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Thursday
30th May, 1963

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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

Official Report

Fifth Session of the First Dewan Ra'ayat

Thursday, 30th May, 1963

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

PRESENT:

The Honourable Mr Speaker, DATO' HAJI MOHAMED NOAH BIN OMAR,
S.P.M.J., D.P.M.B., P.I.S., J.P.

„ the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Minister
of Rural Development, TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK BIN DATO'
HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).

„ the Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior,
DATO' DR ISMAIL BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N.
(Johor Timor).

„ the Minister of Finance, ENCHE' TAN SIEW SIN, J.P.
(Melaka Tengah).

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

„ the Minister of Transport, DATO' HAJI SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR,
P.M.N. (Pontian Utara).

„ the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives,
ENCHE' MOHAMED KHIR BIN JOHARI (Kedah Tengah).

„ the Minister of Education, TUAN HAJI ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN
HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN, J.M.N., J.P. (Batang Padang).

„ the Assistant Minister of the Interior,
ENCHE' CHEAH THEAM SWEE (Bukit Bintang).

„ the Assistant Minister of Labour and Social Welfare,
ENCHE' V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Klang).

„ the Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry,
TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN
(Kota Star Utara).

„ the Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting,
ENCHE' MOHAMED ISMAIL BIN MOHAMED YUSOF (Jerai).

„ ENCHE' ABDUL AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Kuala Langat).

„ ENCHE' ABDUL RAUF BIN A. RAHMAN, P.J.K. (Krian Laut).

„ ENCHE' ABDUL RAZAK BIN HAJI HUSSIN (Lipis).

„ ENCHE' ABDUL SAMAD BIN OSMAN (Sungai Patani).

„ TOH MUDA HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI ABDUL RAOF
(Kuala Kangsar).

„ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI MOHD. SALLEH, A.M.N., P.I.S.
(Segamat Utara).

The Honourable TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN ABDULLAH (Kota Bharu Hilir).

- .. ENCHE' AHMAD BIN ARSHAD, A.M.N. (Muar Utara).
- .. ENCHE' AHMAD BIN MOHAMED SHAH, S.M.J. (Johor Bahru Barat).
- .. TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SAAID (Seberang Utara).
- .. ENCHE' AHMAD BIN HAJI YUSOF, P.J.K. (Krian Darat).
- .. TUAN HAJI AZAHARI BIN HAJI IBRAHIM (Kubang Pasu Barat).
- .. ENCHE' AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Muar Dalam).
- .. ENCHE' CHAN SIANG SUN (Bentong).
- .. ENCHE' CHAN YOON ONN (Kampar).
- .. ENCHE' CHIN SEE YIN (Seremban Timor).
- .. ENCHE' V. DAVID (Bungsar).
- .. ENCHE' GEH CHONG KEAT (Penang Utara).
- .. ENCHE' HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N. (Kapar).
- .. ENCHE' HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N. (Kulim Utara).
- .. ENCHE' HARUN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Baling).
- .. ENCHE' HARUN BIN PILUS (Trengganu Tengah).
- .. ENCHE' HASSAN BIN MANSOR (Melaka Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN TO' MUDA HASSAN (Raub).
- .. ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN MOHD. NOORDIN, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Parit).
- .. TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN (Kota Bharu Hulu).
- .. ENCHE' IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Seberang Tengah).
- .. ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN IDRIS (Penang Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN HAJI KASSIM (Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' KANG KOCK SENG (Batu Pahat).
- .. ENCHE' K. KARAM SINGH (Damansara).
- .. ENCHE' LEE SAN CHOON (Kluang Utara).
- .. ENCHE' LEE SIOK YEW, A.M.N. (Sepang).
- .. ENCHE' LIM JOO KONG, J.P. (Alor Star).
- .. ENCHE' LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED ABBAS BIN AHMAD (Hilir Perak).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA (Pasir Puteh).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED NOR BIN MOHD. DAHAN (Ulu Perak).
- .. DATO' MOHAMED HANIFAH BIN HAJI ABDUL GHANI, P.J.K. (Pasir Mas Hulu).
- .. TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- .. NIK MAN BIN NIK MOHAMED (Pasir Mas Hilir).
- .. ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Tanah Merah).
- .. ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Perlis Utara).
- .. ENCHE' SEAH TENG NGIAB (Muar Pantai).
- .. TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, J.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S. (Batu Pahat Dalam).
- .. TUAN SYED HASHIM BIN SYED AJAM, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Sabak Bernam).

The Honourable **TUAN SYED JA'AFAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, J.M.N.**
(Johor Tenggara).

- „ ENCHE' TAJUDIN BIN ALI, P.J.K. (Larut Utara).
- „ ENCHE' TAN CHENG BEE, J.P. (Bagan).
- „ ENCHE' TAN PHOCK KIN (Tanjong).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TYE CHEK (Kulim-Bandar Bahru).
- „ TENGKU BESAR IDERA RAJA IBNI AL-MARHUM SULTAN IBRAHIM, D.K., P.M.N. (Ulu Kelantan).
- „ ENCHE' TOO JOON HING (Telok Anson).
- „ ENCHE' V. VEERAPPEN (Seberang Selatan).
- „ WAN SULAIMAN BIN WAN TAM, P.J.K. (Kota Star Selatan).
- „ WAN YAHYA BIN HAJI WAN MOHAMED (Kemaman).
- „ ENCHE' YAHYA BIN HAJI AHMAD (Bagan Datoh).
- „ ENCHE' YEOH TAT BENG (Bruas).
- „ ENCHE' YONG WOO MING (Sitiawan).
- „ PUAN HAJAH ZAIN BINTI SULAIMAN, J.M.N., P.I.S. (Pontian Selatan).
- „ TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB (Langat).
- „ ENCHE' ZULKIFLEE BIN MUHAMMAD (Bachok).

ABSENT:

- The Honourable the Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ, K.O.M. (Kuala Kedah).
- „ the Minister without Portfolio, DATO' SULEIMAN BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Muar Selatan).
- „ the Minister without Portfolio, DATO' ONG YOKE LIN, P.M.N. (Ulu Selangor).
- „ the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN (Kuala Pilah).
- „ the Minister of Health, ENCHE' ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI TALIB (Kuantan).
- „ the Minister of Commerce and Industry, DR LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL GHANI BIN ISHAK, A.M.N. (Melaka Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BOESTAMAM (Setapak).
- „ DR BURHANUDDIN BIN MOHD. NOOR (Besut).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN CHONG WEN, A.M.N. (Kluang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SWEE Ho (Ulu Kinta).
- „ DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM, P.M.N. (Jitra-Padang Terap).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASAN ADLI BIN HAJI ARSHAD (Kuala Trengganu Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASAN BIN HAJI AHMAD (Tumpat).
- „ CHE' KHADIJAH BINTI MOHD. SIDEK (Dungun).
- „ ENCHE' KHONG KOK YAT (Batu Gajah).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SECK FUN (Tanjong Malim).

The Honourable ENCHE' LIU YOONG PENG (Rawang).

- „ ENCHE' T. MAHIMA SINGH, J.P. (Port Dickson).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED BIN UJANG (Jelebu-Jempol).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED DAHARI BIN HAJI MOHD. ALI (Kuala Selangor).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- „ ENCHE' NG ANN TECK (Batu).
- „ ENCHE' QUEK KAI DONG, J.P. (Seremban Barat).
- „ TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID (Rembau-Tampin).
- „ ENCHE' D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
- „ ENCHE' S. P. SEENIVASAGAM (Menglembu).
- „ ENCHE' TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Melaka).
- „ DATO' TEOH CHZE CHONG, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Segamat Selatan).
- „ WAN MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ALI (Kelantan Hilir).

PRAYERS

(Mr Speaker *in the Chair*)

BILL

THE LOAN GUARANTEE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that "a Bill intituled an Act to amend the Loan Guarantee Act, 1963" be read a second time.

Honourable Members will recall that when I introduced the Loan Guarantee Act, 1963, at the March meeting of this House, I stated that one of the main purposes of the Bill was to enable the Government to give a guarantee to the World Bank in respect of any loan by the Bank to the Malayan Industrial Development Finance Limited.

It is the normal practice of the World Bank to require member Governments which give a guarantee to the Bank to include in the guarantee a pledge that the Government will not give special security in respect of its external loans unless it gives similar security to the World Bank. Section 2 sub-sections 4 to 6 of the Loan Guarantee Act, 1963, enable the Government to give such a pledge to the World Bank but the definition of assets contained in sub-section 6 is a more restricted one than that contained

in section 12 (3) of the Loans (International Bank) Ordinance, 1958, in that some of the assets of the Central Bank and the assets of a statutory authorities are excluded from its scope.

Negotiations for a loan to the MIDFL were carried out with the Bank in Washington in March this year, and the Bank informed the Government that it would not be able to accept a negative pledge which excluded any of the assets of the Central Bank or statutory authorities from its scope. In view of the substantial benefits which will be obtained from an increase in the funds available to MIDFL, and the fact that long-term loans for such a purpose would be difficult to obtain from institutions other than the World Bank, the Government gave an undertaking to the Bank that it would introduce an amendment to the Loan Guarantee Act, 1963, whereby the provisions of section 12 (3) of the Loans (International Bank) Ordinance, 1958, would be made applicable to any guarantee given by the Federation Government to the World Bank under the provisions of the Loan Guarantee Act, 1963. This Bill is introduced in order to fulfil this undertaking and will enable the Federation Government to give a guarantee to the World Bank in respect of its loan to the MIDFL in the terms required by the Bank.

The opportunity is also taken to amend Clause 2 (1) (b) of the Bill to

correct a reference to the Currency Agreement, 1950, which has been superseded by the Currency Agreement, 1960.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Deputy Prime Minister (Tun Haji Abdul Razak): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(*Mr Speaker in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 and 2 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

MOTIONS

ALLOWANCES AND PRIVILEGES OF ASSISTANT MINISTERS WHEN PERFORMING GOVERNMENT DUTIES OUTSIDE THE FEDERATION

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

Pursuant to the provisions of sub-section (3) of section 6 of the Assistant Ministers Act, 1960, this House resolves that the allowances and privileges set out in Command Paper No. 11 of 1963 be given to an Assistant Minister, performing any Government duty outside the Federation, and that such allowances be only given in substitution for the subsistence allowances specified in paragraph 3 of the Schedule of the Act.

Sir, section 6 (3) of the Assistant Ministers Act, 1960, provides that if an Assistant Minister performs any Government duty outside the Federation he may receive such allowances and privileges in respect of the performance of such duty as this House may by resolution determine. The resolution before the House therefore, Sir, is to determine the privileges and allowances to be given to Assistant Ministers when performing Government duties overseas. It may

be noted that the proposed allowances and privileges for Assistant Ministers in the Command Paper before us are, in fact, similar to those proposed for Ministers when they perform Government duties outside. The reason for this, Sir, is that when Assistant Ministers perform duties outside the Federation they normally perform the duties and functions of a Minister; therefore the allowances and privileges for Ministers were determined by resolution in the old Legislative Council.

Now, Sir, an up-to-date Schedule showing the various rates of allowance for Ministers when on duty other than in an established post is incorporated in this Command Paper. Now the same rate of overseas allowance will be given to Assistant Ministers.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

Pursuant to the provisions of sub-section (3) of section 6 of the Assistant Ministers Act, 1960, this House resolves that the allowances and privileges set out in Command Paper No. 11 of 1963 be given to an Assistant Minister, performing any Government duty outside the Federation, and that such allowances be only given in substitution for the subsistence allowances specified in paragraph 3 of the Schedule of the Act.

THE DEVELOPMENT (SUPPLEMENTARY) (No. 1) ESTIMATES, 1963

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the motion standing in my name on the Order Paper be referred to a Committee of the whole House.

An additional sum of \$24.95 million is now required to supplement the provision already entered in the 1963 Development Estimates. Advances were made from the Contingencies Reserve of \$10 million to meet urgent and unavoidable requirements of funds to build abattoirs and to extend the Municipal Power Station in Penang, to carry out the Kemubu Irrigation Scheme in Kelantan and the Muda

River project in Kedah and it is necessary to recoup these by way of a supplementary provision.

