer, who has only about 10 or 15 acres, should not be overlooked. His holdings are small, his total contribution to the country may not be very big, but to him the difference of 5 cents and 7 cents in a pound of rubber makes a difference between having or not having another shirt or another pair of shoes.

The Rubber Research Institute has done a wonderful job in showing producers how to produce more pounds per acre. I would suggest that a little more could be done in helping the small producers to produce a better grade of rubber. It is a well-known fact, either through lack of knowledge

or through lack of facilities, that the small producer always has a very poor price for his produce. I think a time might even come when a producer who produces through his carelessness or inefficiency very low grade of rubber should even be punished for it, because he is bringing loss to the country in the way of foreign exchange.

This problem of the country trying to absorb the excess rubber, as I said, I take to be a temporary measure because, as the Minister has pointed out, we produce only about 17% of the total and about 40% of the natural rubber. As such, any action taken on our part alone would not be able to stabilise the price of rubber in the world market, but somebody has to take the lead and Malaysia being the largest single producer of natural rubber is the right country that should take the lead in getting other producers together.

The other suggestion I would put forward, Sir, is that as we are producers of natural rubber, we should contribute as much ideas as possible for the greater use of rubber. I would even suggest that rubber goods that are imported into this country and have contents of synthetic rubber be asked to pay a greater tax as compared with goods that are made wholly of rubber. In the same way, local manufacturers manufacturing rubber goods containing 100% natural rubber should be given some inducement as an encouragement to keep away from synthetic rubber. I would even suggest that large producers on a world scale be invited to Malaysia to put up their factories at the very source where rubber is produced, and doing that would encourage these giant manufacturers who have to invest tens of millions or even hundreds of millions of dollars. The attraction will have to be very very solid, but in the long run I am certain it will pay in the way of absorbing more of our natural rubber.

I would make another suggestion, Sir. We have Nobel Prizes for various studies that enrich human life. I would suggest to the Ministry to give thought to having an equivalent of Nobel Prize

for the scientist who produces the best idea for the greater use of natural rubber. We could call it by any name—we could call it Nobel Prize for Rubber, we could call it Malaysian Nobel Prize. Here, I would strongly suggest that there be a competition for the best scientists in the world to put their minds to bring in ideas for better and greater use of rubber. Thank you, Sir.

Tuan Ramli bin Omar (Krian Darat): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka hendak mengambil peluang berchakap sedikit bagi menyokong tindakan Kerajaan terhadap masalah getah yang telah di-kemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan kita dalam Dewan Yang Mulia ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sa-bagai wakil daripada kawasan petani, menyokong penoh langkah Kerajaan supaya ekonomi petani² yang sa-bilangan besar daripada mereka bergantung kepada hasil perusahaan getah. Bagitu-lah hendak-nya pertalian antara Kerajaan dan ra'ayat sa-panjang masa, kerana kita telah di-pilih oleh ra'ayat untuk mentadbirkan negara kita ini dan hendak-lah kita sedia menolong ra'ayat dalam penghidupan-nya. Ini ada-lah satu perkara yang berani Kerajaan Perikatan telah menjalankan tindakan-nya terhadap sabersif ekonomi kita untuk melumpuhkan kedudukan negara kita. Dan juga, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menguchapkan tahniah sa-kali lagi kepada Kerajaan Perikatan dalam langkah yang berani bagini menchebor-kan diri bersama² ra'ayat saperti pepatah kita berkata: "Berat sama di-pikul, ringan sama di-jinjing."

Pada permulaan-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka mengingatkan kepada Kerajaan bahawa perkara sa-bersif yang melumpuhkan ekonomi negara kita ia-lah datang-nya daripada getah tiruan, tetapi sunggoh pun bagitu kita telah lama lagi mengatasi ekonomi negara bagi masa akan datang dengan menanam kelapa sawit. Dasar Kerajaan Perikatan bukan-lah sa-bagaimana dasar penjajah hanya bergantung ekonomi kepada perusahaan getah dan bijeh, tetapi matlamat Kera-

jaan kita dapat benar bahawa ada-lah sa-suatu yang hendak mengancham ekonomi negara kita, tetapi kita telah berfikir dua kali terlebih dahulu dengan menggantikan getah dengan menanam satu benda lain, kira-nya perkara sabersif ekonomi kita ini berlaku.

Perkara yang saya ingin memberi tahu kepada Kerajaan ia-lah hendak-lah Kerajaan menyekat barang² daripada buatan getah tiruan yang mana telah melumpuhkan ekonomi negara² yang mengeluarkan getah asli. Kita tahu barang² getah buatan luar negeri, terutama-nya buatan negeri² yang telah maju, ada-lah menggunakan getah tiruan dan barang² ini hendak-lah ditegah sama sa-kali daripada masok ka-dalam negeri kita.

Satu lagi perkara yang saya suka kaitkan di-dalam Dewan yang mulia ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia-lah berkenaan dengan getah² yang di-beli oleh Kerajaan dalam sedikit masa ini dengan kerana kejatohan dan merosot-nya harga getah. Dengan itu Kerajaan kita telah mengeluarkan berjuta² ringgit untuk menolong pemasaran pembelian getah daripada ra'ayat jelata yang mana kehidupan mereka hanya bergantung kepada getah. Oleh itu saya berharap dan memberi ingatan kepada Kerajaan jangan-lah membeli getah² di-luar daripada Malaysia yang mana kita tahu Singapura ada membeli banyak getah daripada negeri² yang mengeluarkan getah, tetapi oleh kerana dunia semua tahu bahawa kita membeli getah dengan harga yang baik maka saya berharap kita jangan-lah membeli getah² di-luar daripada negara kita sa-lain daripada getah² keluaran kita sendiri. Niat kita membeli getah daripada ra'ayat kita bukan untuk menolong orang menchari keuntungan dalam suasana yang kelam kabut itu. Kita tahu ada negara yang tidak mempunyai sa-batang pun pokok getah yang telah mengeluarkan negara-nya sa-bagai negeri pengeluar getah pada hal mereka hanya menjadi orang tengah sahaja.

