

Volume II
No. 12



Thursday
5th January, 1961

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN NEGARA (SENATE)

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

BILL—

The Supply Bill, 1961 [Col. 735]

FEDERATION OF MALAYA
DEWAN NEGARA (SENATE)
Official Report

Vol. II

Second Session of the First Dewan Negara

No. 12

Thursday, 5th January, 1961

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

PRESENT:

- The Honourable Mr. President (DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN MOHAMED YASIN, S.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P.) (Johore).
- „ the Minister of Justice (TUN LEONG YEW KOH, S.M.N.) (Appointed).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABBAS BIN HAJI MOHAMED (Trengganu).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL HAMID BIN MAHMUD, J.M.N. (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN SAID, A.M.N. (Perak).
- „ ENCHE' A. M. ABU BAKAR, J.M.N. (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL WAHAB BIN IDUS, P.J.K. (Negri Sembilan).
- „ ENCHE' AMALUDDIN BIN DARUS (Kelantan).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN KWONG HON, A.M.N., J.P. (Selangor).
- „ DATO' DR. CHEAH TOON LOK, J.M.N., J.P., Dato' Maha Kurnia (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' J. E. S. CRAWFORD, J.M.N., J.P. (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' DA ABDUL JALIL BIN HAJI AWANG (Trengganu).
- „ ENCHE' HASHIM BIN AWANG, J.P. (Penang).
- „ ENCHE' KOH KIM LENG (Malacca).
- „ DATO' LEE FOONG YEE, J.M.N., P.P.T., J.P. (Negri Sembilan).
- „ ENCHE' LIM HEE HONG, A.M.N. (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' MOHD. SALLEH BIN MOHAMED ARIFF (Malacca).
- „ ENGKU MUHSEIN BIN ABDUL KADIR, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' ATHI NAHAPPAN (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' S. P. S. NATHAN (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' NIK HASSAN BIN HAJI NIK YAHYA, J.M.N. (Appointed).
- „ TUAN HAJI NIK MOHD. ADEEB BIN HAJI NIK MOHAMED (Kelantan).
- „ TOK PANGKU PANDAK HAMID BIN PUTEH JALI, P.J.K. (Appointed).
- „ RAJA RASTAM SHAHROME BIN RAJA SAID TAUPHY (Selangor).
- „ DATO' SHEIKH ABU BAKAR BIN YAHYA, D.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P. (Johore).
- „ DATO' G. SHELLEY, P.M.N., J.P. (Appointed).

The Honourable TUAN SYED AHMAD BIN SYED MAHMUD SHAHABUDIN, J.M.N. (Kedah).

- „ ENCHE' T. H. TAN, J.M.N. (Appointed).
- „ DATO' E. E. C. THURASINGHAM, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' S. O. K. UBAIDULLA (Appointed).
- „ ENCHE' WAN AHMAD BIN WAN DAUD, P.J.K., J.P. (Perlis).
- „ DATO' WAN IBRAHIM BIN WAN TANJONG, J.M.N., P.J.K., Orang Kaya Indera Maharaja Purba Jelai (Pahang).
- „ ENCHE' YAP KHEN VAN, A.M.N., J.P. (Pahang).
- „ ENCHE' YEOH KIAN TEIK (Perak).
- „ ENCHE' ABDULLAH BIN ISHAK (Perlis).

ABSENT:

- The Honourable ENCHE' CHEAH SENG KHIM, J.P. (Penang).
- „ ENCHE' CHOO KOK LEONG (Nominated).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ZAHIR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Kedah).

IN ATTENDANCE:

- The Honourable the Minister of Finance, ENCHE' TAN SIEW SIN, J.P. (Malacca Tengah).
- „ the Minister of Transport, ENCHE' SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR (Pontian Utara).
- „ the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, DATO' ONG YOKE LIN, P.M.N. (Ulu Selangor).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Rural Development, TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN (Kota Star Utara).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry, ENCHE' CHEAH THEAM SWEE (Bukit Bintang).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Labour, ENCHE' V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Klang).
- „ the Assistant Minister of the Interior, ENCHE' MOHAMED ISMAIL BIN MOHAMED YUSOF (Jelai).

PRAYERS

(Mr. President *in the Chair*)

BILL

THE SUPPLY BILL, 1961

Second Reading

Order read for resumption of debate on motion: "That the Bill be now read a second time." (3rd January, 1961).

Question again proposed.

Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham: Mr. President, Sir, I have heard and read with great happiness the proceedings of the House of Representatives that have taken place. I understand that

the proceedings of the House of Representatives were conducted in the best traditions of parliamentary democracy—the Ministers on the one hand presented their case with clarity and realism without exaggeration as is usual at Budget Meetings, and the Members of the Opposition on the other hand did not oppose for the sake of opposition; they criticised where criticism was needed and they made very valuable contributions to the debate with restraint and dignity. I hope that this understanding and appreciation of the Government and of Members of the Opposition will continue, and greater goodwill shall hereafter prevail among our political leaders. When we see around the

world, in certain countries, that humanity has come to the lowest depth of degradation, when we hear of politicians inciting their followers to violence and civil war, we should indeed be thankful to the Almighty that we are living in a land of peace and plenty, where we have a stable Government, sound economy and able leaders; and I think that year after year we should, each of us, dedicate ourselves to bring unity and harmony among our people.

Sir, I am glad that the Honourable the Minister of Finance is well enough to be here today, but I hope he will not be exhausted by the speech I am going to make on the Budget. I congratulate him again for his clarity and realism in introducing the Budget in the House of Representatives. I make no apology for bringing the subject of overseas missions again into the Senate. It is not only my firm feeling, but it is also the feeling of many in the Malayan Estate Owners' Association and of many planters to whom I have talked to, that there is greater urgency today than it was the case at the last Budget Meeting when I made the proposal. The Honourable the Minister of Finance raised many points against overseas missions then. First of all, he said that I was unduly pessimistic, whilst he on the other hand thought that natural rubber has got a terrific future. He certainly was very optimistic at that time and, if I may say, too optimistic in view of the figures.