The House will have noted that a sum of \$37.5 million has been entered under Head 121, Sub-head 5 (ii) for the Malayan Industrial Development Finance Ltd, of which \$22.5 million is to be made available this year. This is a long-term interest-free loan to be given to MIDFL as part of the proposals to reorganise the Company which has been agreed to between the Government, the World Bank, Industrial Finance Corporation MIDFL, and the other shareholders of the Company. Honourable Members will recall that when introducing the 1963 Supply Bill in November, 1962 I then stated that the Government had agreed, subject to Parliamentary approval, to grant such a loan to MIDFL in order to facilitate the reorganisation of this Company. The provision now entered is to implement this decision.

I should like to inform this House that negotiations have been held in Washington with the World Bank for a loan of US\$8 million to the Company and with IFC for an equity investment of about M\$2.5 million in the Company. There remains only one matter outstanding, and it is anticipated that the actual signature of the loan and other documents formalising the World Bank loan and IFC investment will take place in the near future.

Further information regarding this particular provision will be given by my Honourable colleague, the Minister of Commerce and Industry during the Committee stage of the Bill.

The House is also asked to approve a token vote of \$10 to authorise an increase in the total estimated cost of Head 118, Sub-head 57 pertaining to the Royal Federation of Malaya Police. The additional funds required for this project have been found by internal adjustments and no increase in the five-year ceiling for the Police is involved.

Apart from the additional funds required, Honourable Members will notice that proposals are being made

to transfer the provisions under Sub-heads 5 (i) and 9 in Head 121 from the "Loan" to the "Direct" column of expenditure. These are technical adjustments only, arising from the fact that the provision under each of the items in question is required for the purchase of shares in the equity of the corporations concerned, rather than for the making of loans. It is therefore more appropriate to show the provision under the "Direct Expenditure" column.

Sir, I beg to move,

That this House resolves that a sum not exceeding \$24,950,010 be expended out of the Development Fund in the financial year 1963, and that to meet the purpose of the Heads and Sub-heads set out in the second column of the Statement laid on the Table as Command Paper No. 16 of 1963, there be appropriated the sums specified opposite such Heads and Sub-heads in the eighth and ninth columns thereof.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House.

Motion and Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1963, considered in Committee.

(*Mr Speaker in the Chair*).

Head 112—

Mr Chairman: I now propose that the sum of \$1,100,000 under Ministry of the Interior, Head 112 be approved.

The Assistant Minister of the Interior (Enche' Cheah Theam Swee): Mr Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that a sum of \$1,100,000 under column (9) of these Supplementary Development Estimates—under Head 112, Sub-head 8, Abattoirs \$100,000 and Sub-head 16, Municipal Buildings, item (ii) Extension to Power Station \$1,000,000—be approved. Sir, these two items are obligations which the Federal Government is bound to provide under two respective loan agreements with the City Council, George Town, Penang, and unfortunately it was inadvertently missed out in the main Development Estimates, 1963. These sums have been provided from the Contingencies

Reserve Advance Fund and the present requirements are therefore necessary to replace the sums to the Contingencies Reserve Advance Fund.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$1,100,000 for Head 112 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1963.

Head 118—

Mr Chairman: I now propose that the token sum of \$10 shown under the Ministry of Internal Security, Head 118, be approved.

The Minister of Internal Security (Dato' Dr Ismail bin Dato' Haji Abdul Rahman): Mr Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that the expenditure of \$10 shown under Head 118, Sub-head 57, be approved. The original estimated cost of the scheme, *that is the allocation for Alterations and Additions to Police Buildings*, was \$270,000 but when work commenced on certain projects it was realised that the estimated cost would have to be increased. The two projects which have caused this increase are the Depôt Mosque and the Special Branch Buildings.

As regards the Depôt Mosque, it was originally estimated that the alterations and additions to the Depôt Mosque would cost \$53,000 but when work began it was found that it was necessary to replace the beam pillars and extend the roof. These unforeseen additions cost \$17,000 and, therefore, the whole project was \$70,000 instead of \$53,000 as originally estimated.

As regards the Special Branch Buildings, when the 1963 Development Estimates were prepared, no provision was made for alterations and additions to the Special Branch Buildings at Penang, Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur and Johore Bahru. However, later in the year—1962—it was realised that urgent alterations had to be carried out to these buildings, and for these an additional sum of \$20,000 was required. The total increase is \$37,000 and this sum was made available by means of virement as there were savings under Sub-head 35, Quarters, Kuala Lumpur.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$10 for Head 118 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1963.

Head 121—

Mr Chairman: I now propose that the sums of \$10 under Sub-head 5, column (8), and \$22,500,000 under column (9); and \$2,500,000 for Sub-head 9, column (8), all under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry be approved.

The Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman): Mr Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that a total sum of \$22,500,000 under Sub-head 5 (i) and (ii) and Sub-head 9 be approved.

Sir, as regards Sub-head 5 (i), as has been pointed out in the Remarks column, it is only a transfer of a token vote of \$10 from the Loan column to the Direct Expenditure column, as this expenditure is not a loan but a direct Government equity participation in the Malayan Industrial Development Finance Ltd. With regard to Sub-head 5 (ii), Loan to the MIDFL, Honourable Members will recall that at the last Budget session the Minister of Finance informed this House about the proposed re-organisation of the MIDFL following the recommendations of the World Bank Mission, which was requested to advise on the re-organisation and structure of the Company so that it could play an effective role in assisting the industrialisation programme of the country. Under the re-organisation proposal, the Government would, subject to the approval of Parliament, grant an interest-free loan of \$37.5 million of which \$22.5 million would be payable on re-organisation. The re-organisation is now almost complete and it is expected that the sum of \$22.5 million will be required before the end of the year. Accordingly, I now seek the approval of a sum of \$22.5 million under this item to be utilised as an interest-free loan to the MIDFL.

In respect of Sub-head 9, the Federation of Malaya Pineapple Cannery Co. Ltd the House will recall that an

amount of \$2.5 million was approved for this year to meet part payment of the national cannery project. It has been decided that the cannery should be incorporated as a private limited liability company under the Companies Ordinance, 1946, to be called the Federation of Malaya Pineapple Cannery Co. Ltd—hence the change of title. The share capital of the Company will be \$5 million which will initially be provided by Government as its paid-up capital. These shares will be released by Government to the small growers as and when they are ready to purchase the shares from the Government. In view of the fact that the Government will now participate directly in the project, the provision which was entered previously as a loan is therefore transferred to the direct expenditure column. These changes do not affect the nature of the project.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sums of \$2,500,010 and \$19,999,990 under columns (8) and (9) for Head 121 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1963.

Head 132—

Mr Chairman: I propose that the expenditure of \$1,300,000 under Head 132, the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, be approved.

The Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives (Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari): Mr Chairman, Sir, under Sub-head 56 (v), Drainage and Irrigation, Kemubu, Kelantan, it has been found that the provision of \$300,000 as approved in the Development Estimates for 1963 is not sufficient to meet the cost of survey and investigation. These will now cost \$1,300,000 of which \$1,000,000 has to be paid out this year. A supplementary provision of \$700,000 is therefore necessary and must be made available this year.

In regard to Sub-head 82, an additional sum of \$600,000 is required to pay for the cost of detailed surveys and investigation of the Muda River

Project. This will cost \$1,600,000 but only \$1,000,000 is provided in the Development Estimates.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$1,300,000 for Head 132 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1963.

Head 140—

The Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications Dato' V. T. Sam-banthan): Mr Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that a sum of \$50,000 under Head 140 be approved.

In 1962 a sea launch for Kedah was received towards the end of the year, but no payment was made, because modifications and alterations had to be made by the supplier to make the boat sea-worthy. The additional work has since been completed and the bill for \$50,000 is to be paid. It was not evident at the time of preparation of the Estimates that this would be necessary, and to enable the Department to meet this unforeseen commitment, a provision of \$50,000 is advanced from the Contingencies Fund.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$50,000 for Head 140 agreed to stand part of the Development (Supplementary) (No. 1) Estimates, 1963.

Question put, and resolved,

That this House resolves that a sum not exceeding \$24,950,010 be expended out of the Development Fund in the financial year 1963, and that to meet the purpose of the Heads and Sub-heads set out in the second column of the Statement laid on the Table as Command Paper No. 16 of 1963, there be appropriated the sums specified opposite such Heads and Sub-heads in the eighth and ninth columns thereof.

House resumed.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to report that the Committee has considered the motion referred to it and has agreed to it. I accordingly move, Sir, that the motion standing in my name be agreed to.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that a sum not exceeding \$24,950,010 be expended out of the Development Fund in the financial year 1963, and that to meet the purpose of the Heads and Sub-heads set out in the second column of the Statement laid on the Table as Command Paper No. 16 of 1963, there be appropriated the sums specified opposite such Heads and Sub-heads in the eighth and ninth columns thereof.

FINANCIAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE (No. 62 OF 1957)—SECOND SCHEDULE: “AGRICULTURAL SHORT-TERM CREDIT ACCOUNT” RENAMED “CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT FUND”

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

That this House resolves that the fund known as the “Agricultural Short-Term Credit Account” specified in the Second Schedule to the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, shall continue and hereafter be known as the “Co-operative Credit Fund” and that in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 10 of the said Ordinance, the Second Schedule aforesaid be amended accordingly.

The purpose of changing the title of the Trust Fund from “Agricultural Short-Term Credit Account” to “Co-operative Credit Fund” is to widen the scope of operation of the Fund so that it can cater for all types of credit to co-operative societies and so that it need not be confined to short-term agricultural loans only. At present, loans are being made to various co-operative bodies from provisions entered under the following sub-heads of expenditure in the Development Estimates:

Head 131, Sub-head 6—Short-Term Co-operative Credit.

Sub-head 7—Medium-Term Co-operative Credit.

Head 133, Sub-head 8—Financial Assistance to Fishing Industry.

Loans which are now made to various co-operative societies from provisions entered in the above-mentioned Sub-heads of expenditure should properly be financed from a revolving fund under a trust account. It is intended that the amended title of the Trust Fund will enable the Fund to cover such loans.

When the change of title of the Trust Fund, “Agricultural Short-Term Credit Account” to “Co-operative Credit Fund” is made, all loans now provided from Head 131, Sub-heads 6 and 7 and Head 133, Sub-head 8 will be made from the newly-named Trust Fund which may require at a later stage to be augmented. The existing Sub-heads of expenditure in the Development Estimates referred to a moment ago will then be deleted as they will no longer be required.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dato’ Dr Ismail: Sir, I beg to second this motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that the fund known as the “Agricultural Short-Term Credit Account” specified in the Second Schedule to the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, shall continue and hereafter be known as the “Co-operative Credit Fund” and that in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 10 of the said Ordinance, the Second Schedule aforesaid be amended accordingly.

FINANCIAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE (No. 62 OF 1957)—SECOND SCHEDULE: ADDITION OF NEW ITEM “ROYAL LOANS TRUST FUND”

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

That this House resolves that in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 10 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, the Second Schedule to the said Ordinance be amended by adding thereto a new item entitled “Royal Loans Trust Fund”.

The Second Schedule to the Financial Procedure Ordinance specifies a number of Government Trust Funds to be used for such particular purposes as may be specified by resolution of this House, and section 10 (4) of the Ordinance provides that the House may, by resolution, amend, delete from or add to the Schedule. The purpose of this motion is to seek the approval of this House to add to the Second Schedule a new Trust Fund entitled “Royal Loans Trust Fund”. The creation of this Fund will enable the Government to give loans to

Their Highnesses the Rulers for suitable purposes. Hitherto, such loans have been made from the Miscellaneous Advances Account to which a sum of \$1 million has been appropriated. This Fund is normally used for giving cash advances against voted provisions in the approved estimates, and such advances are only short-term ones. It is therefore considered that this Fund is not a suitable vehicle for the granting of loans to Their Highnesses the Rulers.