Baharu² ini kita telah dapat sahabat baharu, ia-itu Russia dan sahabat kita yang baharu ini telah menunjokkan keyakinan kita dengan memulakan

pembelian getah dan apa yang meriangkan hati kita semua ia-lah getah itu di-eksepotkan daripada port kita sendiri dan saya berharap bagi masa yang akan datang getah² yang di-salurkan keluar negeri hendak-lah di-salurkan melalui port² kita sendiri dan mengharumkan perdagangan negeri kita. Saya fikir baharu-lah pedagang² yang dahulu-nya di-tutup mata oleh penjajah, mereka tidak kenal kapada negara kita bahkan di-kata-nya port kita kurang facilities, atau hanya port untuk boat² kecil, atau sampan² sahaja, tetapi sekarang sudah terbalek.

Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ini-lah sahaja, saya menyokong atas tindakan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan. Terima kasih.

Dr Lim Chong Eu (Tanjong) (*dengan izin*): Mr Speaker, Sir, I must say that I rise to participate in this debate with a certain degree of trepidation because, on this subject of rubber prices, anticipation of what will happen to it, I think, no one, not even the Honourable Minister of Finance, who has been associated with rubber and the production of rubber all his life, would dare really give a strong forecast and real forecast.

Sir, I would like to begin by saying that I am reminded first and foremost of the statement that was so clearly made to all of us by the Honourable Minister of Finance when he presented his last Budget to us; he had said, "In the long run (with regard to our G.N.P.) we shall all have to run very fast, but we will still be standing still." Sir, I think we are not only running very fast and standing still but we are also panting very hard, and I would not like to indulge in too much speculation when I am short of air. As I listened to much of the congratulatory opinions expressed by the back-benchers of the Alliance, I have the impression that much of it is expenditure of the last breath of air.

Sir, why are we so concerned with this motion? The motion *per se*, I think, is a straightforward and simple one. I think, Sir, everybody in this House agrees that it is far better for

the Government to regularise what it has done and transfer its expenditure for an expedition in the rubber market by using funds from the Consolidated Fund by providing for the establishment of a Government Rubber Trading Trust Account. That, I think, purely from the financial and accounting point of view is a sound procedure. However, Sir, the real concern of this House, and the real concern throughout the country, is that the Government has had to create this Fund and the Government has had to utilise Government funds to intervene in the falling prices of rubber. Sir, I would like further to add that the concern in this country today would not be so acute if, in fact, we were only purely concerned with this question of the falling price of rubber. I think, Sir, the concern becomes urgent and becomes acute, because the falling prices of rubber, equated with the increasing prices of commodities, for example, rice, sugar, etc., has made the economies of our country, and the economies of every single individual, particularly those of the lower income group, a matter of real survival, a matter of life and death. I would say that it is not even a matter of an extra shirt—it is a matter of the shirt on his back against having no shirt at all.

Sir, for years actually ever since the Alliance Government came into power ten years ago, we have heard about the Alliance Government's determination to encourage diversification in our economy, and we have heard for ten years this perpetual drumming that the Alliance Government is determined to encourage diversification in our economy, so that we are no longer dependent upon the two major pillars of our inheritance from the colonial masters, namely, on rubber and tin. Now, every single year the Government comes to this House to present its Budget, and every few years it comes to this House asking for monies in terms of its Five-Year Plans, and at each time the Government tells us, "We are diversifying and we are becoming more and more independent of these two major pillars." However, Sir, the real crux of the problem is that today we face this difficulty, because the Government's

attempt to encourage diversification in other products has not, in actual fact, caught up with the situation today—that is to say that a fall in the price of rubber cannot be met by a corresponding increase in the price of the other products which the Government has been trying to develop.

Sir, we can say why we on this side of the House, in the Opposition, do not just lend ourselves to congratulatory messages to the Government benches. It is because, in the long run, for ten years the Government's policies have been inefficient to meet this present crises. It is admitted that the Government could not foresee the closure of the Suez Canal; it is admitted that the Government could not foresee circumstances such as the American stockpiling taking effect on us; it is admitted that the Government could not foresee confrontation; it is admitted that the Government could not foresee the consequences of the ending of confrontation. However, Sir, I think the Government will have to admit that it has always, in spite of its attempt to encourage a diversification, held on far too strongly, and far too intimately, to the idea of the beautiful prospects of rubber.

Sir, this is November of 1967. Right up to December of 1966, the view of the Government with regard to rubber was still rosy and bright. Sir, with your permission, I would like to refer to this pamphlet which is published by the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya entitled "Malaysian Natural Rubber—Future of the Industry". This is a reproduction of a speech made by the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry in December, 1966. Sir, the conclusion of this particular pamphlet says:

"Having said all this, you may ask, 'what then is the future of natural rubber in Malaysia?' I think that the future is still bright and profitable and that we can still maintain it as a labour-intensive industry, provided of course we increase the efficiency and reduce the cost of our production", and so forth and so on.

Sir, I have been very fair, because I have read the proviso. However, Sir, there is no question about it, that even

up to December, 1966, the basic fundamental policy of the Government with regard to its economies is that rubber is still a stable, viable bright product of our country.

Sir, right at the very beginning we have, and I quote: "The type of attitude which the Government has". The Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry is quoted to have said:

"A world-wide increase in rubber consumption to the present American level would raise world demand from 5.3 million tons to 23 million tons. Even if Eastern Europe alone increased its *per capita* consumption to half that of America, an extra two million tons would be needed, and a similar increase in China would demand a further five million tons."