In an abstract of the speech of the Honourable the Minister of Finance calling on us to take stock—this is an abbreviation—I do not see much of the terrific future which he emphasised at the last Budget Meeting. On page 17 he says:

"Further, natural rubber today faces a formidable competitor. When I was in Akron recently, in which is sited practically the entire rubber industry of the United States of America, I was shown a sample of their new synthetic product which, when rolled into a ball, has a better bounce than any product made of natural rubber. This does not imply the end of the natural rubber industry, but it does mean that the synthetic industry has made remarkable progress in the last 20 years and will continue to make similar progress in the coming years."

I do not see much of the optimism which my Honourable friend had, before he visited the United States.

The second point made by the Honourable Minister was that it was true that one-third of the consumption was natural and two-thirds of the consumption was synthetic in the case of America, and he went on to say that the reverse was true outside America—two-thirds natural and one-third synthetic. Let us analyse this. America is the largest consumer of our natural rubber—there, in the course of last year, they had a definite ratio of one-third natural and two-thirds synthetic. The picture today is different and I would like to quote from the "Investors Chronicle, London" that was published. It said this and it was very significantly put:

"Consumption of natural rubber in the United States has recently fallen for the first time below 30 per cent"—not one third, that is $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent—"of the total yesterday of natural and synthetic."

Further, says the "Investors Chronicle, London"—

"It has previously been accepted by most interests in the rubber growing and manufacturing industry that the estate material"—that is natural—"would be required to the extent of about one-third of the United States demand for all new rubbers irrespective of price. Some of the diehards still subscribe to this view, their contention being that the quite exceptional premia at which natural rubber was selling a few months ago has distorted the true position. No doubt, the substantial price differential has played a significant part in reducing the natural quota in the American market to below the 30 per cent level against the 34.1 per cent in 1959 and 35.5 per cent in 1958, but any realistic assessment of the situation must take due account of the fact that the plantation industry is now facing an even stronger challenge from synthetic through further improvement in the factory-made product."

Therefore, the position has now changed. It is more serious now, and the figure is falling, falling at the rate of 4 per cent per year. It does not want much mathematics to know that if that fine progress—the Minister of Finance himself said so—if that progress is maintained, it is quite likely that in less than six or seven years' time the entire consumption in the United States would possibly be synthetic rubber.

There are other factors outside the United States. It was stated that two-thirds natural and one-third synthetic was used outside the United States. It was true last year. Now, see the picture today. I am reading from the August Natural Rubber News. This is what it says and this is produced by a man in our employ in America and here is what it says:

"If all goes according to plan the world outside Europe and America should be self-sufficient in synthetic rubber by the beginning of 1962."

that is self-sufficient in their synthetic rubbers outside America and Europe.

"Moreover, producers will be competing in their own markets with United States manufacturer who at present supply the bulk of requirements in all countries in the area. Further, as was shown in the last issue of RUBBER TRENDS, West European producers will also be keen to export large quantities outside Europe from about 1961 onwards."

that is this year, and the self-sufficiency is to be attained in 1962.

"They are already doing so on a small scale, and installed capacity in West Europe by 1962 will be far ahead of the region's immediate needs."

It goes on further to say:

"Any one who figures the United States influence on the world market misses the nature of American dominance in rubber. The United States buyers of natural rubber not only buy more than half of the Free World's requirements for plants here and overseas, but United States producers of synthetic are either building or considering plants in all major Free World markets. Russia may be the marginal buyer who frequently creates or intensifies a market trend; Western Europe may be the rapid growth market of the next decade; but the Number One influence in the world rubber picture is the American rubber manufacturer in his dual role as buyer and seller."

This is definite enough—that not only America and Western Europe have their plants, including Great Britain, to meet all their needs for synthetic, but there would also be sufficient synthetic capacity outside Western Europe and America to cope with their requirements and, what is more, to sell it out to the world, and to go on and look for other markets outside Europe and America. Therefore, the following argument is very forcibly taken by the Government. It has also been said and believed by chairmen of

board of directors and other rubber leaders who say that if you reduce the price of natural rubber, everything will be all right and that the price factor is one of the reasons why synthetic is advancing.

We had the advantage of meeting our own Director of our own Natural Bureau from the United States. He was asked a question, a definite, categorical question: "Do you think that if the price of rubber fell below 80 cents"—a magic figure in rubber today—"is it likely that the one-third consumption in natural rubber will rise in America?" He was asked that definite question. He said: "No, it is not likely, because they had that two-thirds synthetic as preferential; they prefer to use synthetic." So, no amount of talk of a fall of rubber price is really going to influence the market. As I have told you before, if a person were to build a synthetic factory, he will use synthetic. He will not go and pull it down. If natural is cheaper, he will buy natural; and then if natural goes up, he will build again. I think it is foolish to talk like that. Again, once a country is committed to synthetic rubber, he will never buy except for the isolated cases when natural might be preferred for a particular article.

Another hackneyed phrase which is repeated often is: "We sell every pound of rubber, therefore why should we go and sell?" I pointed out last time that is was a childish argument. In fact, the Honourable Minister himself said that as much as 300 million dollars were being spent on propaganda by the synthetic industry. Why then should we not do any propaganda? We will have an onrush of synthetic manufacturers all over the world if we do not look out. They are building plants everywhere—America is building them everywhere; America is helping people to build them everywhere, because they are the leaders and in a dominant position in both natural and synthetic. There was another argument, which was very peculiar, that is, we are a raw product country, therefore we cannot go and advertise a raw product; we must advertise a manufactured product. I don't think that is a

valid argument at all. What about this propaganda for tea, wool, cotton, tin and the other things? They are not manufactured products; they are raw products. But Ceylon, Australia, Great Britain, India and other countries have Boards everywhere. They have a Commission, the Tea Board, which is a Commission. Ceylon's Board is all over the world. They have branches all over the world not because they have surplus tea to sell, but they do not want the demand for Ceylon tea to go down. We have the Jute Board of India; the Wool Board of Australia; and the Cotton Board of Egypt when it was in the Commonwealth. What about all those? I do not want to keep on labouring on this point. When I made this suggestion most sincerely last year I expected a greater drive and move from the Government. I must concede they did make a move. In fact, the industry made the move—to bring out Sir Geoffrey Clay, one of the most eminent chemists in the rubber world. He is here today stimulating and encouraging research—fundamental research on the tree and research for consumption markets. We have fortunately our special S. P. rubber—specially processed rubber—and particularly the P.A. 80 species of specially processed rubber which is now catching the imagination of buyers and there is great demand. That is to the great credit of our Rubber Research Institute and the scientists who are working there. We have to sell. We know they are of an admirable quality; they can take the place of synthetic. It is being claimed that P.A. 80 with further investigation can take the place of synthetic, that is, synthetic made out of natural. While the Americans on the one hand want to make natural out of synthetic, we can make synthetic out of natural, so that the component parts, the qualities that are in each other, could be interchangeable and used in manufactures of quality goods.