If the House approves this resolution, it is proposed to ask its agreement in the near future to the appropriation of approximately \$2½ million to this Fund.

Our Rulers, unlike the monarchs of many other countries, do not possess hereditary estates, the incomes from which enable them to supplement their official emoluments and thus live on a scale commensurate with the dignity of their high office. Loans from this Fund are designed to increase the incomes of Their Highnesses by being invested in enterprises which should provide a permanent source of additional income. In view of the sentiments which have been expressed in favour of Their Highnesses by Honourable Members of the Opposition in this House during the present session, I have no doubt that this motion will be warmly endorsed by all sides in this House.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

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

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 10 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, the Second Schedule to the said Ordinance be amended by adding thereto a new item entitled "Royal Loans Trust Fund".

FINANCIAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE (No. 62 OF 1957)—SECOND SCHEDULE: ADDITION OF NEW ITEM "THE SOCIAL AND WELFARE SERVICES TRUST FUND"

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

That, in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 10 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, the Second

Schedule to the said Ordinance be amended by adding thereto the following new item:

The Social and Welfare Services Trust Fund.

Honourable Members will be aware that the Social and Welfare Services Lotteries Board Act, 1962, came into force with effect from 1st July, 1962. Section 5 (1) of the Act provides, *inter alia*, that all sums raised by any lottery under the Social and Welfare Services Lotteries Board Ordinance, 1950, shall be paid into and form part of the Consolidated Fund, after certain deductions have been made for amounts paid out as prizes and the charges and expenses incurred by the Board in the administration of the lottery.

Section 5 (2) of the Act further provides that there shall in each year be made, out of moneys appropriated by Parliament, payments for certain specified purposes, of aggregate amounts equalling, taking one year with another, the amounts paid into the Consolidated Fund under section 5 (1). The specific purposes for which payments may be made include the giving of aid to any public, philanthropic, charitable, religious or educational institution or project or the like, as set out in section 5 (4) of the Act itself.

In other words, the net proceeds of the lotteries run by the Social and Welfare Services Lotteries Board, which had hitherto been disbursed by the Board, are now being paid into Federal revenue. Under the terms of the Act, Parliament is then required to appropriate in each year a sum of money at least equivalent in amount to that paid into revenue, for disbursement by Government itself for the purposes that I have mentioned earlier.

In accordance with this procedure, an amount of \$7,500,000 has been provided by Supply action under Head 12 of the Federal Estimates as "Grants for Social and Welfare Services" for 1963. This amount is based on the estimated net proceeds from the lotteries to be run this year, and which will be paid into revenue. It will thus be seen that there is in actual fact no element of revenue, in the real sense of the term, accruing to Government at all—what is paid in, is paid out again through

Government channels, instead of through the Board as hitherto.

It has, however, been the experience of the Government authorities charged with responsibility of disbursing grants out of this Supply Head in the Estimates, even in the comparatively short period during which this system has operated, that this procedure may not be as efficient and effective as it might be. In the nature of things, disbursements from this vote for social and welfare purposes, out of funds which in the final analysis really do not belong to Government at all, but are held in trust as it were, for the purposes of the Act, require rules and regulations which would differ from those applied to expenditure from an ordinary Supply Head.

With this in mind, it is considered that it would be proper for a Trust Account to be created, under the provisions of section 10 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, in order that the account of the moneys appropriated by Parliament for disbursements as social and welfare grants may be maintained in the nature of a revolving fund, to be replenished annually by Supply Act. In this manner, it would be possible to keep this as a distinct account without any possibility of confusion with the other expenditure Heads in the Estimates. The operation of such a Trust Account will then be subject to appropriate rules and regulations that may be framed for its administration.

I would like to stress at this juncture that this Trust Account will be maintained out of moneys appropriated from general revenue. It is not the intention that the net proceeds from the lotteries will be paid directly into this Account. These proceeds will continue to be paid into general revenue in the first instance, as provided for under section 5 (1) of the Social and Welfare Services Lotteries Board Act, 1962, as already mentioned.

All that is sought is the approval of this House that a Trust Account be created, to ensure that funds which may be available for disbursements under the Act, are more efficiently administered.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (4) of section 10 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957, the Second Schedule to the said Ordinance be amended by adding thereto the following new item:

"The Social and Welfare Services Trust Fund."

**THE CUSTOMS DUTIES
(AMENDMENT) (No. 4)
ORDER, 1963**

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

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 31 of 1963 be confirmed.

The effect of this Order is to increase each of the rates of import duty on matches by 100 per cent. This increase has been imposed in order to promote the domestic production of matches. At present there are three home manufacturers enjoying pioneer status and they have the capacity to meet the entire internal demand. The increase in duty is substantial and should result in a rapid expansion of home production and a decline in the volume of imports. The interests of consumers have been protected as our manufacturers have given the Government assurances in writing that there will be no increase in their prices without prior Government approval.

The volume of imports is likely to fall substantially as a result of the increase in duty but Government revenue will not be diminished as the rate of excise has also been increased by 100 per cent by the Excise Duties Order, 1963, which this House is also being asked to confirm at this meeting at a later stage.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 31 of 1963 be confirmed.

THE EXCISE DUTIES ORDER, 1963

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

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1961, the Excise Duties Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 33 of 1963 be confirmed.

The House has already confirmed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1963, which imposed an increase of 100 per cent in the import duties payable on matches with effect from 18th April, 1963. This substantial increase in the rates of import duty is likely to lead to a sharp decline in the volume of imports, and would of itself lead to a decline in Government revenue as the rates of import duty are higher than the corresponding rates of excise. As the home manufacturers will now enjoy a substantial margin of protection against imports, a decline in Government revenue is, I consider, unjustifiable and hence I have increased the rates of excise by 100 per cent, so that even if exports should be totally excluded the revenue received from matches will not decline but might even increase. Home manufacturers should be able to increase their rate of production substantially and thus reduce their costs as a result of the increased protection afforded to them. They have therefore been called upon to absorb the additional excise payable and they have given the Government assurances that they will not increase their prices without the prior approval of Government. In consequence, the domestic production of more matches will be encouraged at no cost to the revenue, and the interests of consumers will have been fully safeguarded at the same time.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1961, the Excise Duties Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 33 of 1963 be confirmed.

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (AMENDMENT) (No. 5) ORDER, 1963

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

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 5) Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 32 of 1963 be confirmed.

This Order came into effect on 25th April, 1963, and increased the rates of import duty payable on a wide range of aluminium manufactures and semi-manufactures.

An aluminium rolling mill has been established in the Federation and the economic operation of the plant necessitates the manufacturer capturing a large proportion of the domestic market for aluminium semi-manufactures. After careful consideration of the estimated cost of domestic production and the intense competition offered by imports originating in countries where there is a substantial domestic market, the Government is satisfied that, without the protection now afforded, the home producer would be unable to operate on a viable basis.

The Government appreciates that the prices of certain aluminium products will increase but is satisfied that the increases will not be such as to have a major effect on the users of such products. Furthermore, the domestic manufacturer has undertaken not to increase his prices as agreed with the Government for a stipulated period, so that home consumers will be protected against the possibility of unreasonable price increases.

In order to protect the interests of home manufacturers of aluminium

goods the duty rates on aluminium drums and containers, and on articles commonly used for domestic purposes have been raised to 15 per cent and 35 per cent *ad valorem* respectively and a duty of 15 per cent *ad valorem* placed on Tariff Item No. 698 949, that is articles made of aluminium not specified elsewhere in the Tariff. These increases are essential as otherwise our manufacturers would be unable to compete with imported aluminium goods, because the prices which the domestic producer will have to pay for aluminium strip, sheets or circles will in many cases be higher than that paid by his foreign competitor. It is realised that exports of home manufactured aluminium goods will be made more difficult as a result of these tariff changes, but the very substantial flow of imported aluminium goods indicates that the domestic producer is not really able to compete outside the Federation in view of low priced imports from neighbouring countries.

I am satisfied that the tariff protection now afforded to the domestic aluminium rolling mill is no more than is required for the satisfactory operation of the undertaking, and that the assurances given by the Company will be adequate to ensure that the domestic consumer does not suffer from unreasonable price increases.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 5) Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 32 of 1963 be confirmed.

THE LOAN (LOCAL) ORDINANCE (No. 43 OF 1959)—RAISING OF ADDITIONAL \$300,000,000 DOMESTIC LOANS

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

That this House approves, pursuant to sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Loan (Local) Ordinance, 1959, the raising by the

issue of stock in the manner provided in that Ordinance, of a sum of \$300,000,000 to be applied in accordance with the provisions thereof.

On 27th January, 1962, this House approved a resolution authorising the Minister of Finance to raise additional domestic loans amounting to \$300 million so that the total amount which could be raised by way of loans under the provisions of the Loan (Local) Ordinance, 1959, was raised to \$600 million. Up to 18th May, 1963, loans raised under the provisions of the Loan (Local) Ordinance, 1959, amounted to \$569,445,900 leaving a balance of only \$30,554,100 to be raised under the provisions of this Ordinance. As Honourable Members are aware, the financing plan envisaged for the public sector of the Second Five-Year Plan anticipated that domestic loans totalling \$900 million would be floated. It now seems likely that this total will have to be surpassed as the amount of foreign loans which are likely to be obtained will probably be less than that originally estimated. It is therefore necessary that the amount of domestic loans which can be raised under the provisions of the Loan (Local) Ordinance, 1959, should be increased, as further loans must be raised later this year and in succeeding years to assist in financing the Second Five-Year Plan. This resolution will enable a further \$300 million to be so raised.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House approves, pursuant to sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Loan (Local) Ordinance, 1959, the raising by the issue of stock in the manner provided in that Ordinance, of a sum of \$300,000,000 to be applied in accordance with the provisions thereof.

FINANCIAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE (No. 62 OF 1957)—INVESTMENT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FUND IN GOLD

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

That any monies available for investment under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the

Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957 (No. 62 of 1957) may, under the authority of this resolution, be invested in the purchase of gold bullion or gold coin provided that the investment is made after consultation with the Governor, Bank Negara Tanah Melayu and that the value of the gold bullion and gold coin purchased at any time together with the value of any gold bullion and gold coin then held under the authority of the sub-section does not exceed one hundred million dollars.

The investment of the assets of the Consolidated Fund is governed by the provisions of section 8 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance. Paragraphs (3) (b) and (c) of this section permit investment in sterling securities of various types and as a member of the Sterling Area the Federation Government invests a substantial proportion of its reserves in sterling. I consider it prudent, however, that the Federation should diversify its investments and, as Honourable Members are aware, a resolution was approved by this House on 25th November, 1959, authorising the investment of a sum not exceeding \$75 million in the aggregate in the securities of or guaranteed by any foreign government or the securities of or guaranteed by international financial organisations which have been approved by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong for this purpose. In accordance with this resolution, investments have been made both in U.S. dollar and Deutsche Mark securities. Nevertheless, I consider that the range of authorised investments should be further widened, and after consultation with the Governor, Bank Negara Tanah Melayu, I am satisfied that it would be advantageous for the Government to have the power to invest in gold bullion and gold coin. Once Bank Negara has become the Federation's bank of issue, I anticipate that any investments in gold will be made by Bank Negara, but until then I consider that the Government should have the power to buy gold.

After consultation with the Governor of Bank Negara, I also decided that an initial purchase of gold should be made and gold to the value of about \$8.5 million was purchased as an investment on 21st September, 1962, the cost being met from the Consoli-

dated Fund. This gold was transferred to Bank Negara shortly afterwards and the Consolidated Fund was credited with the value of the gold. The approval of this House for an investment in gold was anticipated in respect of this transaction, but I am confident that all Honourable Members will agree with me that a widening of the range of Government investments is desirable and that gold is the most secure of all forms of investment.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That any monies available for investment under sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Financial Procedure Ordinance, 1957 (No. 62 of 1957) may, under the authority of this resolution, be invested in the purchase of gold bullion or gold coin provided that the investment is made after consultation with the Governor, Bank Negara Tanah Melayu and that the value of the gold bullion and gold coin purchased at any time together with the value of any gold bullion and gold coin then held under the authority of the sub-section does not exceed one hundred million dollars.