Sir, from this type of calculations, the Government built up its economic prospects and calculated its potentials. However, Sir, it is chastening—and I think all of us must understand this very clearly—that today, in this debate, we are told by the Honourable Minister of Finance that in actual fact all the estimates that have been made, not by you and I, who are laymen as far as the rubber industry is concerned, but by people who are really experts in this kind of field that in actual fact—I quote—"the International Rubber Study Group which met in Lagos last year estimated that consumption would exceed production by 25,000 tons." Actually what has happened, however, Sir, is that the excess is now estimated—again I quote—at 32,000 tons. Sir, there is a miscalculation in this case. The Honourable Minister of Finance in his own speech uses the word "miscalculation" and the amount of miscalculation now, from the point of view of consumption of rubber, goes into the neighbourhood of 150,000 tons—that is, roughly the figure upon which the Honourable Minister of Finance

Tun Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member, I think, has got his figures a bit mixed up. What I said in my statement yesterday was that the International Rubber Study Group had estimated that consumption would exceed production by 25,000 tons, whereas what is likely to happen this year is that production is likely to

exceed consumption by about 32,000 tons. Now, that is one aspect of it. What I also said was that world stocks of natural rubber have risen to 920,000 tons in July this year and this was roughly 150,000 tons in excess of what would be regarded as normal, because that was the level which prevailed in July last year.

Dr Lim Chong Eu: Mr Speaker, Sir, I may have presented my figures in a less succinct manner than the Honourable Minister of Finance, but after all I am not mixed up, I am trying to quote entirely from what we have in this paper. Sir, the point is that the dimension of the problem that confronts us is, in actual fact, that if in the words of the Honourable Minister of Finance, we were to try now to wipe out this difficulty that we face, we would really have to eliminate this excess stock of 150,000 tons. Sir, we also know from what the Honourable Minister of Finance has told us that the Government has already so far used \$10 million from the Consolidated Fund. Sir, how much the Government is going to commit itself with regard to further sums of money, when this new Fund is created, is something which we do not know.

Sir, before I go to this point, I would like to tell two little parables. Sir, when a boat is sinking one does not quarrel about where the holes come from or how the holes were created. In this particular case, it is easy enough for the Opposition to say that most of the holes were created by the Alliance's inefficiency and it is also easy enough for the Alliance to say, "Oh, no, we did not create these holes. It was just the course of history and it is the rest of the world making these holes". However, Sir, we are all in this boat and we have to use some kind of measure to clear and bail out this water. What we are trying to assess, however, Sir, is whether the provision of this Government Trust Fund to allow the Government to intervene in the market can really satisfactorily solve the problem. Sir, I say, if a ship is filling up, you either put in a pump to clear out the water, or you use some other means, no matter how simple it may be, to do

so, or else do not travel in that ship. I mean, that is as straight forward as all that.

The second factor, Sir, is that everybody knows that anyone who starts playing with the rubber market is gambling. That is to say, there is no absolute certainty that anybody who manipulates the market or goes into the paper rubber market is going to make money or be successful. There is every great possibility that he will lose. However, when the Government intervenes in the market, it goes in not like other speculators but it goes in with its hands tied. Everyone knows that people who play the rubber market can make money when rubber prices go up but they can also make money when the rubber prices go down.

Unfortunately, in the case of Government, it can only make money if the rubber prices are maintained or the rubber prices go up. If the rubber prices go down the Government is sure to lose money. So, Sir, the gamble is loaded against the Government. This particular method of going into the rubber market, this particular method of trying to solve our immediate problem, Sir, giving the Government all the credit that it deserves, at its very best can only be a temporary measure, and it is commonsense possibility that it is a stop-gap measure which cannot be effective at all.

Sir, we have seen Government spending \$10 million from the Contingencies Fund on this one particular series of intervention in rubber when it first reached the critical stage. How long did the Government manage to sustain the price of rubber before it dropped again? How much will the Government require of this country to spend from this Trust Fund, in order further to intervene in the market to maintain the prices of rubber at its level?

Sir, I say that if we try to go on arguing about the pros and cons of the establishment of this Fund and its usage, it all boils down to the fact that your guess is as good as mine—that is to say that in the matter of whether this Fund is going to be successful or

not, anybody's guess is as good as the other person's. However, Sir, even the Minister of Finance has agreed that in the long term such a Fund does not solve the problem and I think the concern today in this House, in this debate, is really what are we going to do, not with the absolute immediate problem in hand, nor with the long term prospects, but what are we going to do in the time being, to tide our economy.

Sir, I do suggest that strangely enough the Honourable Prime Minister sometimes comes up with bright ideas, without having consulted the Minister of Finance. When, he went to his tour in Sarawak he came back with the idea that he suddenly discovered from his experience, purely as a Kedah man and a man who come from soil which produces rice, that the soil of Sarawak is good for rice and we should plant rice quickly.

Sir, rice is a quick crop. It is a crop which is edible, it can feed our stomachs, and certainly one of the major factors in the present controversy is that lower prices of rubber are accentuated by increased prices of rice. So, I do hope that the Government will rapidly try to encourage the further opening up of new land for the production of rice, and it should look into the possibility of allowing the smallholders, particularly of estates which are run on a non-economic way, and estates which are of old rubber trees and low yielding rubber, to convert themselves from rubber production to the production of edible commodities and other cash crops that have been mentioned in this House.

Sir, I had pointed out to the Government as long ago as November 1965, when we were discussing the question of the setting up of co-operatives, or the Co-operatives Bill, and also in our debate over the Land Code Bill, that there is a silent revolution going on in the rural areas and that the type of development the Government is anticipating or projecting in the rural areas is one which is only nibbling at the edges of the real fundamental problems confronting us. And at that time, Sir,

I warned the Government, and here I quote:

"But this revolution, Sir, will not be silent for very long because if within the next five years, within the period of the Malaysia Plan the Alliance Party fails to provide the people in the rural areas, call them what you like, bumiputras, anything you like, if you fail to give them this uplift in their livelihood, if you fail to raise their economy, if you do not give them a stable livelihood and if you do not give them an ensured future prospect not only for themselves, but for the generations to come, then the silent revolution in the rural areas might well become an explosive one."