It is useless talking on the point. There was an attempt made to make a survey. I asked for a survey, expansion of the technical advice to consumers and for rubber missions to go out spreading goodwill and the

quality of natural rubber, because of our dependence solely on that industry. They did not make it. But I heard that they made a feeble start somewhere else by appointing Mr. Adams—whom I claim as a friend of mine—a very intelligent man. He was in our Government Service before, but he is the Secretary-General of the Rubber Study Group which looks after both synthetic and natural. I think it is not really proper to ask such a man, charged with such a heavy responsibility both for natural and synthetic, to undertake our survey. I think he was very reluctant when he was asked to take it. But that is all I have heard about the survey. It is strongly supported by Sir Geoffrey Clay and many other leaders from the rubber industry. I plead again that this matter be given greater urgency in the deliberations of the Government and not brush it aside as some tall talk from Dato' Thuraisingham. I made it sincerely. Unless we wake up and make a drive to sell and advertise the qualities of natural rubber, this country will be in a commercial peril, in an economic peril. We depend to a very, very large extent—millions do—on natural rubber. Its prosperity is synonymous with the prosperity of this area.

The rubber industry is often divided into smallholders and estates. Smallholders are all natives of this country, citizens and residents of this country. The estates, on the other hand, were the property of pioneer planters in this country, mostly European planters. But the whole complexion has now changed. Most of the shares in the rubber companies are marketed on the Stock Exchange and I think a very large number of shares are held by the people domiciled in this country. I would even put it as a quarter in the hands of the pioneers overseas and three quarters of the estate shares are held in this country—nearly 60 per cent of all the inhabitants of this country are depending on natural rubber. Therefore any sales promotion of natural rubber must be taken at a national level, not getting a chemist to survey for us and not getting traders to tell about its quality, but we want

this to be a national overseas mission, composed of, as I have said before, and led by a Minister of the Government, with technical advisers and experienced planters. The composition should be Malayan, and they should go out and tell of the quality. They must make the non-committed places natural-minded before they become synthetic minded by the drive made by the American manufacturers, and I hope Sir, that the Government will now feel the urgency and accept this proposal that there should be an overseas mission as early as possible and thereafter establish a natural rubber board purely for sales promotion in other parts of the world (*Applause*).

Nik Hassan bin Haji Nik Yahya: Dato' Yang di-Pertua, manakala saya membacha dengan penoh teliti akan butir ucapan yang telah di-berikan oleh Menteri Kewangan dalam persidangan Dewan Ra'ayat beberapa masa dahulu dan manakala saya memerhatikan di-atas susunan dan pergerakan Kerajaan bagi menjalankan policy yang baharu untuk menambahkan lagi kemajuan negeri ini dengan menumpukan segala tenaga dan wang ringgit-nya bagi membangunkan kawasan luar bandar dan chara susunan kewangan yang di-atorkan-nya itu. Maka saya berpendapat ada beberapa perkara yang suka saya hendak sentoh dalam perchakapan saya pada hari ini. Sa-bagaimana keterangan² yang telah di-beri oleh Menteri Pembangunan Luar Bandar dalam perkara mengadakan satu usaha yang besar bagi pembangunan luar bandar ini banyak soal yang timbul yang kata-nya: Bagaimana-kah Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar ini akan menjalankan usaha² dan tenaga-nya bagi membangunkan kawasan luar bandar ini.

Jawapan kepada soalan ini, bagi pehak Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar tidak-lah berchadaghendak menjadikan Kementerian ini satu Kementerian yang akan mengambil kesemua tanggung jawab bagi memajukan ra'ayat dalam negeri ini. Umpama-nya, bagi satu² pekerjaan yang harus di-buat di-dalam satu kawasan luar bandar, maka pejabat² atau pun Kementerian² yang ada itu akan di-gunakan bagi menjalankan

tugas masing² dengan lebeh chergas dan baik supaya satu² kerja yang hendak di-lakukan bagi faedah pembangunan luar bandar itu akan dapat di-jalankan dengan segera. Jadi dengan hal yang demikian berma'ana-lah Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar tidak akan mengadakan satu anggaran perbelanjaan yang besar dan satu anggaran kaki-tangan yang besar bagi melancharkan kerja pembangunan luar bandar ini. Kebanyakan daripada kerja² ini boleh jadi akan di-tugaskan kepada beberapa Kementerian yang ada hubungan yang rapat sa-kali dengan hal-ehwal bahagian luar bandar.

Dalam menyusun anggaran perbelanjaan ini, pada pendapat saya ada satu tempat yang harus di-kaji dan di-baiki dengan chermat. Apa yang di-buat pada masa ini bagi menyusun hal² anggaran bagi memajukan kawasan luar bandar ada-lah terbahagi kepada dua chara. Bagi Kerajaan Persekutuan ini di-adakan satu anggaran perbelanjaan dan anggaran kemajuan luar bandar-nya sendiri, manakala di-tiap² Kerajaan Negeri mengadakan anggaran bagi kemajuan luar bandar-nya sendiri. Pada pendapat saya perkara menyusun anggaran ini telah di-beri tugas yang sa-penoh-nya kepada tiap² Kerajaan Negeri itu supaya menyusun ranchangan dan kewangan-nya bagi menjalankan pekerjaan pembangunan luar bandar ini. Dalam perkara penyusunan ini ada negeri yang boleh menyusun anggaran perbelanjaan itu dengan mempunyai dasar dan panduan yang tertentu bagi menyesuaikan dengan dasar dan chara yang ada pada Kerajaan Persekutuan. Sa-kira-nya tiap² negeri itu dapat berjalan dengan chara yang sa-umpama itu maka tidak akan timbul perselisihan atau kekeliruan diantara penyusunan yang telah di-lakukan oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan dan Kerajaan² Negeri itu. Tetapi dengan kerana negeri kita ini berjalan sa-bagai sa-buah Kerajaan Persekutuan yang mempunyai unit² ia-itu Kerajaan² Negeri yang mempunyai kuasa dan kewangan-nya sendiri, dan chara pengatutan itu ada hubungan-nya pula dengan susunan yang ada pada Kerajaan Persekutuan, maka satu kajian yang chermat patut di-buat supaya tiap² negeri itu mengatut anggaran bagi