THE EXCISE DUTIES (No. 2) ORDER, 1963—EXCISE DUTIES ON PETROLEUM

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

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1961, the Excise Duties (No. 2) Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 37 of 1963 be confirmed.

The Excise Duties (No. 2) Order, 1963, which came into force on 9th May, 1963, was introduced in accordance with the Government's policy that it should not lose any revenue from petroleum as a result of the establishment of two oil refineries at Port Dickson by the Shell Co., Ltd, and the Esso Standard Malaya Ltd. As Honourable Members are probably aware only one refinery is still in course of construction, while the Shell refinery has already gone into production.

Honourable Members are, of course, aware that import duties on petroleum form one of the largest items of Federal

revenue. For instance, in 1961 the revenue from petroleum amounted to \$71.5 million while in 1962 it was \$73.4 million. At present, petroleum products sold in the Federation are imported but with the establishment of these two refineries, imports of petroleum will be considerably reduced, and will be replaced by crude oil imports, since a large proportion of the domestic demand for petroleum will be supplied by the two refineries at Port Dickson. The Excise Duties (No. 2) Order, 1963, therefore imposes excise duties on home refined petroleum and other related products at the same rates as existing import duties on similar imported products, the only exception made being that in respect of paraffin wax where the rate of excise is 15 per cent *ad valorem*, that is, the average of the full and preferential rates of import duty. There will, therefore, be no loss of revenue, whatever the level of domestic production.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1961, the Excise Duties (No. 2) Order, 1963, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 37 of 1963 be confirmed.

Sitting suspended at 11.10 a.m.

Sitting resumed at 11.25 a.m.

(*Mr Speaker in the Chair*)

ADJOURNMENT *SINE DIE*

(*Motion*)

Dato' Dr Ismail: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That at its rising this day the House do stand adjourned *sine die*.

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

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That at its rising this day the House do stand adjourned *sine die*.

MOTIONS

RATES OF PAY OF POLICE CONSTABLES AND PROMOTIONS

Enche' V. David: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that,

In view of the discontentment amongst Police Constables arising out of their present rates of pay and prospects of promotions, this House is of the opinion that a Committee be appointed by the Government to inquire fully into the matter.

Sir, I am sure this House would be aware that there is growing discontentment among the police constables over their wages, conditions of employment and promotions. The police constables, unlike other services, are not in a position to organise a trade union; neither are they allowed to go on strike under the established law of this country.

Sir, it is really regrettable to note that the maximum salary of a police constable is round about \$150 a month. He has no opportunity of receiving even this maximum before putting in a service of at least 20 to 25 years from the time of joining.

Sir, the Police constables are also citizens of this country, as others are, and they are entitled for a share of a proper living in this country. The responsibility of the Police is great, the main responsibility is to maintain peace and order regardless of any political party in power. Any party can take over the government but the Police Force remains loyal to the government of the day, and serve the government in power to the best of its ability; and their responsibilities are such that they are liable to be sent to various parts of the country at short notice. I would like to quote an instance: when there was a revolt in Brunei the Police Force was sent from this country to Brunei. Most of the men sent to Brunei were not given adequate notice—within a short period they were asked to report in order to be despatched to Brunei. So this clearly indicates the amount of responsibility and the amount of devotion and contribution the Police Force will have to make in any part of the world.

Sir, I am not claiming that the Police constables should be given the maximum, but at least they should not be forgotten and they must be awarded with the minimum. It is not practical—in fact it is impossible—for a policeman with five children to lead a normal living in present-day society without receiving at least \$300 a month. In addition, the Police is met with inadequate housing facilities. Some of the houses—the Police barracks—were built, I think, before many of us here were born, and there has been no change in these houses. They were not built to suit modern times; they were not provided with modern sanitation; and they were not provided with facilities which can claim credit in an independent country. They are out-moded; they are below the standard for human occupation. Under such plight the policeman has been asked to exist and at the same time the Government demands loyalty and sincerity and faithful service from the Police Force. It would be impossible for the Police Force to contribute loyal service until and unless it is given due respect in society, and also its due right in our society. The children of policemen should be educated too, and to provide educational facilities to the children and to lead a decent living as others do, they must be given a reasonable income.

Sir, the present income of a policeman is below the standard, and I would even say that it is below the poverty line; and it strikes them in the belly. And I do not know how the Police scheme was framed or designed. I think it was done many, many years back without any bearing on the cost of living. Today everyone in this House knows the rise in the cost of living, particularly with regard to sugar which is now, I understand, 75 cents a kati. With all this around the wages of the policemen need sympathetic consideration. You can be in any party, and regardless of any party feeling these claims should be given due respect. And again, there had been repeated assurances to this House by the Honourable Minister of Internal Security that their claims are being

considered. If my memory serves me right, during the elections—in fact during every election—in order to get the votes of the policemen, the Prime Minister makes all false promises, saying that their wages will be revised. And I can also say readily that immediately after the Alliance was returned in 1955, the Prime Minister, after some time, made a move, saying, "Well, the policemen's uniform did not look smart enough. It should be changed." All the policemen expected that it would be changed; and also in their wages too. But what did we find? We found that only their caps were replaced. Instead, the Ministers were given their ceremonial uniform to participate in ceremonial occasions. The Prime Minister and the Ministers did not care for the policemen who—more or less 90 per cent of them—voted for the Alliance. This clearly shows to what extent the Alliance has been hoodwinking the policemen, to whom they repeatedly go during every election for their votes.

Sir, discontentment is prevailing not only in the lower ranks but even in the higher ranks. I understand many Police Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents of Police have been frustrated and have resigned from the Police Force to look for different appointments, or to take up other studies in order to further their prospects. They left because they were discontented with the administration of the Police Force.

Sir, there is considerable delay in promotions. Sometimes it takes months and years for the Police Service Commission to consider dismissals, promotions and even at times, appointments. I do not know why there is undue delay in the Police Service Commission. Also, there is large-scale discrimination in promoting Police officers. To obtain promotion in the Police Force, Mr A must be related to Mr B, or Mr B must be related to So-and-so, or to be near to certain Royalties, or must be at least a relative of a Minister; then due consideration is given to that personality. Sir, in this way, you cannot expect an efficient police service in this country. We may

disagree at times with the Police Force over certain things, but as for their wages, salaries and conditions of employment, we stand up and fight. We feel that they are citizens of this country, that they are human beings, and that they should be given their rightful place in society.

Sir, the Alliance Government has failed in its pledge to the policemen. The Prime Minister has said that we must provide better uniforms so that they look smarter. What has happened to those uniforms? Their present uniforms have not been replaced. Maybe the Government has forgotten about these uniforms and it may be reminded again in the next election. And what about their wages? Every time we hear that they are being looked into, but nothing has materialised so far. When trouble breaks out in Sarawak or Borneo, you want the policemen to go; when a Minister is surrounded by somebody, you want the policemen to go; but when it comes to their wages the Treasury holds it back. The Minister of Internal Security says: "We have no funds." Then everybody is stepping backward.

Sir, this will not contribute to the efficient service of the Police. I would request that a committee be set up to look into this. When I say a committee it must be a committee consisting of not political henchmen of the Alliance but members who are judicial authorities, who have nothing to do with party politics, who are above party politics, who are even above corruption, who will have a balanced mind, an unbiased mind, an impartial mind to go into the problems of the policemen in a deep form and finalise a report, so that the Cabinet and Members of this House will have an opportunity to consider it.

Sir, in my sincere belief the policeman today is underpaid, and it is a disgrace that our policemen should be paid at this rate when this country claims credit for our annual income. It is also said that our country is a country of milk and honey. But what is happening to this milk and honey when we find thousands of policemen

in this country are underpaid and not fed enough?

Sir, I humbly submit that this House should give due consideration to appointing an independent committee to probe into the existing wages conditions of employment and also discontentment which has arisen; and the number of resignations in the Police Force. Also, I understand that there are a lot of suspensions and at times cases of suspensions are not considered for years and the policemen are left with anxiety to find out about their future. All these things must be regularised. Then only the country can expect faithful, sincere and devoted service from the policemen.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' V. Veerappen (Seberang Selatan): Sir, I beg to second the motion and reserve the right to speak later.

Dato' Mohamed Hanifah bin Haji Abdul Ghani (Pasir Mas Hulu): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menyokong usul yang di-kemukakan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bungsar kerana pehak kami di-sini telah pun berkali² menyatakan darihal nasib orang² berjawatan rendah anggota Polis di-Raja dengan tanggong-jawab mereka yang berat bagi menjalankan tugas untuk keamanan dan ketenteraman dalam negeri ini. Tetapi gaji mereka itu tidak berpadanan dengan tanggong-jawab yang besar yang mereka terpaksa jalankan. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau kita berchakap dalam bahagian corruption saya tidak-lah menuduh bahawa anggota² Polis di-Raja ini mengamalkan rashwah tetapi kalau sa-kira-nya orang² yang menjalankan tugas yang berat dan tidak di-beri gaji yang berpatutan maka boleh membawa mereka itu terchebor dalam corruption atau rashwah.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jenayah² yang telah dan sedang berlaku dan merebak dalam negeri ini pada masa ini ada-lah sa-bagai kuman² yang menjalar dalam masyarakat pada masa ini dengan ada-nya kejadian penchuri², pencholek², pembunuh² yang selalu tersiar di-dalam akhbar², sunggoh pun

Kerajaan telah menjalankan langkah² supaya jenayah² seperti ini dapat dihapuskan dalam negeri ini. Tetapi alang-kah malang dan sedeh-nya apabila kita melihat orang² yang di-beri tanggong-jawab saperti anggota² Polis yang di-harapkan bagi membenters jenayah² yang berlaku dalam negeri walhal mereka itu tidak di-berikan gaji yang berpatutan dengan beban dan tanggong-jawab yang mereka pikul.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pehak kami di-sini sa-bagaimana saya terangkan tadi telah bertalu² menyuarakan dalam Dewan ini supaya pehak Kerajaan dapat menimbangkan dan menyegekan kenaikan gaji anggota² Polis ini.

Bagitu juga sahabat saya Yang Berhormat dari Tanah Merah sa-masa beliau itu bersama² dengan kami di-sini dahulu pernah menyuarakan hal ini kapada pehak Kerajaan dan saya sangkakan kerana beliau telah bertukar tempat daripada sini ka-pehak Kerajaan maka rayuan² itu telah dapat di-laksanakan oleh pehak Kerajaan. Tetapi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, hanya yang kita dapatkan akuan² atau janjian² dan kenyataan² daripada Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri ia-itu gaji anggota Polis ini akan di-timbangkan. Akan di-timbangkan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau akan di-timbangkan sa-hingga hari ini belum lagi satu keputusan atau ketegasan pehak Kerajaan untuk menaikkan gaji anggota Polis ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, patut-lah pehak Kerajaan berfikir dan mengambil tahu darihal kaki-tangan² anggota Polis itu dalam menjalankan tugas dan tanggong-jawab mereka kapada negara ada-lah tanggong-jawab mereka juga kapada anak² isteri² mereka. Anak² mereka berkehendakkan persekolahan Tuan Yang di-Pertua, soal persekolahan ada-lah satu perkara yang berat di-tanggong oleh ra'ayat negeri ini dengan bayaran buku², belanja anak² mereka itu dan dengan keadaan sekarang ini tidak akan mencukupi dengan gaji yang di-terima oleh anggota² Polis itu. Maka patut-lah Kerajaan menghargakan akan khidmat² dan tanggong-jawab anggota² Polis ini. Hanya kalau memberi uchapan terima kaseh atas jasa² mereka itu, ada-lah

sa-takat ayer lior sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Sa-lain daripada tanggong-jawab mereka dalam negeri ini pernah juga anggota² Polis ini di-hantarkan kapada daerah² atau wilayah² yang sedang keadaan yang merunching kedudukan saperti di-Brunei baharu² ini bagi memulehkan keadaan yang burok di-wilayah² itu. Tetapi sa-bagai Kerajaan yang bertanggong-jawab dalam negeri ini maka patut-lah bertimbang rasa kapada kaki-tangan² jawatan rendah saperti anggota² Polis, patut-lah menimbangkan gaji mereka itu dengan adil dan saksama. Saya perchaya sa-kira-nya anggota² Polis ini di-berikan gaji yang berpadanan dan berpatutan dengan tugas dan tanggong-jawab mereka yang berat itu saya perchaya mereka akan dapat menjalankan tugas dan kewajipan dengan penoh dan kita akan dapat melihat perubahan yang besar dalam negeri ini sa-bagaimana saya terangkan tadi pernah berlaku dalam negeri ini keadaan yang burok saperti kuman yang menjalar dalam masharakan negeri ini. Ini bukanlah ma'ana-nya yang mereka itu chua dalam menjalankan tugas tetapi sa-bagai anggota² Polis yang kita harapkan menjalan tugas yang berat ini tidak akan dapat menjalankan kewajipan-nya dengan sa-penoh sa-kira-nya kehidupan mereka itu tidak di-jaga dan melarat.