Sir, today, we have reached just this stage in our economy and this stage in our national history. The Government's attempt to meet the falling prices of rubber for sale is one of anybody's guess. However, the Government's basic policies towards the country and its people, I feel, require fundamental radical changes. And these radical changes were discussed in this House by Alliance back-benchers themselves, who have great experience of the real feeling and the real temper, and the mood of the people in the rural areas. Two things that the people in the rural areas were very strongly against were fragmentation of estates and estates which were not immediately productive of the amount of livelihood which they expected. To ask them to go on planting rubber in small estates, or to allow fragmentation to go on under the present time, will be completely suicidal for the economy of this country. Sir, I ask the Government, therefore, to immediately launch into a campaign seriously to look into the problem of completely rehabilitating the outlook of the smallholders of rubber, that is to say, Sir, Government should try to see whether or not Government can persuade smallholders, who have already replanted and who are already enjoying the benefits of the highest yielding rubber crops, to collectivise, to group together into large co-operative holdings which are economic, and for Government to look into those small rubber holdings which are non-economic and low yielding and persuade them to go into other cash crops production, and if necessary, Sir, even to return to the simple production of rice if the soil is suitable.

Sir, I feel that apart from the discussions which, we are all engaged in at the present time over a minor issue of the provision of a Trust Fund, I hope that Government will produce a paper on the future of rubber and put forward its plans on a White Paper to be discussed and debated in this House at length, so that the position and the place of rubber industry can be seriously discussed by everybody in this House and not just taken up as a matter of debate and of passing observations either during discussions of the Budget or in Bills of this nature. Sir, I feel that the lead in this particular case should be taken by Government, because the Government possesses far more of the relevant immediate facts than Members of the Opposition; and whilst we can give a lot of generalised observations, such as why does not Government now immediately embark upon a nationalised marketing board rather than having the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry incur public indignation and wrath every now and then by having to warn people, "You must buy, or I will take away your licence, or encourage people to trade, otherwise I will stop your industry", why not Government boldly present a Paper to create a National Rubber Marketing Board, which will act a buffer between our own producers and purchasers outside this country?

Sir, when I make a statement like this, as I said at the beginning, I am very diffident, because I am not in possession of facts which Government definitely has. However, Sir, I feel that if Government were to really lay down the facts on the table, we on the Opposition certainly will help to contribute, not to preserve the Alliance Government in power but to preserve our nation. Our destructiveness is directed not towards the destruction of the Government, but destruction of the Alliance Party in power.

However, Sir, there is one last point which I would like to mention and that is, if the observation made by the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry in December 1966, is valid, namely, that if the Eastern European

market and the Chinese market were really open to us, the possible increased consumption of rubber would go up, I think my mathematics should be correct, to the tune of something like 7 million tons. If that were so, Sir, I feel that there is an air of unreality in the replies that were given to us by the Honourable the Minister of External Affairs about good communists and bad communists and the communist countries, anti-communism, pro-communism and so on. I feel, Sir, from the point of view of survival, economic survival of this country, a very positive, clear-cut, hard-headed pragmatic attempt should be made for our Malaysian rubber to reach the Eastern European market and the Chinese market. It is not enough for us, Sir, to send representatives just to visit the fringe of China, enjoy themselves at Hongkong, and come back with a statement which is equivocal.

Sir, I feel that the Government must drastically change its policy in international relations in order to make this market, this potential market of seven million tons, open to our producers. Under these circumstances, I would like in general terms to state that what I have said is with regard to the Government establishment of a Rubber Trading Trust Fund, and I feel, Sir, there is not much quarrel on it *per se*. However, Sir, I have very great doubts whether such a Trust Fund or Government's intervention in the market of falling rubber prices is really going to be effective, either in the short run or in the long run.

Sir, I suggest that the Government radically look into its fundamental policies with regard to co-operative holdings rather than its idea of, in Government's term, an Alliance boast of an affluent society, a property-owning society. I mean, Sir, the Government should look into the concept of asking the small-holdings to form larger co-operatives which are economic and which can compete with synthetic rubber. Sir, the other point is that Government look into the possibilities of establishing national rubber marketing schemes; and, thirdly, Sir, Government should seriously think and

re-think on its foreign policies in terms of our economic survival, in order, first, to reach these two potential large markets and also, Sir, to consolidate the work that has already been done in the last few months of Government inviting other natural rubber producer countries to a conference.

I would like to see, Sir, an immediate response from the countries, who participated in the recent conferences held in Kuala Lumpur, in that they also created Rubber Trading Trust Accounts in the different countries of all the participants of these conferences. Otherwise, Sir, we will have to take the attitude of the Honourable Minister of External Affairs this morning, when he was referring to the visit of the Honourable Prime Minister from Japan, who comes here and sympathises with our problems of rubber and goes back and announces the establishment of a synthetic rubber plant—he said “Well, what can we do, that is the way of the world?” Sir, if that is the way of the world, we have to be very tough, we have to look after our own interests first, do not let us invite far too many conferences. Wine these people, make them enjoy themselves here, pat them on the back, give them a lot of congratulatory messages, present them with all sorts of medals and accolades, and then they go back and undermine you immediately. Sir, I would honestly like to see this particular establishment on our part followed up by an equivalent type of Trust Fund in all the countries that participated in this Rubber Conference. Otherwise, Sir, I suggest that the Government do not invite them in the next conference, because what you will be doing will be inviting people, who will cut you in your throat because you told them too much.

Sir, I seriously urge the Government, first and foremost, to revise its attitude and go for this possible market of seven million tons of rubber per year; forget all these “isms” at this present moment, Sir, and let us take care of the stomachs of our own people by getting other people, who can consume

rubber not through their mouth, but through their industries, to buy from us. And, Sir, I say that the first thing the Government will have to do is really radically to review its policies with regard to the production of rubber and with regard to the position of Malaya in the whole world as a rubber producer.

Tuan Haji Othman bin Abdullah (Hilir Perak): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya juga memberikan sokongan kepada usul yang di-kemukakan oleh Menteri Kewangan bagi membentok suatu Trading Trust Account yang tujuan-nya telah dapat kita ambil ia-itu untuk menjaga jangan terlalu merosot-nya harga getah yang telah merosot pada hari ini.