kemajuan luar bandar atau pun yang lain² itu mempunyai satu panduan yang tertentu supaya tidak-lah berbangkit kekeliruan di-antara Kerajaan Persekutuan dengan Kerajaan Negeri. Satu daripada contoh-nya ia-lah Kerajaan Negeri Kelantan telah mengatorkan satu anggaran perbelanjaan bagi pembangunan luar bandar berjumlah tidak kurang daripada \$15 juta. Dalam anggaran yang di-susun itu \$13 juta daripada-nya ada-lah di-chadangkan atau datang-nya daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan, manakala yang \$2 juta itu akan di-belanjakan oleh wang daripada Kerajaan negeri itu sendiri. Dalam anggaran yang di-susun itu sa-telah saya kaji dengan chermat-nya saya dapati segala ranchangan yang diperbuat dalam anggaran yang di-susun itu yang berupa ranchangan² (project) bagi memajukan kawasan luar bandar ada-lah di-masokkan di-bawah perbelanjaan yang mesti di-belanjakan daripada wang yang \$13 juta itu. Manakala wang \$2 juta yang di-chadangkan daripada Kerajaan Negeri itu ada-lah chadangan di-atas perkara² yang bukan mengenai project, ia-itu perkara yang mengenai pekerjaan tambahan atau pun pekerjaan yang mustahak bagi menggunakan kaki-tangan, umpamanya, bagi menjalankan kemajuan luar bandar bagi negeri itu. Jadi wang yang sa-jumlah \$15 juta itu, \$13 juta yang di-chadangkan wang daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan itu kesemua-nya di-letakkan bagi mengguna, membelanja atau menjalankan ranchangan di-bawah Kementerian saperti Kementerian Pertanian, Kementerian Kerja Raya dan sa-bagai-nya. Jadi dengan chara ini ada-lah membangkitkan satu perkara yang sangat rumit ia-itu adakah Kerajaan Persekutuan akan mengadakan wang yang \$13 juta itu bagi membelanjakan project yang ada dalam negeri Kelantan atau Kerajaan Negeri Kelantan itu? Sa-kira-nya Kerajaan Persekutuan mempunyai beban bagi perbelanjaan pembangunan luar bandar ini, maka sudah tentu Kerajaan Persekutuan sanggup dan akan sanggup memberi \$13 juta itu kepada Kerajaan Negeri untuk menjalankan project yang berfaedah kepada seluruh ra'ayat negeri ini.

Tetapi malang-nya, Kerajaan Persekutuan tidak mempunyai wang yang cukup bagi memberi semua sa-kali negeri yang ada dalam Tanah Melayu ini untuk membelanjakan ranchangan² yang telah di-susun di-dalam tiap² negeri itu.

Dan dengan kerana yang demikian, maka berbangkit masalah ia-itu apakah yang akan jadi kepada ranchangan² yang di-susun dan ranchangan² yang di-ator di-dalam tiap² negeri sa-bagai-mana yang telah di-lakukan itu? Jadi timbul-lah akan tuduhan² yang tidak baik daripada Kerajaan Negeri, khususnya Kerajaan Negeri yang berlainan parti mengatakan Kerajaan Persekutuan tidak mengambil hirau dan tidak mengambil berat di-atas Kerajaan Negeri yang berlainan pemerintahan itu. Padahal yang sa-benar-nya, kesilapan yang di-jalan atau chara kesilapan yang di-lakukan itu bukan-lah Kerajaan Persekutuan, tetapi kesilapan itu di-lakukan oleh Kerajaan Negeri yang mana tidak ada saling-mengerti dan tidak chuba untuk mengerti di-atas chara susunan pentadbiran Kerajaan Persekutuan dengan chara² yang ada itu. Dan dengan kesilapan ini-lah yang mengakibatkan ra'ayat dalam negeri itu akan menanggung segala beban di-atas kesilapan yang di-lakukan oleh pemerintah-nya. Jadi ini ada-lah satu perkara yang besar, satu perkara yang rumit dan satu perkara yang harus di-timbang dan di-fikirkan supaya sa-kurang² nya satu² Kerajaan Negeri itu dapat sa-kira-nya ia hendak mengator anggaran perbelanjaan bagi pembangunan luar bandar-nya, maka hendak-lah dia mempunyai satu panduan yang tertentu, mempunyai satu chara susunan yang boleh di-pandu oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan supaya Kerajaan Negeri itu tidak begitu bergopoh-gapah mengator anggaran perbelanjaan mengikut suka hati; manakala ra'ayat mimpikan kepada satu benda yang tidak akan datang kapada-nya. Ini-lah perkara yang pertama yang saya suka hendak contohkan dalam chara mengator anggaran perbelanjaan bagi Kerajaan Persekutuan dan Kerajaan Negeri yang mana saya rasa telah berbangkit dan sentiasa berbangkit dan sentiasa di-sebut dalam pergolakan siasah negeri ini.

Sa-lain daripada itu, kita tentu rasa gembira dan besar hati manakala kita mendengar ucapan yang di-beri oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan yang telah membayangkan kepada kita di-masa yang akan datang kita akan menempoh satu masa yang baik dan satu masa yang maju serta satu keadaan yang baharu bagi kedudukan ekonomi negeri kita ini.