Sa-takat ini-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya berharap Yang Berhormat Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri sa-bagaimana ia-nya pernah memberikan kenyataan dalam akbar² bagi menimbang kenaikan gaji anggota² Polis di-Raja itu. Bukti-lah kenyataan²nya itu supaya anggota² Polis di-Raja dapat menekmati kenaikan gaji yang patut dengan segera, sekian-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Dato' Dr Ismail: Mr Speaker, Sir, if Members of the Socialist Front were to praise the Police in impartially discharging their duties, in particular carrying out their duties under the Internal Security Act, half as much as they have expressed their concern for their salaries and promotions, I am sure the Police will appreciate it very

much. This House may recall that the question of revising the rates of pay for the Police Constables has been raised here before. The motion, as phrased, implies that there is discontentment among the Police Constables, because their rates of pay are inadequate and because their prospects of promotion are very limited and because of these, the House is asked to agree that a Committee should be appointed by the Government to inquire into the matter.

Sir, in the first place, the Government is not aware that there has been discontentment among the Police Constables, but if there has been any, machinery exists in the Police Force for the Association representing the Police Constables to put forward their grievances for the consideration of Government. The very fact that there is a claim for an adequate revision of salary scales of the Police rank and file, does not connote that there is discontentment in the service. It is the legitimate right of employees in a democratic country to ask for their salary scales to be improved, not necessarily arising out of discontentment. In this regard, I would like to repeat that the question of pay scales for the Police Constables is being given very active consideration and that it is hoped to advise the Junior Police Officers Association through the Whitley Council machinery as soon as possible.

Secondly, the motion implies that the prospects of promotions of Police Constables are not very bright. It may be interpreted from this that Constables are not promoted at all, and this, I must say, is totally wrong. In fact, Police Constables are being promoted as soon as vacancies in the promotion grade occur and when they are considered suitable for promotion.

The Honourable Mover of the motion has chosen to accuse the Ministry that there is discrimination in the promotion of the Police Constables or officers. I am sure the Honourable Member is aware that there is such a thing as the Police Force Commission, which deals with the promotion and the conditions of service of the Police

Force. If there is any discrimination done by the Police Service Commission, it is open to any Member of the House to bring a motion to this House querying the work of the Police Force Commission. But so long as the Police Force Commission is in existence and exists as part of the law of the country and so long as there is no impeachment on the members of the Police Force Commission, I think it is impertinent for any Honourable Member to accuse that there is discrimination in the Police Force.

With regard to the appointment of a Committee to enquire fully into the matter of revising the rates of pay, I am sure this House will agree with me that there is an established machinery to consider matters raised by their Associations, and that is the Whitley Council machinery. Any proposal to set up a Committee by Government to examine the matter will be redundant and a waste of time. The Whitley Council machinery has proved to be a satisfactory negotiating body for the improvement of the terms and conditions of the service and that body would be entrusted with the task of examining the salary claims of the Police Constables.

Once again, I would like to assure the House that the question of revising the rates of pay for the Police Constables in view of their duties and responsibilities, is being actively examined, and it is hoped to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion in the very near future. (*Applause*).

Enche' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda (Pasir Puteh): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya berasa hairan dan berasa dukachita dengan kenyataan Yang Berhormat Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri yang menyatakan bahawa pada mula-nya Kerajaan tidak tahu sama sakali, ia-itu perasaan tidak puas hati di-kalangan anggota² polis berkenaan dengan pindaan gaji² mereka

Dato' Dr Ismail: Sir, on a point of clarification. Saya mengatakan ia-itu tidak ada yang tidak puas hati; bagi mendapat gaji, saya tidak mengatakan yang mereka itu puas hati mendapat gaji.

Enche' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda: Saya telah mengatakan bahawa Yang Berhormat Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri telah menyatakan ia itu dia tidak tahu pada mula-nya ada perasaan tidak puas hati daripada kalangan anggota² polis

Dato' Dr Ismail: Sir, I do not know whether the Honourable Member understands what I have said. I did not say I was not aware that there is discontentment among the Police Constables, but I said that I was not aware that, because of their claims for the revision of salaries, there is discontentment and discrimination in the Police Force.

Mr Speaker: Ada dua macham dia punya kehendak—dia pusingkan sa-dikit! (*Ketawa*). Dia kata dia tidak mendengar ada orang yang tidak puas hati terhadap pehak polis itu dengan sebab lain² fasal; berkenaan dengan gaji dia tidak kata, dia tidak dengar!

Enche' Mohamed Asri bin Haji Muda: Terima kaseh. Yang Berhormat Menteri itu telah mengatakan bahawa tidak ada tanda² tidak puas hati, dan kalau pehak polis itu hendak meminta kenaikan gaji, mereka boleh meminta melalui Persatuan mereka.

Sa-lain daripada itu Yang Berhormat Menteri telah mengatakan bahawa perkara chadangan hendak menaikkan gaji bagi anggota² polis itu sedang dalam pertimbangan yang tegas. Saya berasa dukachita, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tentang soal pengakuan Yang Berhormat Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri, ia itu perkara ini bukan-lah perkara baharu, tetapi telah berkali² Yang Berhormat Menteri itu memberi pengakuan bahawa perkara kenaikan gaji dalam anggota² polis itu sedang dalam pertimbangan yang tegas. Sa-takat mana pergi-nya dalam hal itu, tidak-lah dapat bagi pehak mereka itu mengerti, dan dengan sebab itu-lah maka pehak Persatuan Islam Sa-Tanah Melayu telah mengemukakan beberapa pandangan-nya pada masa yang lalu berkenaan dengan gaji anggota² polis itu. Kemudian daripada itu pehak Kerajaan telah memberi jawapan bahawa gaji² mereka itu telah mendapat pertimbangan sa-hingga-lah sekarang ini maseh merupa-

kan pertimbangan yang tegas dan belum lagi lahir merupakan apa benda-nya.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau kita memandang tentang keadaan gaji anggota² polis dengan gaji anggota² tentera Persekutuan Tanah Melayu sekarang ini, kita akan dapat perbedaan yang agak mengejutkan juga, pada hal tugas bagi kedua² pasukan ini sunggoh pun berlainan, tetapi berat ringan-nya tidak-lah boleh di-katakan berlainan sangat. Kewajipan untuk menjaga keamanan, tugas tertentu dengan kewajipan untuk mempertahankan keselamatan dalam negeri ada-lah satu kewajipan yang sangat di-nilaikan berat-nya di-sisi kita sekalian. Jadi kalau sa-kira-nya pehak ashkar² ada mempunyai kedudukan yang sa-dikit baik jika di-bandingkan dengan kedudukan pehak polis, maka sa-patut-nya pehak Kerajaan akan dapat menim-bangkan kedudukan anggota² polis itu. Yang sa-benar-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ura² hendak menaikkan gaji bagi anggota² polis ini telah di-istiharkan oleh Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Perdana Menteri kita sendiri pada beberapa masa yang telah lalu, tetapi sa-hingga sekarang ini hasil daripada peristiwaran daripada Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Perdana Menteri itu maseh belum dapat di-ketahui oleh umum, dan maseh lagi menjadi tanda tanya daripada umum. Menapikan bahawa tidak ada puas hati di atas anggota² polis ini ada-lah satu hal yang sengaja hendak mengelakkan diri daripada menyatakan perkara yang sa-benar-nya kapada anggota² polis, walau pun kita tahu bahawa pehak polis ada persatuan-nya sendiri untuk mengemukakan tuntutan kenaikan gaji mereka, tetapi itu tidak-lah dapat kita katakan bahawa kalau sa-kira-nya sa-suatu hal itu tidak di-kemukakan melalui satu badan persatuan, tetapi sa-bagai Menteri yang bertanggong-jawab berkenaan dengan kedudukan anggota² polis akan dapat mengetahui dan menilai-nya sendiri dengan keadaan gaji anggota² polis, dan dengan keadaan tanggong-jawab yang di-pikul di atas bahu bagi anggota² polis dengan perbelanjaan kehidupan pada hari ini, maka semua-nya itu dapat-lah di-ukur

oleh pihak yang berkenaan. Itu ada-lah sa-bagai perbandingan yang baik bagi meletakkan suatu penghasilan bagi kehidupan anggota² polis, sa-bagai suatu anggota masharifikat yang duduk dengan orang ramai dalam masharifikat yang bagitu besar dalam negeri ini.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Tanah Merah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun di-sini ada-lah mengikuti uchapan daripada Yang Berhormat Menteri Keselamatan Dalam Negeri yang telah menyebutkan tentang usul yang di-kemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat dari Bunggar yang menchadangkan supaya di-adakan suatu Surohan-jaya bagi menyiasat hal-ehwal gaji anggota polis. Dan di-dalam bahathan ini telah di-bangkitkan beberapa kali bahawa sa-waktu saya bersama dengan Yang Berhormat dari Pasir Mas Hulu dahulu telah mengemukakan soal gaji anggota polis ini. Saya tidak-lah hendak menafikan bahawa saya pernah mengemukakan soal anggota polis ini di-waktu saya menjadi anggota Persatuan Islam Sa-Tanah Melayu, dan saya tidak hendak mengechutkan diri saya. Tetapi kalau Yang Berhormat dari Pasir Mas Hulu itu suka dengan rela hati-nya membuka chermin mata hitam-nya supaya terang dan jelas supaya di-dalam Dewan ini dia tidak memakai kacha mata hitam, maka nampak-lah. Di-dalam

Mr Speaker: Chermin mata hitam tidak ada kena-mengena (*Ketawa*) dalam perbahathan ini. Tolong jangan chakapkan benda itu.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya khuatir dia tidak dapat membacha.

Mr Speaker: Proceed.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah: di-dalam Hujongan Khas kepada Titah uchapan Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong yang telah di-kemukakan dalam Majlis Pembukaan Parlimen pada 22hb Mei yang lalu pada muka 25 ada di-sebutkan—supaya lebuh terang saya buka chermin mata saya—Baginda bertitah:

“Sambil ber‘azam hendak mengekalkan keamanan dan ketenteraman dan meng-

hapuskan keganasan Komunis serta melawan gerakan² sabversif, Kerajaan tiada pula lupa akan kebajikan ahli² biasa dalam Pasukan Polis di-Raja Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Ada pun dasar Kerajaan ia-lah hendak mengelokkan lagi sharat² kehidupan dan perkhidmatan mereka dengan menyediakan rumah yang lebuh baik dan alat perkakas yang baharu. Pada masa ini Kerajaan sedang bersunggoh² menimbaangkan perkara menyemak sa-mula gaji ahli² Pasukan Polis itu”.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ini ada-lah Titah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong, yang kalau kita menghormati Titah ini nyata-lah bahawa ini bukan-lah satu pembohongan di-dalam satu kenyataan. Tetapi dalam perlaksanaan chita² dasar Kerajaan hendak mengkaji sa-mula dan di-dalam penyelidikan yang bersunggoh² tentang kedudukan keanggotaan polis dan gaji mereka itu, bukan sahaja tentang gaji-nya tetapi juga tentang perumahan supaya kedudukan mereka sa-taraf dengan anggota² polis dalam sa-buah negara yang merdeka. Ini bererti bahawa usul atau pandangan saya sa-waktu saya dalam Persatuan Islam Sa-Tanah Melayu dahulu mendapat pertimbangan daripada Yang Berhormat Menteri, dan nyata-lah bahawa Kerajaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu pada hari ini tidak sa-mata² hendak membuat sa-suatu itu dengan nafsu saperti mana nafsu usul ini di-kemukakan di-sa‘at² yang akhir saperti sekarang ini. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya khuatir bahawa usul ini ada-lah satu usul yang jahat yang menghasut anggota² polis itu menjadi satu pasukan yang tidak berdisiplin (discipline) pada masa yang akan datang. Kita khuatir anggota² polis kita

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member is imputing improper motives.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: What order?