Kekuatan ekonomi yang ada pada negeri kita pada beberapa tahun yang lalu dan kemudian di-ikuti dengan kekuatan politik di-mana kedua²-nya itu merupakan dua sejoli di-dalam mengisi kema'moran negara dan mengisi apa yang di-kehendaki oleh ra'ayat di-dalam sa-buah negara yang telah merdeka 10 tahun lama-nya. Tetapi menjadi suatu titek² hitam di-dalam sejarah pembangunan ekonomi negara kita pada sa'at² yang terakhir ini dengan merosot-nya harga getah di-mana boleh di-katakan melibatkan kehidupan ra'ayat di-kampung². Sa-kali pun kemerosotan harga getah ini bukan hanya di-rasa'i oleh negara kita sa-bagai negara pengeluar getah asli, tetapi juga melibatkan negara² lain yang juga sama dengan kita yang mendapat hasil-nya daripada pengeluaran getah asli, tetapi sa-bagaimana yang telah di-sebutkan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri bahawa negara kita mengeluarkan 40 peratus daripada seluruh pengeluaran getah asli dalam dunia ini.

Maka dengan kerana itu kita merasa kemerosotan harga getah ini menjadi suatu chabaran kepada ra'ayat kita sa-chara langsung. Pada sa'at² ke-belakangan ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita pernah mendengar di-dalam perjumpaan² politik, di-dalam rapat² umum di-politik, yang di-anjorkan oleh Parti² Pembangkang khusus-nya yang

Persidangan di-sambong sa-mula pada pukul 5.38 petang.

(Timbalan Yang di-Pertua *mem-pengerusikan Meshuarat*)

Perbahathan di-sambong sa-mula.

Tuan Stanley Ho Ngun Khiu (Sabah): Mr Speaker, Sir, the Government's move to create the Rubber Trading Trust Account is most welcome. No matter what the result of this device will be, the necessity to assist rubber producers, especially the smallholders at this time, is beyond dispute. In Sabah more than 50% of the population depend on this industry and most of the smallholdings are on the point of bankruptcy. Therefore, this measure of stabilising the rubber prices will help to tide them over for a period until other crops can be grown to change the economic pattern of the State.

Mr Speaker, Sir, according to the Honourable Minister of Finance the Malayan Rubber Fund Board has been appointed as the buying and selling agent. I wish very much to know what arrangements are being undertaken for the East Malaysian States. As Sabah is more than a thousand miles away, I hope that our rubber producers will benefit by this new measure and will not be left out, because in normal days our rubber is being sold at the Singapore market at \$10 below the value. I hope the Government will pay special attention to Sabah. Thank you.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Dr Lim Swee Aun): Mr Speaker, Sir, may I have your permission to speak in English?

Mr (Deputy) Speaker: Yes.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, from the speeches that we heard from the Opposition benches, it would appear that they have painted the picture of natural rubber's future so black that natural rubber has no future at all. This I do not agree. I still hold the view that there is a bright future for natural rubber. The reasons for the present fall in prices have been given by the Honourable Minister of Finance, and

I would like to make it a point that the recent fall is due to a world economic recession very similar to the one in 1958 and that there are already signs now that the economics of these industrialised countries are picking up, and with the picking up of the world economy the price of rubber should gradually increase.

Sir, the Honourable Member for Tanjong has said and has quoted me in this pamphlet issued by the Rubber Research Institute about the possible new markets for rubber. Sir, we know from statistics that America today uses 23.6 pounds of rubber per person per annum, whereas in China it only uses 0.45 pound, or almost 1/2 pound, per person per annum; and in studies by economists it has been found that as a country improves in its G.N.P. it uses more and more rubber *per capita*. Therefore, in the world, where two-thirds of the world's people are still in the developing countries, in the process of developing and increasing their standards of living, there will be greater demand for the use of rubber and the total volume of rubber consumed in the world steadily increases. From projections over the last few years, we have noticed that the annual growth of consumption of the total rubber in the world is about 9 per cent per annum. Of this annual growth of 9 per cent, natural rubber contributes to 3 per cent and synthetic rubber to 6 per cent. Now, you may ask, why is it then that synthetic rubber growth is faster than the consumption growth of natural rubber? The answer to that is quite simple. The growth rate of natural rubber in its production is limited and slower than synthetic rubber, because we have to plant new trees, which take about four to five years before they can produce, whereas the capacity of synthetic rubber produced by factories grows much faster. So, in a way, because of the rapid growth in the demand for rubber, where natural rubber cannot meet all the demands synthetic rubber has come in to fill the gap. However, there is a bright future for natural rubber because despite all the technological advances in the world, natural rubber

America in 1966, that he was able to persuade the American Government to reduce the stockpile releases to 70,000 tons for 1967. Despite these releases, there was a steady fall of price of natural rubber, made worse around August and September of this year, because of the economic recession of the world.

Sir, when the price fell below the 50-cent level, Government had to intervene because—and I am glad the Members of the Opposition, both the Member for Dato Kramat and the Member for Tanjong agree—there was and there is manipulation in the rubber market, particularly, taking advantage of the falling trend in the price of rubber. I repeat what the Honourable Minister of Finance has said. Our intention and our purpose of intervening in the rubber market is a short term measure, not aimed trying to force the price of rubber upwards against the falling trend but rather to cushion the fall made worse by speculation and manipulation.

Sir, therefore, it is a limited exercise. The long-term measures, however, have been also described and related to this House by the Minister of Finance, and I do not propose to go over them again.

The Honourable Member for Batu has said that according to rumours, only three or four people have benefited and are benefiting from the Government's intervention in the rubber market, which means to imply that Government only buys rubber from three or four people. Sir, this is absolutely not true, I categorically deny such a statement. The Government buys rubber through the Rubber Exchange, through the brokers, and anybody, who has rubber to sell, and we have not bought from three or four people, we have bought from many people—exporters, dealers, packers and the lot. The other point raised by the Honourable Member for Batu is that the Honourable Senator Gan Teik Yeow was sent on a secret mission, Sir that again

Dr Tan Chee Khoo: Mr Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I did

not say he was sent. I said he went—whether he was sent or not it is for the Minister to place any implication on it. I said he went.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I can categorically say that Government did not send him on a secret mission. However, the Honourable Senator did go to Hongkong and he went on his own private business. I am sure the Honourable Member for Batu would like me to respect his private activities and will not want me to investigate into his private activities. Similarly, I hope he would not want to investigate into the private movements of another citizen of this country.