Dalam kenyataan Menteri Kewangan ada menyebutkan tidak kurang daripada 49 buah perusahaan dan ada 238 jenis barang² pengeluaran telah di-ishtiharkan di-beri taraf perintis dalam negeri ini. Dan dengan ada-nya usaha yang sa-umpama ini maka kita akan dapat-lah mengadakan ia-itu sa-lain daripada membuka tanah² baharu bagi mata penghidupan yang baharu kepada ra'ayat maka akan timbul satu puncha yang baharu di-dalam negeri kita ini ia-itu beratus² atau beribu perusahaan baharu akan timbul dalam negeri ini yang akan memberi pekerjaan yang baharu kepada ra'ayat negeri ini yang mana boleh menambah mata pencharian dan meninggikan taraf penghidupan ra'ayat negeri ini. Dengan ada-nya perusahaan² baharu ini sudah tentulah kita jangka ia-itu negeri kita ini akan bergerak maju kahadapan sapatak lagi ia-itu dapat mengadakan perusahaan² yang akan mengeluarkan barang² perusahaan-nya sendiri. Tetapi apa yang terfikir oleh saya, pada hari ini dan apa yang saya dapat jangkakan pada masa hadapan ia-lah dalam dasar Kerajaan kita pada s-tiap masa di-adakan meshuarat Anggaran Belanjawan tidak terhenti² Kerajaan negeri kita ini mengishtiharkan dasar hendak menyambungkan atau pun hendak meletakkan orang² Melayu kita satu tempat yang sama atau hampir² sama dengan lain² kaum yang ada dalam negeri ini supaya orang² Melayu juga dapat mengambil bahagian yang sama dalam perusahaan dan perdagangan negeri kita ini. Dengan demikian maka usaha sa-umpama ini akan lebih memberi satu kedudukan yang baik kepada perselisihan atau perbedzaan di-antara kaum dalam negeri ini, yang mana dengan chara meletakkan orang

Melayu pada tempat yang hampir sama dengan kaum² yang lain itu akan dapat di-perbaiki perbedzaan itu dan meletakkan negeri ini aman dan baik supaya negeri kita ini dapat menjalankan dengan saling mengerti berlebeh² lagi.

Tetapi dalam ucapan Menteri Kewangan ini apabila saya memberi tahu di-atas kemajuan yang di-beri kepada perusahaan yang besar² yang mana modal di-dalam negeri ini dan segala protection yang di-beri kepada perusahaan² ini maka pada pendapatan saya perbedzaan atau jarak di-antara orang² Melayu dengan lain² kaum yang senentiasa daripada satu hari ka-satu hari menaikkan darjah perusahaan, menaikkan darjah modal-nya ini maka perusahaan di-antara orang Melayu dengan lain bukan sama kechil mungkin luas dan mungkin lebih jauh. Sa-kira-nya langkah² yang tegas tidak di-ambil bagi menyusun dan mengatorkan satu chara yang lebih kemas dan tegas bagi meletakkan orang Melayu pada tempat-nya yang di-chita²kan oleh Kerajaan maka samakin hari sa-makin bertambah jauh dan mungkin renggang perbedzaan sa-umpama ini dan dengan demikian chita² kita ini sampai dan harus tidak akan memberi kejayaan.

Saya nampak dalam usaha yang ada pada hari ini bagi pihak orang Melayu kita ada mempunyai satu badan sahaja yang telah di-tubuhkan oleh Kerajaan di-jadikan tempat tumpuan orang Melayu dan di-jadikan alat bagi meletakkan orang Melayu pada tempat-nya ia-itu badan R.I.D.A. R.I.D.A. inilah sahaja menjadi satu tempat atau satu badan alat bagi Kerajaan memberi galakan dan meletakkan orang Melayu kepada satu tempat yang baik atau menjalankan segala usaha bagi menghampirkan orang Melayu dengan lain² kaum dalam perkara perusahaan dan perdagangan. Tetapi satu perkara yang sa-umpama R.I.D.A. ini sa-kira-nya di-beri tanggungan yang banyak, sa-kira-nya di-beri segala apa perkara di-bebankan kepada R.I.D.A. ini dengan tidak di-susun R.I.D.A. ini dengan satu chara susunan yang lebih baik maka sudah tentu segala tumpuan dan harapan bagi orang Melayu untuk

meninggikan taraf ekonomi-nya itu tidak akan dapat di-sempurnakan oleh R.I.D.A. ini. Manakala kalau kita pandang kepada lain² kaum yang ada dalam negeri ini kita boleh lihat segala Undang² yang di-atorkan di-dalam negeri ini bagi memberi protection yang lebih kepada perusahaan² yang besar bagi memajukan perusahaan. Kerajaan telah menubuhkan satu sharikat \$15,000,000 dengan nama Industrial Finance Co-operation yang mana dengan badan ini akan memberi sokongan bantuan modal kepada tiap² perusahaan yang akan di-jalankan kerja-nya bagi memajukan perusahaan dalam negeri ini. Kerajaan telah mengadakan Jawatan-Kuasa bagi memberi protection kepada barang² seperti yang di-adakan satu Jawatan-Kuasa Tariff bagi menjaga kawalan di-atas barang² yang masuk umpama-nya. Di-adakan Undang² memberi pekechualian chukai² yang di-kenakan kepada perusahaan². Jadi, kerana Undang² yang di-ator dan di-susun itu ada-lah satu Undang² atau satu langkah yang tegas bagi memaju dan menaikkan lagi perusahaan² yang besar dan menambahkan lagi peminjaman modal daripada luar negeri untuk meninggikan perusahaan² negeri ini. Saya tidak menentang segala usaha dan Undang² umpama ini kerana ini ada-lah tujuan kita bagi memajukan perusahaan² ini. Tetapi apa yang saya hendak sebutkan di-sini ia-lah langkah dan chara yang tegas untuk menaikkan darjah orang Melayu atau meletakkan orang Melayu kepada tempat yang hampir sama dengan lain² kaum. Apa yang ada di-susun oleh Kerajaan semenjak berbelasan tahun satu sahaja ia-itu R.I.D.A. Daripada itu manakala kita telah merdeka kesedaran telah timbul yang Kerajaan kita dan Menteri Perusahaan dan Perdagangan ini telah istiharkan yang ia akan menubuhkan satu Secretariat di-dalam Kementerian-nya bagi memperbaiki serta memberi galakan dan menjalankan segala usaha bagi menaikkan taraf orang Melayu dalam perusahaan dan perdagangan ini. Tetapi, saya sungguh pun menyokong di-atas usaha mengadakan Secretariat, saya rasa sa-kira-nya Secretariat ini di-susun dengan begitu chara serta dengan memberi Undang² yang tertentu maka sudah tentu Secretariat ini akan