Enche' V. David: 36 (1).

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr Speaker, Sir, we have been long enough in this House to know Standing Orders.

Mr Speaker: I know that order myself. (*Kapada Enche' Othman bin Abdullah*). Jaga sadikit berchakap itu.

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

Mr Speaker: Dudok dahulu! Dalam Standing Order ini mengatakan salah kalau memberi sa-suatu perkataan atau pun fahaman yang memberi salah sangka kepada sa-saorang. Saya merhatikan masa tuan berchakap tadi tidak menuju kapada sa-siapa, hanya-lah menuju kapada usul ini, itu sebabnya saya tidak tegor. Dalam Standing Order ini mengatakan: "impute improper motive to any other member"—itu salah, jaga sadikit.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam keterangan saya sa-bentar tadi sa-belum Yang Berhormat itu menegor saya, saya telah menyebutkan ia-itu saya khuatir bahawa usul yang di-kemukakan ini menimbulkan salah faham yang akan membawa satu akibat yang tidak dapat kita pertanggong-jawabkan. Oleh kerana kita tahu bahawa dalam masa dunia yang bergelora sekarang ini seperti di-Timor Tengah ada sa-pasukan daripada orang² yang ber-fahaman politik telah chuba menchuchok pasukan² keselamatan mereka itu sa-hingga terbit-lah sa-suatu yang tidak di-ingini dalam negeri itu dan pertumpahan darah telah tidak dapat di-tahan. Oleh sebab itu hendak-lah Ahli Yang Berhormat itu atau siapa pun yang dudok dalam Dewan ini memikirkan dengan sa-dalam²-nya dan menimbangkan dengan sa-jauh²-nya kapada suatu usul yang akan melibatkan negeri ini dalam keadaan yang tidak mententeramkan. Sebab itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya telah meneliti perkara ini dan telah melihat bahawa Persekutuan Tanah Melayu atau dengan lain² perkataan Kerajaan Perikatan telah pun mengemukakan dan mengistiharkan tujuh bulan dahulu bahawa satu Surohanjaya telah dibentok oleh Kerajaan bagi mengkaji kedudukan² anggota polis itu sendiri. Jadi berma'ana-lah bahawa Kerajaan Persekutuan telah menjalankan kerja yang saperti ini dan pekerjaan ini di-dalam process, kechuali-lah kalau Yang Berhormat dari Bungsar membuat suatu usul mengkondem Jawatan-Kuasa itu atau pun tidak perchaya kapada ahli² yang telah di-lantek oleh Kera-

jaan bagi menyemak sa-mula gaji anggota² polis. Itu ada-lah soal lain. Tetapi patut-lah Ahli² Yang Berhormat, terutama pehak penchadang dapat bersabar dan melihat sa-jauh mana-kah repot itu akan dapat di-laksanakan dan ikhtiar Kerajaan dapat di-hasikan saperti mana yang di-hajatkan.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pada masa saya menjadi ahli PAS dahulu, saya mengemukakan bukan sahaja soal gaji anggota polis yang kurang, tetapi saya telah mengemukakan juga tentang kedudukan rumah mereka itu. Maka dalam Titah Duli Yang Maha Mulia ini telah menyebutkan bahawa Kerajaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu hendak mengelokkan lagi sharat² kehidupan. Erti-nya sharat² kehidupan itu tentulah dapat di-fahamkan bahawa sharat kehidupan satu daripada-nya ia-lah makan, maka makanan tidak dapat di-beli melainkan dengan wang, wang tidak akan dapat, melainkan di-beri kepada anggota polis itu. Maka bererti-lah bahawa Kerajaan sedar kedudukan gaji anggota polis itu tidak menchukupi, akan tetapi hendak-lah di-fahamkan bahawa Yang Berhormat Menteri tadi pernah menyatakan ia-itu beliau tidak mendengar rungutan. Itu benar. Bahawa anggota polis tidak pernah membuat sa-barang rungutan kapada Kerajaan atas kekurangan gaji, tetapi bukan-lah berma'ana bahawa Kerajaan tidak sedar di atas kekurangan itu. Jadi di atas kesedaran Kerajaan tentang kekurangan ini-lah dengan tidak ada sa-barang rungutan yang telah di-dengar oleh Kerajaan, maka Kerajaan membuat satu ikhtiar yang telah di-maktubkan di-dalam Titah uchapan Duli Yang Maha Mulia ini supaya berikhtiar bagi mengelokkan lagi sharat² kehidupan dan perkhidmatan mereka dengan menyediakan rumah² yang lebeh baik. Kalau sa-kiranya kita menengok kapada Development Estimates yang di-bentangkan dalam Dewan ini, Kerajaan sudah banyak menyediakan barek (barrack) baharu dan sa-bagai tabiat manusia tentu-lah barek itu pun tidak akan dapat di-rasai enak oleh sa-bahagian ahli Pembangkang. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bukan itu sahaja yang saya mengemukakan, tetapi saya pernah

mengemukakan dahulu supaya perkakas senjata polis itu pun di-baharü. Maka Kerajaan juga telah berikhtiar supaya perkakas² itu pun di-baharü.

Mr Speaker: Order. Perkara itu sudah terkeluar sadikit daripada usul yang ada di-hadapan Majlis ini. Saya hendak mengingatkan kapada Ahli² Yang Berhormat ia-itu usul yang di-hadapan Majlis ini ada dua perkara sahaja, ia-itu "arising out of their present rates of pay", ia-itu gaji, dan "prospects of promotions", ia-itu peluang naik pangkat. Jadi saya harap Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang hendak berchakap, berchakap-lah atas dua perkara ini sahaja supaya tidak menghinggalkan masa.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sebutkan perkara yang telah saya sebut itu supaya lebeh jelas bukan sahaja dua perkara itu sahaja Kerajaan akan menimbaungkan, tetapi juga segala kelengkapan anggota polis itu di-pandang berat oleh Kerajaan yang ada ini. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan sebab² hal yang demikian itu-lah, maka tidak ada nampak-nya suatu yang mustahak bagi menerima usul yang saperti ini, kerana Kerajaan sedang di-dalam menimbaungkan pekerjaan-nya dan tentu-lah nanti usul ini manakala di-tolak oleh pehak Kerajaan akan menjadikan suatu alasan kapada pehak Pembangkang bahawa Kerajaan tidak mahu menimbaungkan soal ini, tetapi kalau itu-lah yang akan berlaku, maka kita bersedia dan sanggup berhadapan dengan ra'ayat mencheritakan apa yang di-kerjakan oleh Kerajaan. (*Tepok*).

Enche' V. David (Bungsar): Shame!

Mr Speaker: Order, order. If you do that again, I shall ask you to withdraw. Please proceed.

Enche' V. Veerappen: Mr Speaker, Sir, while the Minister of Internal Security tried to ridicule and tried to belittle the Socialist Front, saying that while we criticise the Police we come here and try to champion their cause and also that he could not find the logic for the inconsistency in our argument, I think, Mr Speaker, Sir, therein lies the difference between the Alliance

and the Socialist Front. While the Socialist Front would like to see that the Police carry out their duties—at least the duties which the Alliance want them to do—we also want to see that they are properly paid for the work that they are doing for the Alliance. But there is a bigger difference when we criticise. When we criticise, Mr Speaker, we are criticising the policy that the Police have to carry out. And who lays down the policy? It is the Government; and therefore it is the Government that we criticise, and directly the Minister of Internal Security, because whatever the Police do, he is responsible and he is answerable to this House.

I am also surprised, Mr Speaker, Sir, that the Minister seems to think that he is not aware of any discontentment. Well, I personally feel, and I am convinced that there is genuine discontentment in the Police Force. When we say "Police Force", which the Minister of Internal Security knows very well, there are many classes. Shall we say that we have the officer class, whose salaries have been revised quite recently in order to make it very attractive; that we have the ordinary class, and that we have the lower class or the rank and file?

Dato' Dr Ismail: On a point of clarification. Now, Sir, evidently the Honourable Member does not understand what I said. He says, in the first instance, that I said that there is no discontentment in the Police. I agree with him. I think there is no discontentment in the Police. Then he goes on to say that I think that there is no discontentment among the constables because their salaries are not revised. These are two different things. Discontentment in the service and discontentment of their salaries not being revised are two different things.

Enche' V. Veerappen: Mr Speaker, Sir, I thought I have heard the Honourable Minister rightly when he said that he was not aware of any discontentment.

Mr Speaker: Will you base your argument on the explanation given by him just now?

Enche' V. Veerappen: Mr Speaker, Sir, discontentment arises from several causes, and, of course, the motion here says "rates of pay and prospects of promotions." He says that that has nothing to do with this; but discontentment can arise from the very poor rates of pay. Therefore, Sir, I have to speak on discontentment, because over the years the Government has not taken any positive steps, although the Minister has assured us that the Government is taking positive steps. One thing the people must be aware, and Honourable Members must be aware is that the Police Force cannot organise like a trade union and negotiate. They do not have the courses of action which are open to other workers. They have only to go through their Association and whatever the Association has to do must be done without the glare of the publicity, and I think the Association—if they would bear me out—has failed miserably in trying to negotiate with the Government on their salary scales and so forth.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I really wonder whether it is the Minister who is responsible for the Police Force or the Member for Tanah Merah.

Dato' Dr Ismail: On a point of clarification, Sir. I must be quite clear as to what he says. Do I hear him clearly that the Association is not putting up a case for the Police? Is it true?

Enche' V. Veerappen: That is one of the ways in which he wants to interrupt my trend of thought. I say that over the years the Police Association has not been able to

Dato' Dr Ismail: Now you correct yourself.

Enche' V. Veerappen: to get the Government to agree to its views, and I said that they would even bear me out if they could.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I was referring to the Honourable Member for Tanah Merah just now. If I have heard him rightly, he seems to say that there is already a commission looking into the salaries and conditions of service of the Police constables. I have never

heard of it from the Minister. I do not know who is right and who is wrong. I thought he has already assumed . . . (Lights went out).