Sir, this is the first time that I have heard in this House from two Members from the Labour Party that the People's Republic of China would buy all the rubber from this country, if we would re-open the Bank of China—and according to both of them, this is a small price to pay. Sir, I have not heard of this from anybody else—this is the first time I have heard from two Honourable Members from the Labour Party. Is it an indication to us, to the Government, that these two are emissaries from the People's Republic of China? If they are, I hope they will disclose their identity and then we, perhaps, will talk to them.

Sir, there is an allegation that because of Government intervention in buying only R.S.S. 1, it has benefited the estates and not the smallholders. This is not correct. The reason why Government buys only R.S.S. 1 is because R.S.S. 1 rubber is the pace-maker in the rubber market—all the other grades of rubber are pegged to the price of R.S.S. 1. It is true that in the first few weeks the differentials between R.S.S. 1 and 4 and 5 became wider, and that was because there was plenty of low grade rubber available but not produced in this country. However, with our continued policy of buying R.S.S. 1, these last few weeks, the differentials have narrowed and this has benefited everybody. It is not the Government's intention to benefit only one sector of the rubber industry, and I can assure the Honourable Member from Sabah

that the operations in West Malaysia also benefit the rubber industry in Sabah indirectly. That does not necessarily mean that we must set up another office in Sabah to buy the rubber there, because buying in Kuala Lumpur reduces the manipulation and puts the price on a reasonable level and that benefits everybody, who produces natural rubber wherever he may be.

The next thing is that the Honourable Member for Batu suggested that we should be brave and go straight ahead to set up a marketing board. Sir, the marketing of rubber—the system, the free marketing system—has been with us since the beginning of the establishment of the rubber industry. It has grown up, it has many and complex problem, I do not think it is very easy to eradicate all of them, but that does not mean that the Government is not prepared to change the system. However, we should be cautious before we plunge ourselves into a new system, we have to be sure that the new system works to the benefit of everybody—the smallholder, the estate, as well as the nation as a whole.

The palm oil industry markets its produce through a pool—I think it works almost like a marketing board. So far it has been successful, but whether with the increased number of smallholders producing palm oil, the same system will benefit the smallholders is for us to wait and see. But I can assure this House that the Government is studying into all the problems of marketing and will be brave and will have the courage to make changes, where changes are necessary and beneficial.

The Honourable Member from Muar Utara has suggested that the Government should take steps to increase the production of more heveacrub out of the produce of smallholders. As I have explained just now, both the R.R.I. and MARA are looking into this thing, it is no more in an experimental stage, it is in fact already a commercial enterprise, and we shall be establishing more and more heveacrub factories

throughout the country for the benefit of smallholders.

I am glad that the Honourable Member for Tanjong Malim has stood up and said that both the Jawatan-kuasa Kampong and the Gerakan Maju in all the kampongs of the country are now taking active steps in diversifying the economy of our country.

The Honourable Member for Bungsar suggested that when the price of rubber fell below 50 cents again, after Government's intervention, Government did not intervene again. This is not correct. The Government has intervened since and that is why there is some stability in the price today.

The Honourable Members for Larut Utara and Kota Star both have made suggestions that the research into the newer uses of rubber should be given greater priority. I can assure this House that the Research Departments of the R.R.I. in Kuala Lumpur and the M.R.P.R.A. in England are both working on the new uses of rubber. But I want to remind this House that 70 per cent of the total world consumption of rubber goes into the tyre making industry. Only 30 per cent of the remaining part of the rubber is used in the other industries. That is why the concentration of research is on the tyre industry, because any advance in this field would benefit the rubber industry far far greater than any advance in other fields. To give you an example; at one stage synthetic rubber was ahead of natural rubber, because it could add oil to it to produce oil-extended synthetic rubber, thus reducing the cost of synthetic rubber in the production of tyres—and that was a blow to natural rubber. Our scientists have today come forward with an oil-extended natural rubber to counter that, and it is a success and it is also now in operation. To give you an example: the Dunlop Tyre Factory in Kuala Lumpur uses about 4,000 tons of natural rubber a year, whereas Nanyang Shoe Factory uses only about 1,500 tons a year.

There is this question why do we not use more rubber in our roads. The answer is that we are using rubber in

want to raise additional taxation of the order of \$40 million a year or more, we have got to hit everybody—you certainly cannot raise that money just by hitting a few people, and I think the Honourable Member for Batu is well aware of that.

The Honourable Member for Bungsar calls this operation “a shot in the dark with a blank cartridge which has failed”. In the first place, it was not a shot in the dark. As my Honourable friend, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, has explained, we knew the limitations of this operation and we never expected to change the course of events by this single operation. Whether it has failed or not, I think, is a moot point, and only time can tell. But it is arguable that if we had not intervened in the way we did, the price of rubber might have fallen much lower still.

One Honourable Member, I think it was the Honourable Member for Dato Kramat, had the idea that the limit of the Government's operations, or the ceiling of the Government's operations, had been put at \$10 million merely because of the entry in the accounts. This is not true, and I would like to make it absolutely clear that this figure of \$10 million is the minimum figure. We will be prepared, if necessary, to go well beyond this figure. But as to what the ceiling will be, I clearly cannot reveal what it should be at the moment, because that, as I said earlier, would defeat the very purpose of this exercise (*Applause*). If we are to achieve the original objective with which we set out, it is clear that we must be very flexible on this point, and I would like to make it absolutely clear that, if it is considered necessary by us, we will go well beyond \$10 million, but the amount will never be disclosed. And I should like to make it clear also that the Government of Malaysia, in spite of our financial and economic difficulties, is in a position to afford much more than \$10 million (*Applause*).