menjadi chuma satu badan perantaraan untuk berunding dan bertolak ansor kepada satu pihak dengan pihak yang lain dan tidak lebih daripada itu. Kerana dasar Secretariat ini, satu² perkara yang hendak di-timbulkan untuk meletakkan orang Melayu kepada tempat yang sa-umpama yang di-chadangkan itu kepada satu tenaga yang kuat. Satu susunan yang tegas, yang sama mesti bergerak seperti yang telah kita susun bagi meninggikan taraf perusahaan yang ada ini.

Saya suka hendak bayangkan sa-umpama dalam Perlembagaan kita ada tersebut bahawa keutamaan akan diberi kepada orang² Melayu dalam perkara sa-umpama perkara meleset—perkara bersabit dengan memajukan orang² Melayu dalam ekonomi dalam perdagangan dan perusahaan. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-lain daripada itu ia-lah berkenaan dengan Transport, perkara bersabit dengan kenderaan belum ada satu langkah yang tegas bagi mengkaji atau memikirkan masa-lah licence. Dalam negeri kita ini banyak perkara licence, kedudukan-nya atau kuasa-nya terletak kepada Kerajaan negeri dan sa-tengah-nya dudok di-bawah Kerajaan Persekutuan. Umpama-nya kita katakan-lah licence memotong kayu. Di-negeri Kelantan tidak kurang daripada 7 atau 8 ahli² perusahaan memotong kayu yang besar² di-punyai oleh orang Melayu sendiri. Tetapi dalam menjalankan perusahaan ini mereka chuma di-beri had bagi menggunakan gergaji kayu yang mereka pakai di-situ. Mereka tidak boleh tambah, umpama-nya lebih daripada satu atau lebih daripada dua mengikut licence yang di-benarkan itu. Kuasa ini ada pada Kerajaan Negeri dan Kerajaan Negeri belum mengambil satu tindakan yang tegas bagi melaksanakan hak² istimewa yang ada ter-chatet dalam Perlembagaan negeri itu sendiri, umpama-nya bagi orang² Melayu yang biasa memotong kayu dengan tangan, kemudian hendak menukarkan chara pekerjaan itu daripada tangan dengan menggunakan machine tetapi di-beri jawapan bahawa pada masa ini perusahaan sudah cukup—perusahaan yang menggunakan machine. Orang² Melayu yang menggunakan gergaji chara tangan itu

tidak boleh menggunakan machine bagi memotong kayu, tetapi bagi lain kaum yang ada dalam negeri itu di-beri tambahan daripada dua machine kepada tiga empat dengan mengikut pandai chara kiraan-nya yang mana bertambah besar perusahaan itu. Orang² Melayu daripada memotong dengan chara tangan itu hendak menukarkan kepada machine tidak di-benarkan kerana tidak chukop kayu kata-nya. Ini sudah berbangkit di-antara orang² Melayu sendiri yang ada menyentuh dalam perkara ekonomi yang memikirkan apa-kah tujuan dan fa'edah Kerajaan memasokkan dalam Perlembagaan yang mengatakan hak istimewa itu di-beri kepada orang² Melayu manakala mereka hendak menggunakan hak istimewa itu telah di-sekat dan di-kawal sa-hingga begitu payah daripada satu perusahaan yang tidak boleh berubah bagi menambahkan pencharian-nya—hendak menukarkan daripada satu pencharian itu tidak di-benarkan. Maka ini ada-lah satu perkara yang sangat rumit, yang sangat besar yang harus menjadi satu perkara yang patut di-ambil tahu oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan. Saya rasa Kerajaan Persekutuan ini harus mengadakan satu surohanjaya bagi memikirkan chara mana mengator melaksanakan Perlembagaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu dalam perkara licence dan dalam perkara hak istimewa yang mengenai licence² perniagaan, sebab dalam Perlembagaan itu sendiri ada menyebutkan hak istimewa di-butirkan selain daripada perkara lain licence² perniagaan itu adalah di-istimewa dan di-timbangkan kepada orang² Melayu, tetapi sa-hingga hari ini chuma licence transport sahaja yang di-buat undang² yang berkenaan. Itu pun orang² Melayu sangat susah hendak mengambil bahagian kerana jalan itu sudah di-penuhi oleh bus² company yang sudah ada.

Selain daripada jalan baharu orang² Melayu tidak akan dapat mempunyai licence bus bagi menjalankan kenderaan-nya. Jadi apabila jalan baharu ada bertambah licence kepada orang² Melayu, kalau jalan baharu tidak ada, licence tidak bertambah. Bila licence tidak bertambah hak istimewa yang ada menyebutkan itu tidak berbangkit, dan orang Melayu tinggal orang

Melayu—tinggal begitu juga. Ini-lah perkara yang mustahak. Dahulu dalam Meshuarat Undangan sa-belom pilihan raya kita telah bangkitkan masaalah jalan—road, masaalah perhubungan di-antara satu tempat ka-satu tempat. Ada-kah ma'ana-nya perhubungan jalan bus daripada satu tempat ka-satu tempat itu di-ma'anakan kepada jalan baharu sahaja atau pun kepada jalan yang boleh mengadakan satu bus express umpama-nya daripada beberapa negeri atau pun daripada beberapa buah tempat. Jadi ini satu perkara yang sampai pada hari ini tidak selesai dan tidak terbangkit dan tidak di-bangkitkan.