Well, Mr Speaker, Sir, as I was telling, let us look at the salary scales of the members of the Police Force. We have round about 15,210 Policemen. A recruit starts with a salary of \$60 a month while he is under training and then once he completes his training, he gets \$91 a month; and his maximum is \$152 a month. He gets an increase of about \$6 a year, which is 50 cents a month. Now, what happens? It takes him about, I think, 10 years to reach his maximum. Now, after he has reached the maximum, what does he do? Wait for somebody, wait for a corporal to die before he can go further? He has to mark time on \$152 a month and within 10 years I am sure he must have got married, and he must have got children. And now, what happens? Haven't his needs increased very much beyond that \$152 limit? I am sure that there must be better consideration than this for their salaries. Take the case of the woman police constables: they get \$48 per month as recruits, and when they pass out they get \$91, that is \$3 per day; and their maximum is \$121 per month reaching it by \$5 increments yearly. Comparing the type of work that the policemen have to do with the type of work ordinary unskilled labourers have to do, we will know that the policemen are very much underpaid. This strikes me as one thing that we have carried on from the colonial period and that we are going not so much for quality but for quantity. I think the Government believes in numbers but that should not be so. We should have well qualified policemen, and to get well qualified people we must pay them very well. If we look into the type of work that they have to do, it will be seen that they have to have tact in dealing with the public, as they are the people closest to the public. They have to be intelligent too, and sometimes they have to take risks and may lose their lives. They are different from the ordinary workers or even skilled workers—and I am sure that the skilled

workers are very much better paid compared with the policemen. Further, our policemen have to perform a dual duty. They have to arrest people, keep peace and order, and be the friends of the public, and so forth. If you want them to do this dual duty, do you not agree with me that we should get people of the right calibre.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I was told that we recruit people of Standard V Malay school qualification. That, I think, is a very low standard, and I would like to say that not only the salary scheme must be looked into and revised but also the qualification and the ability of the people we recruit should be considered.

Then, Sir, we come to the question of promotion. As I said just now, if a policeman has served ten years he reaches the maximum, and after that he has no chance of promotion unless somebody dies—the promotion from the rank and file to the higher grades is almost impossible. I hope the Minister or his Assistant will be able to give us figures to convince this House that there is opportunity for promotion to the higher grades. As I said, Sir, there are two classes. You have the official class where you have recruitment as Cadet Police Inspectors and they go into that class; whereas the men from the rank and file have very little opportunity, and also they have little encouragement, to go up to the rank of inspector and above. This is a very important cause of dissatisfaction. In fact, police officers have no idea, or cannot imagine, what it is to be an ordinary policeman and to be sympathetic towards their aspirations or their work. Further, you will find that there is a gap between the officers' class and the lower ranks. Of course, tied up with this is the question of rent allowances and quarters, etc. Though the motion does not bring in this question, I am sure you will agree with me that rent allowance is connected with salaries. I find that many policemen have to live outside without quarters, and this too brings in a great deal of difficulty. I understand that policemen are paid \$16 as rent allowance, and it is almost impossible

in Kuala Lumpur or in Penang to get quarters at this rate.

Well, Sir, I think that is all. Thank you.

Enche' V. David: Mr Speaker, Sir, first of all I think that the Minister of Internal Security has misled the House by mentioning about the Internal Security Act. There are two different things: one is the policy of the Government with which we disagree—the Internal Security Act itself with which we disagree; on the other hand the implementation of the policy, whatever Government is in power. The policemen are not the framers of the policy of the Government. It is the Cabinet, the so-called Alliance, which forms the policy, and the policemen are there to carry out instructions which normally they will have to do even if another party comes into power. Therefore, it must be borne in mind that we are complaining against the Internal Security Act, and how it is being applied on the people of this country.

Mr Speaker, Sir, he has said that there is no discontentment among members of the Police force and that he is not aware of it. Sir, the members of the Police force are in a very difficult situation, because they are not like members of the civil service, or are they like members of other trade unions. The policemen cannot go on strike. Even if their Association presents a claim and the claim is rejected by the Government, there is no other means for the policemen to obtain their claim, because the normal course of industrial dispute where a strike is absolutely essential has been deprived—to the policemen. In these circumstances, the policemen are at the mercy of the Government in power. Their hands are tied. They are just given the opportunity to join the Association, not because the Association can bring about improvement in their livelihood but for mutual understanding and for other social activities. Even though there might be a negotiating body between the Association and the Government, the Association is ineffective because of the very fact that the policemen are prevented from going on strike.

Sir, I disagree with the Government, I disagree with the Minister of Internal Security, denying that there is no discrimination in the Police force in regard to promotions and so on. I again charge that there have been several cases of discrimination, and whether the Minister is aware of it or not, it is not my responsibility. It is for him to investigate into the matter. To make reference to the normal Whitley Council machinery and the Police machinery is nonsense, because the Whitley Council machinery of the Civil Service is quite different from the Whitley Council machinery of the Police Association. The Whitley Council machinery for the Civil Service is empowered to threaten to strike, to go-slow, and even to go on strike with the normal notice given to Government. However, in the case of the Police force they cannot do so.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would once again appeal that the Government should reconsider, in the light of what has been said, that the Policeman reaches \$152 per month and that is the end. He spends the best part of his life in the Police Force and he goes up to \$152 per month, which is not sufficient for him to lead a normal life in this country with the present cost of living. To reach this \$152 even is not so easy, and in many cases increments are stopped for Policemen for small mistakes and small offences committed—the Policemen's increments for a number of years are stopped, and he has to start all over again. Therefore, it is my contention that the Police Force should be paid according to its needs. In any country one should be paid according to one's needs, requirements, ability and responsibilities. In the case of the Police Force, the responsibilities are great and they are right in demanding for better living conditions in this country. The present pay for the Police is disgraceful to the Government and also to the citizens of this country.

Sir, there are the two different things: one is that at times we oppose the Police for exceeding their powers and the other is that here on this occasion, as far as the question of wages is concerned, we the Socialist

Front demand that every citizen, whether he is in the Police Force or wherever, must be given the opportunity to live as a decent human being.

Then, referring to Member for Tanah Merah, it would be a waste of time for me to reply, because he is a man who can sell his principles, objects and aims for a few dollars. Well, he has crossed very conveniently to the other side and once upon a time he has been championing the causes of the Police Constables, but today he has become the defender of the Alliance. So it would be a waste of time for any right-thinking Member to reply to his charges. He has no conviction of his own, he has no beliefs of his own, and all his decisions will have to be made by somebody else to benefit him. Therefore, I say that the charges made by the Member for Tanah Merah need not be replied to at all.

Sir, once again, I appeal to the Government to reconsider the whole issue in the light of the prevailing frustration and discontentment among the Police Force. Thank you.

Question put, and negatived.

RATES OF PAY OF GOVERNMENT DAILY-RATED WORKERS

Enche' V. David: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

In view of the discontentment amongst Government daily-rated workers arising out of their present rates of pay, this House is of the opinion that a Committee be appointed by the Government to inquire fully into the matter.

Sir, the daily-rated workers in this country are the most exploited workers in every respect. It is no doubt that their present wage is far below the poverty line. It is impossible for a family to live a decent living with an income of \$3.40 per day. The interpretation of the International Labour Organisation for a living wage is that a wage which provides the frugal comfort to a family to live as a decent human being. With \$3.40 a day, it is impossible to live with frugal comfort.

Sir, to examine the claims of the daily-rated workers, the Government, some time back in 1960, set up an

Enquiry to ascertain whether the wages then for the daily-rated workers were reasonable and whether they need any adjustment. The Enquiry made its Report which recommended that the workers should be paid \$3.40 a day. However, in the Report Dr Charles Gambar, a well-known economist and the President of the Industrial Arbitration Court, Singapore, made it clear that \$3.40 was not a living wage, because within the limited terms of reference given to that Committee, they were unable to ascertain what was the living wage. But from hearing evidences in regard to the rates of pay paid by the Government and the various private sectors, this Committee has concluded that \$3.40 may be a wage to be granted to the Government servants, but they have also very clearly stressed that this \$3.40 cannot be termed as a living wage. By this one understands that the Government today is not paying a living wage to its workers. Sir, then later last year the Municipalities of Penang, Kuala Lumpur and Malacca, except Ipoh, agreed to pay an increase of 30 cents to the Municipal workers to make it as \$3.70. Only the Municipalities of Penang, Malacca and Kuala Lumpur have implemented the new rate of \$3.70, while the Government still pays \$3.40 to the workers. Sir, again, in addition to what the Municipalities have agreed, they also have increased the fringe benefits which are normally being paid by the Government to its workers.

Now, let us ask ourselves whether \$3.40 per day is enough for an individual to earn his living. It is a social problem which needs very careful consideration. In this country there have been talks at length about crimes, there have been talks about so many offences being committed. But, in regard to whether, with this \$3.40 a day, an average worker can build a prosperous society, in my humble opinion, we cannot build a harmonious, peaceful and prosperous society by paying the workers below what they should really receive. \$3.40 is a most oppressive wage, because a normal person with four or five children cannot lead a living with \$3.40 a day.

The Government repeatedly has refused to go into this question. Sir, it is high time that an Enquiry at higher level, with an expert on economics and other social problems to head this Enquiry, should be set up in order to ascertain what is the living wage for the workers of this country in view of the present cost of living. Sir, just to say that \$3.40 is enough, is absurd, especially with the rate of sugar at 75 cents per *kati*. Sir, there are workers in this country, especially employed by the Public Works Department, Telecommunications and Town Boards, who are unable to educate their children. As a result of this, we are not encouraging healthy citizens who could serve this country, who could be useful to this country, but we are creating citizens who would not be useful due to the poor rates of pay paid to the workers. As a result of it, the workers are unable to provide education and the social needs to their children and families. Sir, we can only eliminate this social evil by providing adequate wages to the workers. The workers in this country have been responsible for many things which in this House and outside this House we are enjoying, but the very workers have been penalised, have been exploited have been driven from corner to corner.

Let us also see the housing conditions of these workers. It is in a very disgraceful state of affairs. Sir, when I talk about Government housing, I must make particular reference to the Malayan Railway quarters, which is in a disgraceful manner, because in one room you expect the parents, the grown up children and everyone else to sleep together.

Mr Speaker: Order! I don't see how it is relevant to the motion. According to your motion, it is only about rates of pay; it does not mention about accommodation at all.

Enche' V. David: While reference to rates of pay is made, the Minister will come out to say that we are providing houses to the workers. So, I am making a passing reference.

Mr Speaker: I think you better wait until he has done it (*Laughter*). If he

does so, you can touch on it in your reply.

Enche' V. David: This is part of the conditions where the Railway is concerned, because the provision of housing is taken into account in determining the pay.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the workers in this country need a different way of life. There is no point in talking about independence, freedom, standard of living and *per capita* income. It has always been said that we are living in the midst of glittering wealth. But the wealth is drained through some other sources, but not for the benefit of the vast majority of the workers of this country who have been the backbone in building this country to the present state of affairs and who are really the fundamental cause of keeping this country in its present form. Sir, I would appeal to the capitalists, the decayed capitalists of the Alliance to think of the consequences if the workers are not given their rightful place. I cannot expect the bourgeoisie Government to think as the workers think, but at least let them be sympathetic and offer the minimum comforts to the workers. The workers are not even today given the minimum comforts while a few, the privileged class, the haves, enjoy 90 per cent of the wealth. Let the workers, the have-nots, be given at least 10 per cent of the wealth.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I feel that the Government rates of pay for the daily-rated workers need a complete revision and for this purpose a high level committee headed by an economist can only bring about a change. If you are going to put in political henchmen, the committee will serve no purpose, because they are not interested in the plight of the workers and they are only interested to see whether they will be able to find positions as Ambassadors to foreign countries by putting up a favourable report to the Government. Therefore, I submit that this committee should be an impartial committee, which would really bring about some changes in the livelihood of the workers.

Sir, before the lights go off (*Laughter*), I would appeal: let us not place any party feelings in this motion. The motion is straightforward and it is not a controversial motion. The daily-rated workers pay is insufficient and it needs revision, and it is the responsibility of an elected Government to give due consideration to a motion of this nature which really affects large numbers of daily-rated workers.

Again the Minister will get up and say that they have got the Whitley Council machinery. Well, the Whitley Council machinery submitted and established this claim a long time ago—they asked for \$4.50 a day. I would not say that is also a living wage, but at least they thought that they would put in a claim of \$4.50 which the Government would consider. But the Government refused to consider the \$4.50 claim. Therefore, there is no use of placing faith in the Whitley machinery when the Government is not really keen to study the problems of the workers and find out the fundamental issues as to what is to be done for the workers to improve their lot. Therefore, I call upon the Government to give consideration to this motion, and I humbly submit, Sir, that the present rates of pay is most disgraceful and it needs complete revision.

Enche' K. Karam Singh (Daman-sara): Mr Speaker, Sir, I second the motion and reserve the right to speak.