The Honourable Member for Dato Kramat has advised us to trade with the Communist countries and, in particular, sell rubber to them. This is strange advice, because we have never

at any time ceased to trade with the Communist countries, including Communist China. In fact, we have sold rubber to whomsoever wishes to buy, even though in some cases, the trade was not exactly in our favour. There is no point in resuming this trade for the simple reason that this trade has never ceased.

Now, Sir, I would like to deal with the general question of the future of natural rubber. As my Honourable friend, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, has so rightly pointed out, the future of natural rubber is extremely bright—in fact, I think, he even under-stated the picture. I would go so far as to say that in one generation's time, when some of our children will be sitting in this Chamber, Malaysia would still be able to sell natural rubber at a price which is remunerative to the producers (*Applause*) provided, and this is important, that we continue with our research and that we pursue our research activities with vigour and imagination, and provided we are prepared to keep up with the times. Now, this is not undue optimism, and if I may, Sir, I would like to quote a few figures to show that this optimism is by no means misplaced. For example, in 1965, the United States of America consumed 24.4 lbs of both rubbers, natural and synthetic, per head per annum; the comparable figure for the United Kingdom was 15.2 lbs and, by and large, the industrialised countries in the Western world consumed from 12 to 15 lbs per head per annum. The consumption of Eastern Europe, including the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, was only 8.4 lbs per head per annum, and that of China was half a pound per head per annum, and that of India was 0.4 lb per head per annum. Now, a little arithmetic will show that if these three groups of countries—Eastern Europe, China and India, with their huge populations—were to consume a fraction of a pound more per head per annum, there would be a famine in rubber in the foreseeable future.

I would like, also, to draw the attention of this House to another factor. In the early 1950s, the former President

of the United States, President Truman, appointed a Commission called the Paley Commission—the head of the Commission was a man called Mr Paley—in order to make a forecast of likely trends of world consumption of primary commodities in the 1970s; and among other things, the Paley Commission, which reported in the early 1950s that is 12 or so years ago, came to the conclusion that total consumption of rubber, both natural and synthetic, in 1975 would be of the order of five million tons. Now, this stage of 5 million tons was reached not in 1975 but three years ago, in 1964. In other words, the Paley Commission was hopelessly wrong, because world consumption of rubber has increased much more rapidly than even that Commission expected. That goes to show that there is a future for rubber, particularly natural rubber, provided we are progressive enough. And in this respect, I would like to touch on this question of research.

The Rubber Research Institute, I think, is something of which we can be very proud, and one of the things it has done recently is to conduct a series of experiments which, in my view, would enable producers, both large and small, to collect the latex once a week instead of once a day. Now, if this were done, and bearing in mind that tapping costs form nearly 50 per cent of the cost of production of rubber, the total cost of producing rubber would be very much less than what it is now; and if this were to happen, it is quite on the cards that we in Malaysia will be able to sell rubber at a profit even if the price were to go well below the present price of 50 cents per pound or so. That goes to show, Sir, that natural rubber has a future if we are prepared to be progressive. We should, therefore, look at this matter in its right perspective. Although things are a bit difficult now and we are grappling with this difficulty of low rubber prices, I think it is not too much to say that you can see light at the end of this tunnel and the light is probably brighter than some Members of the Opposition would like to make out. We, in the Government, certainly

have every confidence that the future of natural rubber is very bright, if only we will grasp the opportunities which are now within our grasp. And, if there is a fight to the finish, I have got no doubt at all that Malaysia, with its efficient industry, its low-cost production, can weather any storm and can survive even if there has to be a fight to the finish (*Applause*).

Usul di-kemukakan dan di-setujukan.
Di-putuskan.

Bahawa Majlis ini mengambil ketetapan ia-itu menurut syarat² sekshen-kecil (4), sekshen 10 Ordinance Peratoran Kewangan, tahun 1957, Jadual Kedua Ordinance tersebut hendak-lah di-pinda dengan menambah kadalannya suatu perkara baharu yang bertajuk "Government Rubber Trading Trust Account".

PENANGGOHAN (USUL)

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menhadangkan Dewan ini di-tanggohkan.

Tuan Senu bin Abdul Rahman: Saya menyokong.

UCHAPAN² PENANGGOHAN

I—PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION—ANTI- CORRUPTION AGENCY

Dr Tan Chee Khoo (Batu): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan izin Tuan, saya ingin memberi ucapan saya dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, in rising to speak on the adjournment, I wish to make a few comments and some suggestions on the prevention of corruption in the country. Let me begin with a word of praise as well as a word of caution.

While I congratulate the new Director of the Anti-Corruption Agency for the apparent good start he has made, let me caution him against over-zealousness. He should not equate, for example, inefficiency with corruption.

In these days, the quick and sure promotion, coupled with the hasty appointment of young newly qualified

However, the Honourable Member's suggestion is being noted, and the Agency will obviously have to expand its activities and its staff in the course of time. However, I can assure this House that we are watching the progress of the activities of the Agency with great interest and if it is necessary that the Agency should be given more staff, then certainly we will look into the matter.

Sir, I am glad to inform the Honourable Member that the co-operation extended by the public to the Agency has been extremely good. It is also heartening to note that of all the letters addressed to the Agency, only about 16% now are anonymous. This, I am sure the Honourable Member will agree, is truly indicative of the fact that the Agency has now won the confidence of the public, and I do hope that the Agency will continue to gain the confidence of the public, so that we will reach the day when, as the Honourable Member says, the whole country will fully realise that it pays to be honest. This is the aim and the intention of the Government and, I personally, as the Minister responsible, do share the sentiments of the Honourable Member that the progress of the Agency so far has been satisfactory, and I do hope that the Agency will continue the good work that it has done, and I do appeal to all members of the public and the Members of this House to give the Agency every co-operation required, so that it will be able to perform its functions satisfactorily and bring about the result which we all desire. Thank you very much.