Dalam perkara transport selain daripada licence itu sendiri orang² Melayu tidak juga dapat mengambil bahagian dengan layanan yang baik, sunggoh pun dalam kenyataan Kementerian Kenderaan berkata bahawa licence bertambah kepada orang² Melayu. Benar. Benar licence bertambah kepada orang² Melayu, barangkali licence taxi yang ada di-bandar Kuala Lumpur—bukan licence yang di-beri bagi menjalankan sharikat² bus atau pun kenderaan taxi yang menghubungkan daripada satu tempat ka-satu tempat. Ini ada-lah satu perkara yang besar, satu perkara yang patut di-ambil tahu dan di-kaji. Saya rasa tidak bebas dan tidak sempurna kajian itu sa-kiranya tidak di-adakan satu surohanjaya yang akan mengkaji dengan teliti dan chara yang bebas—kajian di-antara semua segi memikirkan bagaimana hendak melaksanakan hak istimewa yang ada pada orang² Melayu itu. Kajian berkenaan dengan hak istimewa orang² Melayu ini sudah sampai masanya, sudah sepatut-nya-lah Kerajaan mengambil langkah yang tegas dalam perkara mengkaji hak istimewa orang² Melayu sa-bagaimana yang ada dalam Perlembagaan ini. Ini sudah patut lama di-buat, tetapi kita buat daripada satu perkara kepada satu perkara. Itu pun tidak sampai dua perkara.

Perkara yang pertama ia-itu di-tubuhkan Jawatan-Kuasa mengkaji berkenaan dengan hal kenderaan sahaja. Semenjak daripada itu sampai hari ini tidak ada satu kajian pun dalam perkara lain dan tidak ada undang² yang berkenaan dalam perkara

itu. Ini mengikut pendapat saya. Saya percaya dan mengaku dengan saudara² kita yang lain ahli² perdagangan dan perusahaan yang mengatakan bahawa hendak meletakkan orang² Melayu dengan chara bergopoh gapah dalam perniagaan itu susah. Saya mengaku. Perniagaan bukan boleh di-buat hari ini. Perniagaan bukan boleh di-buat dalam satu tahun atau dua tahun, tetapi mesti mempunyai pengalaman yang chukop, mesti mempunyai pengertian yang chukop dalam menjalankan perusahaan. Banyak orang² kita yang telah jatuh dan bangkit dan begitu juga banyak orang² lain yang telah jatuh dan bangkit dalam perusahaan, tetapi orang² Melayu tidak boleh di-katakan tidak boleh meletakkan ia kepada tempat yang saumpama ini. Kita harus mencontohi satu perkara sa-bagaimana yang saya bangkitkan tadi hendak meletakkan orang² Melayu dalam perusahaan ini. Saya bangkitkan satu contoh bagaimana perusahaan NETS yang berlaku di-Kelantan. Perusahaan NETS di-Kelantan itu daripada semenjak tertuboh telah menanggung kerugian yang besar dan sa-telah menanggung kerugian yang begitu lama maka hari ini telah bangkit. Kenapa dia bangkit? Kerana dia di-beri sokongan modal dan di-beri nasehat² yang baik sa-hingga ia boleh mendapat keuntungan yang baik, tetapi kalau di-tinggalkan perusahaan itu dengan tidak ada sokongan modal dan tidak ada supervision yang baik sudah tentu perusahaan itu mati pada hari ini, begitu juga bagi perusahaan orang² Melayu yang lain. Kalau perusahaan² orang Melayu dalam perkara lain itu di-beri sokongan modal dan juga di-beri supervision yang baik sudah tentu perusahaan itu akan naik dan akan duduk tempat yang sama dengan perusahaan² yang lain. Maka itu-lah sebab-nya saya nampak chara bagi memberi sokongan modal ada sedikit berbedza. Saya lihat hari ini badan RIDA itu telah di-jadikan dua tempat. Satu tempat menyiasat hal² bersabit dengan perusahaan dan perdagangan. Satu tempat untuk memberi bantuan modal dengan jalan pinjaman ia-itu dengan ada chagaran dan ada di-kenakan bunga-nya dengan berbagai² chara.

Saya rasa chara memberi pinjaman ini boleh di-beri kepada perusahaan atau perniagaan yang kecil², tetapi kalau satu perusahaan yang besar yang berkehendakkan satu modal yang banyak seperti perusahaan² kenderaan, batu bata dan kain batek, ia-itu perusahaan yang boleh mengeluarkan barang yang banyak bagi keperluan ra'ayat negeri ini maka saya tidak nampak perusahaan² yang sa-umpama itu patut di-beri pinjaman dan dengan jalan ada chagaran, sa-patut-nya perusahaan² yang seperti itu di-masokkan modal oleh RIDA, umpama-nya, 51 peratus modal RIDA, 49 peratus modal orang Melayu. Perusahaan ini akan berjalan yang pada suatu masa kelak modal RIDA itu akan di-bayar balek oleh orang Melayu, dan pada suatu masa akan menjadi perusahaan orang Melayu yang orang²-nya terlatah dengan chara yang baik. Dengan chara ini sa-bagaimana yang RIDA telah buat kepada N.E.T. dan kepada perusahaan² yang lain tentu-lah akan memberi pertolongan dalam meletakkan perusahaan itu kepada tempat yang baik, tetapi kalau hendak memberi pinjam wang sahaja, dan apabila mati harta-nya di-ambil dan di-lelongkan, jadi hilang masalaah hendak meninggikan perusahaan orang Melayu timbul masalaah melelong harta. Ini-lah satu perkara yang sangat patut di-fikir dan di-kaji, dan mengikut sa-tahu saya dalam badan RIDA itu sendiri barangkali ada satu dua orang sahaja yang tahu dan ada pengalaman dalam hal perdagangan dan ekonomi, katakan-lah, seperti Ungku Aziz dan Yang Berhormat Enche' Ubaidulla ia-itu orang yang sudah mahir dan lama dalam perusahaan dan perdagangan, sa-lain daripada itu orang yang belum ada pengalaman dan tidak tahu hal perusahaan dan perdagangan, jadi bagaimana ia hendak memikirkan-nya. Manakala pegawai² M.C.S. tahu bekerja dalam hal mentadbir negeri dan dalam hal routine (orang yang tahu menjalankan kertas² kerja dan mengotor pentadbir negeri) bukan orang yang boleh memikirkan bagaimana chara hendak memajukan perdagangan dan ekonomi atau memikirkan bagaimana satu² perusahaan itu boleh hidup atau bagaimana satu²

perusahaan itu boleh mati. Jadi ini-lah yang menimbulkan kelemahan, padahal seluruh ra'ayat Melayu yang ada dalam negeri ini meletakkan harapannya kepada badan RIDA ini, tetapi badan RIDA ini sendiri tidak ada satu susunan yang konkerit yang boleh memberi harapan kepada mereka itu.