Mr Speaker: The motion is open to debate.

The Assistant Minister of Labour (Enche' V. Manickavasagam): Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Bungsar has spoken about discontentment amongst the daily-rated workers and mentioned that this discontentment is of such a size as to warrant a committee of inquiry. Sir, I am not sure whether the Honourable Member is aware that agreement has been reached in the National Whitley Council for the conversion of daily-rated employees to monthly-rates. This conversion is to be computed at 27 times the daily-rates, which means that they will enjoy an increase in earnings

of one day's wages as the number of working days will only be 26. In addition, by the conversion, daily-rated employees will enjoy all the additional gazetted public holidays and other privileges, such as leave which they do not at present enjoy. Sir, the last revision of salary for daily-rated workers was made, as the Honourable Member just said, in 1960 after the Commission's Report. At the moment the Government has agreed on the conversion to monthly-rates and these workers will, in fact, receive more total salary and additional leave privileges. Sir, there has been no indication in the Whitley Council that there is such discontentment over these rates and privileges as the Honourable Member claims. The details of the method of conversion are now being worked out and it is hoped that they will be settled soon.

Sir, just now the Honourable Member for Seberang Selatan, while speaking on the motion on police constables salary, said that unskilled workers in this country are getting lots of salary—at least he implied that—and police constables are not, and here the Honourable Member for Bungsar, who belongs to the same party, says that the workers are not getting enough as wages. This is the conflicting views of Socialist Front, and they talk to the gallery. Sir, the Alliance Government looks not only to the welfare of police constables and to the daily-rated workers—who are going to be converted to monthly-rates—but to all workers in this country and we wish to see that everyone in this country enjoys a fair deal and enjoys the fruits of his labour. The machinery for achieving this have been established by the Government and where it needs improvements we are always ready if it comes from the workers themselves and those directly concerned.

Sir, in the circumstances, I do not think that there is a necessity for establishing a committee of inquiry.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr Speaker, Sir, although we have a Minister, who is the Labour Minister, and an Assistant Minister, it cannot be denied

that these so-called Labour Ministers are nothing but agents of the capitalists. This Labour Ministry is nothing but an agency of the capitalists, and to call it a Labour Ministry, or to call these people who masquerade as Labour Ministers is to deceive the country. Mr Speaker, Sir, in your very hearing, we have heard how an Assistant Labour Minister can speak and reject a plea for higher wages for people who can be considered his own employees—the employees of his own Government. If he cannot hear the plea of his own employees, what regard, what respect, what consideration can this Government show to the working class?

Mr Speaker, Sir, whenever a complaint is made about the living conditions of the people in this country, the Alliance Government comes out with slogans, "We are having the highest standard of living in the whole of Asia"—and a few days back I think we have heard the Prime Minister say: "Nay, not only in Asia but in the whole world". That claim had risen to incomparable heights in this entire world. But when a daily-rated employee of the Government asks for a 90 cents, \$1.00 or \$1.10 increase a day, this Government is unable to meet that claim. It only shows the poverty of the professions of this Government, the poverty of its claim. It shows that this Government is only basing its claim upon wishful thinking.

Again, Mr Speaker, Sir, year after year we hear the Finance Minister saying, "This year we have a record budget. We have touched the \$1,000 million limit. We have touched unprecedented ceilings in our budget". But, Mr Speaker, Sir, what does the working class get out of this so-called record ceilings of the budget? They get nothing. There is no promise of anything to the working class. Even a \$1.10 increase a day is not conceded by this Government. The Minister said just now about the conversion from daily-rated to monthly-rated, but what does he offer in this House? A \$3.40 increase a month to the Government daily-rated staff, and he said it as if it is a gift from God.

Mr Speaker, Sir, a \$3.40 increase a month offered by the great Alliance Government does not amount to 12 cents a day, and I think any Government would be ashamed to announce it in this House.

Enche' V. Manickavasagam: Sir, on a point of information. What I said was that the workers would be getting one additional day's pay, and in addition to this, they would be paid on public holidays, for which they have hitherto not been entitled to.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: If we boil the Minister's words down to hard cash, it would mean \$3.40 a month extra. That is his offer. He himself is laughing and it shows that he himself regards this offer as a joke. (*Laughter*)

Mr Speaker, Sir, I think the Honourable Member who is at present occupying the Assistant Ministership of Labour would do well to leave that Ministry and go to some other Ministry, because his constituency is composed of people of the working class—his voters are mainly poor rubber tappers. Is it the way for him to serve the workers who constitute the working class of this country?

Enche' V. Manickavasagam: Sir, for the information of the Honourable Member I shall be going back to the same constituency. (*Applause*).

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Going back to the same constituency with what—with nothing, with low wages, with no promise, and with no achievements in five years? Going back is not enough. What do you take back with you?

Mr Speaker: I am afraid this point—whether the Assistant Minister will go back to his old constituency or not—has nothing to do with this House. This is not the point at issue. Please proceed.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: I agree with you, Sir. But going back to the same constituency does not mean that you have given anything to the people. Mr Speaker, Sir, the only conclusion that we can draw from this behaviour of the Government, as evidenced by the Assistant Minister, is that it is so under

the thumb of these capitalists, so afraid, so pawned to the capitalists that it will not lift a finger to improve the living conditions of the workers. And, Mr Speaker, Sir, behind the Government's refusal to consider this claim stands a gigantic force—the force of the foreign capitalists, the force of the foreign estate owners who are of the view that any increase to the Government daily-rated staff will have repercussions on the rubber industry. An increase of wages of the daily-rated staff in Government will be echoed by attempts from the estate workers and other workers for higher wages. It is these foreign capitalists—the owners of rubber lands in Malaya—who are having this Government under their thumb and stopping it from giving an increase to their own employees. Mr Speaker, Sir, although the Minister may go back to his constituency—his constituency not only has estate labourers but also powerful landlords, rubber landlords, who will get their adequate share of homage from this Ministry and this Government—but the problem before us is, what is the condition of the working class? In what way has the working class advanced; what better future for the children of the working class than the conditions of the working class itself; and what prospects has the rising generation of workers have in this country? I would warn the Government and I would tell the working class to take note that by the Government's action in rejecting an increase in the wages of the workers, the Government is striking and breaking the future of the children of the working class and denying them the opportunity and the chance to advance. I know it was the Assistant Minister of Labour himself who grandly spoke of free enterprise and of giving equal opportunities to all. I ask him, "What equal opportunities do you give to the children of the working class when as Ministers you all draw \$3,000 salary a month and are not prepared to give \$1.10 increase to the working class of this country?" This proves the reality of this so-called equality of opportunity that is preached but not practised by the Alliance Government.

Mr Speaker: Di-dalam Standing Order ini biasa-nya meshuarat ini di-tempohkan pada pukul 1.00 dan balek pada pukul 4.30 lagi. Sekarang di-hadapan Majlis ini hanya ada motion ini sahaja, oleh sebab saya telah dapat satu notice daripada Yang Berhormat Enche' V. David menarek balek motion yang akhir dan saya rasa tentu-lah susah sadikit bagi pehak Ahli² Yang Berhormat hendak balek ka-mari pada masa yang pendek kerana hendak menghabiskan motion itu; maka saya suka-lah juga kalau-lah tidak lama lagi, saya boleh sambongkan lagi meshuarat ini sa-hingga habis sa-kali pada tengah hari ini juga. Akan tetapi saya tidak tahu-lah bagaimana perasaan Ahli² Yang Berhormat di-dalam Majlis ini. Kalau tidak ada apa² objection, berma'ana-lah bersetuju semua-nya kita habiskan sadikit sahaja lagi.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS : Bersetuju!

Mr Speaker: Have you finished?

Enche' K. Karam Singh: I have finished, Sir. Thank you. (*Laughter*).

Enche' V. Manickavasagam: Mr Speaker, Sir, I just want to clarify one point. The Honourable Member for Damansara was talking about \$1.10. I do not know where he got this figure of \$1.10. As far as we know, we have not received any request from the Workers' Side of the Whitley Council; so I do not think the question of \$1.10 arises. The only question that has not been settled yet with the Staff Side of the Whitley Council is on overtime, and we hope that settlement will be reached on that issue soon.

Enche' V. David: Sir, that is very easy to answer. My colleague asked for \$1.10 in addition to the \$3.40 which the Whitley Council Staff Side had asked long, long ago—before he and his Secretary were in the Ministry. (*Laughter*).

Mr Speaker, Sir. the Assistant Minister was calculating 27 times at \$3.40 a day. Sir, this is the only Ministry where nobody can cheat me.

The Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Enche' Mohamed Yusof): Sir, on a point of order—Standing Order 36 (4). The Honourable Member is using insulting language.

Mr Speaker: That is about using insulting language.

Enche' Mohamed Yusof: He said "cheating" just now.

Enche' V. David: I did not say he is cheating. I said nobody can cheat me.

Mr Speaker: He said nobody can cheat him with regard to the Labour Ministry. That is all right. Please proceed.

Enche' V. David: Sir, 27 times \$3.40 will mean \$91.80. I just want to ask a straightforward question from the Honourable Assistant Minister in order to settle the whole subject: Does he accept that with \$91.80 a man can live as a human being in present day society? Sir, I am just posing this question to him.

Mr Speaker: Proceed!

Enche' V. David: Sir, in my contention a worker with \$91.80 cannot lead a normal life in frugal comfort according to I.L.O. Conventions.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Government should pose as a model employer. In this particular case the Government itself has been very unfair to the daily-rated workers. When the Government itself sets an example of this nature, the employers in the private sector will definitely go all out to exploit the workers.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the daily-rated workers problem has not been settled as has been painted by the Assistant Minister. Even though the daily-rated system has been converted into monthly wages their "take home pay" at the end of the month will be \$91.80 only. Therefore, the daily-rated workers have got further claims to make, and they are already planning. But before this conversion took place, their orginal claim was \$4.50 a day which the Government rejected and conveniently and systematically converted into

monthly-rated system by providing an additional day of pay of \$3.40. This is the whole history of the claim and Government's conversion.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as a modern employer, if the Government takes such an attitude towards its daily-rated staff, now monthly-rated workers, I am afraid the private employers will follow suit. They are not going to listen to the Unions, and neither will they treat their workers with better facilities.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Minister should bear in mind that \$91.80 is not enough for a family, and he knows it. If he does not know it, then it is high time that he should take the initiative to find out whether a family can exist on \$91.80. If he can show us how a family with five children can live with \$91.80, then I will ask all the workers to study under him as to how to run their own families.

Mr Speaker, Sir, it is really shocking to know that the Minister has been hiding facts. A claim had been submitted by the daily-rated workers for \$4.50 but later the Government suddenly came out with a statement that it would convert the daily-rated system into a monthly-rated system by providing one additional day. But this is not going to solve the problem. I still insist that, in view of the poor wages received by the daily-rated workers, the Government should set up an inquiry to probe into the matter and to revise the scheme, so that the workers will have at least a proper share in the national income of this country.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I cannot expect much from this Government because the Government cannot realise the difficulties met by the workers, because most of them—including Ministers themselves—belong to the property-owning class, the vested interests of this country, and I am afraid they will definitely not consider the workers' claim on sympathetic ground. And again, the Government has categorically stated, through the Prime Minister, that it is a capitalistic government, and the decaying capitalist system will continue until it trembles one day. Therefore, Mr Speaker, Sir, I again submit that we maintain that the daily-rated workers' wages should be revised completely with an eye to the cost of living. Thank you, Sir.

Question put, and negatived.

**DISPUTE BETWEEN MALAYAN
RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION
AND RAILWAYMEN'S UNION
OF MALAYA—COURT OF
INQUIRY**

(Withdrawal)

Mr Speaker: Honourable Members, I have received a notice from the Honourable Enche' V. David, who has given me notice to withdraw his motion under Standing Order 29 (2). This will be recorded in the Votes and Proceedings.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr Speaker: The House is adjourned *sine die*.

Adjourned at 1.10 p.m.