II—RECOGNITION OF NANYANG AND FORMOSAN UNIVERSITY DEGREES AND EMPLOYMENT OF MALAYSIAN HOLDING THOSE DEGREES

Tuan C. V. Devan Nair (Bungar):
Tuan Speaker, dengan izin tuan, saya hendak beri ucapan saya dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the problem of the recognition of Nanyang and Formosan University degrees and the employment of Malaysian students graduating

from them has been outstanding for close on a decade. To-date the Government has made no determined or sincere attempt to solve this problem and to put to good use the talents, skills and knowledge the Nantah and Formosan graduates possess. This is a serious problem which concerns six or seven thousand graduates. Including the undergraduates this figure exceeds 10,000.

The Ministry has a Standing Committee on the Evaluation of Foreign Degrees, but as far as we know this Committee had not met with the specific objective of finding a formula to assess and recognise the Nantah and Formosan qualifications.

Mr Speaker, Sir, Malaysia suffers from an acute shortage of qualified manpower. We are short of teachers, agricultural specialists, scientists, economists, technicians and administrators. The First Malaysia Plan, for instance, estimated that nearly 30% of jobs in the private sector which require more than a secondary school education are either vacant or filled by non-Malaysians. No qualified Malaysians are available to fill them. In 1964, recruitment in the public services succeeded in filling only 70% of the 3,500 vacancies in Government Departments. In 1965, there were 12,316 teaching positions unfilled or filled with under-qualified teachers.

At a stage when our modernisation programme is seriously hampered by this bottleneck in trained manpower, it is shocking to see 6,000 or 7,000 graduates from the Nantah and Formosan Universities running to waste their qualifications unrecognised and their talents unutilised. Any intelligent and imaginative Government would have applied itself to find a formula to exploit this reservoir of talent and skills, which could either be directly harnessed to the nation's modernisation needs or tapped after putting them through some orientation or specialist courses at little Government expense. This problem can be easily solved if the Government is really sincere in wanting to find a solution.

In 1957 the Government introduced the Day Teachers' Training Scheme for those who had only completed the Lower Certificate of Education Examination, that is, after nine years' schooling. From 1957 to 1966, 11,576 L.C.E. holders were trained as teachers. Surely, Nanyang and Formosan graduates, many of whom had done fifteen years of education, including after graduation, would not do worse; they would do better if given a chance to be trained as teachers. If language, whether it be English or Malay, is the problem, then special "crash" courses can be organised for them. We contend that the Government is duty bound to find an outlet for our Nanyang and Formosan graduates. It is an abdication of Government's social responsibility to ignore this problem and allow it to fester until a serious social, economic and political problem is created from the frustration, discontent and bitterness of Nantah and Formosan graduates. We suggest that the Government immediately set up a high-powered committee comprising of representatives of the Government itself, local educational institutions and the associations of Nanyang and Formosan graduates to devise a solution which can give them hope, recognition and a proper place in Malaysian society as Malaysian citizens instead of creating an army of educated unemployed and disgruntled persons. Thank you.

Menteri Pelajaran (Tuan Mohamed Khir Johari): Tuan Speaker, saya minta kebenaran menjawab dalam bahasa Inggeris.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I am not all surprised that the Honourable Member for Bungsar has brought up this matter before this House. From the apparent multi-racial character of the political party which he is supposed to represent in this House, one would have thought that his concern for the welfare of our returned students would not only be limited to the Nanyang and Formosan university graduates. I say this because there are hundreds of returned students from Indonesia, India, America and the Middle East whose degrees have not yet been

recognised by the Government as equivalent to the degrees conferred by our own University for the purpose of employment in the public Services. One wonders why the Honourable Member has not seen it fit to champion the cause of these graduate students.

Tuan C. V. Devan Nair: On a point of clarification, I think if the Honourable Minister would refer to the previous *Hansards*, he would discover that I have raised the problem of recognition of overseas degrees and I have also brought to this House in a separate Adjournment Speech the question of the recognition of Indian degrees. So it is quite wrong to say that I only confine myself to Nantah.

Tuan Mohamed Khir Johari: Sir, I am referring to the present speech. On the general question of recognition of foreign degrees, the Government has to be very cautious. Here, in Malaysia our students who graduate from the University have to undergo six years of H.S.C., plus three to five years or even six in the University. The qualifications of graduates of foreign universities will have to be recognized in terms of their comparability with local qualifications. It is for this purpose that the Government has set up this Standing Committee of equivalence of qualifications and the whole question of recognition of foreign degrees, not merely Chinese university degrees, is being dealt systematically by the Standing Committee.

As far as Chinese degrees are concerned, any Malaysian student with the required entrance qualifications can join the Department of Chinese Studies in the University of Malaya and on graduation these degrees will be recognized as equivalent to any other degree in the University. The same goes with the Department of Indian Studies. In this respect, we are proud of the fact that our University is the only university in this part of the world that has a Department of Indian Studies.

I can tell this House that I am as much concerned with the welfare of our students as anybody else. For example,

when our Malaysian students in the Nanyang University were expelled by the dozens by the authorities there, I sympathised with their fate. I do not remember the Honourable Member for Bungsar or any of his colleagues in the D.A.P. making even a feeble attempt to help them. I did try, but obviously that was something outside my power. It is because of my genuine concern for the welfare of our students going overseas that I have advised future students that it is in their interest to obtain at least a secondary school qualification here before joining any college or university overseas. This will help a great deal in the assessment of the degrees which they may obtain overseas later on. The Government cannot obviously be expected to be the sole employer of foreign graduates. In the case of Formosan and Nanyang graduates a good number of them have been absorbed in Government or in Semi-Government Departments where their

services are required. But until the Standing Committee can be satisfied that their degrees are comparable with local degrees and that the universities concerned enjoy the same status they cannot expect to get the same terms and conditions of services local graduates or graduates from internationally known universities. What I have said about Formosan and Nanyang graduates equally applies to other graduates from universities in Indonesia, the Middle East, India, etc. I hope the Honourable Member will kindly convey my reply to the people concerned, so that bankrupt politicians and chauvinists and their sympathisers would not try to continue misleading the people by playing on their sentiments for their own political ends. Thank you, Sir.

Usul di-kemukakan dan di-setujukan.

Dewan di-tanggohkan pada pukul 6.56 petang.