Ini-lah perkara yang saya rasa mustahak saya chakap dan sentoh supaya menjadi panduan kepada Kerajaan, supaya Kerajaan mengkaji sa-mula susunan RIDA itu, sa-tahu saya, daripada semenjak di-kaji oleh Yang Berhormat Dr. Ismail dahulu itu, ada-kah patut di-tinggal-kan bagitu atau di-kaji susunan itu sa-mula dan fikirkan dengan perkembangan masa ini, dengan perkembangan ekonomi yang ada dalam negeri ini dan dengan perkembangan yang ada berbangkit dalam tanah ayer kita pada hari ini; ada-kah badan RIDA itu patut di-biarkan bagitu mengikut suka hati ketua dengan anggota-nya yang beberapa orang itu sahaja? Ini-lah perkara yang saya nampak walau pun saya berchakap panjang yang dalam perchakapan saya itu boleh jadi sa-tengah pehak merasa tidak berapa senang hati, tetapi saya berchakap ini kerana saya memikirkan badan RIDA ini ada-lah satu badan yang seluroh orang Melayu dalam negeri ini meletakkan harapannya yang mana badan ini sahaja yang boleh mengadakan modal dan penye-lidekan yang chukup, tetapi kalau badan ini tidak di-susun dan mengadakan satu chara yang kemas dan baik mengikut masa, sudah tentu harapan mereka itu tidak akan berjaya.

Ini-lah yang saya rasa perlu sangat bagi Kerajaan menimbangkan sa-mula dalam masaalah ini.

Saya tidak hendak berchakap panjang dalam masaalah ini. Sa-lain daripada itu saya perchaya perkara² yang mengenai anggaran perbelanjaan bagi tahun 1961, ini tentu-lah satu anggaran perbelanjaan yang boleh menggem-birkan kita dan satu anggaran yang boleh mengerakkan negeri ini dan boleh menghidupkan Kerajaan kita serta memberi kebajikan yang banyak kepada ra'ayat negeri ini. Dan kita berdo'a supaya pembangunan luar bandar yang sedang di-ranchang dan

di-atorkan dalam anggaran perbelanjaan ini akan berjalan dengan baik, dan segala silap faham yang ada itu akan dapat di-susun sa-mula dan kita akan melihat satu negeri baharu manakala ranchangan ini berjalan kelak. (*Tepok*).

Enche' A. M. Abu Bakar: Mr. President, Sir, two speakers have given very lengthy speeches for over an hour and we have also heard the policy speech of the Honourable the Minister of Finance. Sir, the picture of the Budget this year is a rosy one, after having heard what the Finance Minister said last year.

Sir, I am grateful to Dato' Thuraisingham for his giving a bouquet both to the Government and Opposition benches in the Lower House. He further said that he was grateful to Almighty God for living in a country of plenty, peace, stable government and able leaders. But, on the other hand, he went on to say that we should also realise that by only speaking to the Western friends for the sale of rubber we would find ourselves in a field where we would be defeated in the future. In other words, he openly says that we must woo the comrades, who will be able to help us.

Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham: On a point of order. I never mentioned anything about comrades, or Western friends. (*Laughter*).

Enche' A. M. Abu Bakar: Although he did not say it straight in words, the speech itself says that we are foolish enough to go on with our friends on the Western side. The reason for his overseas mission—which subject he has brought and stressed in this august House during this debate—itself proves that our Government is lagging far to see what our neighbouring countries have been doing to woo these comrades. Sir, our position is entirely different from that of our neighbouring friends. Take for example Indonesia and Indochina and so on. We have seen the Emergency for the last 12 years and we have seen the economic chaos that it has done to us; we have also suffered the loss of many lives and many millions of dollars. But the idea of the comrades to dominate this

area has been defeated. Today I hear—as far as we are concerned I have come to that conclusion—the doyen of our parliamentarians in this country recommending or appealing to the Government that we should woo the comrades, so that they can have an open field to come into this country in the guise of trade. What they had failed by military force and by the force of political efforts, are we prepared to allow them to come to this territory and carry on by economic force? Sir, this is the third category of force which our comrades have always been using in the neighbouring countries. Are we going to fall into such a category of nations, that find themselves at the last moment either to be sinking or being defeated by the comrades. Sir, it is a dangerous suggestion and I appeal to the Government to consider all angles, of the benefits and ill-effects, and also to consider the position that our neighbours are in today after having fallen into the trap of economic co-operation with the comrades. Dato' Thuraisingham may be right in what he said in the economic field. But had he gone on and thought of the national and political interests of this country, he would have considered twice to say that in this House. Once again I appeal to the Government to take note that economic infiltration through the guise of trade is a danger to the people and to this country of plenty as Dato' Thuraisingham himself said.

Dato' Sheikh Abu Bakar: Dato' President, Sir, as one of the Members of this House, I beg myself to associate with all the speeches made by the Honourable Members just now on the subject touching on the finance of this country. I am indeed very pleased, Sir, to note that for the first time our national exchequer is earning a revenue, which will be in the region of \$1,000 million mark. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that this exceptionally prosperous year was due to the ability and foresight of our Finance Minister, Enche' Tan Siew Sin, and the ability of his Ministry in the execution of its work for the country.

Sir, although it is estimated that the excess of revenue over expenditure in

1961 will be about \$13 million, yet I am sure that this is a conservative estimate. If the price of rubber and other commodities remains steady—and I have the fervent hope that it will be in spite of what has been stated by the Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham just now—then I am certain that the estimated revenue will be more than the estimated amount of \$13 million.

Now, Sir, I would like to turn to the Estimates for the Rural Development Fund amounting to about \$20 million. This, Sir, I take it, will be inclusive of the Five Year Plan launched by our Government some time ago to better the conditions of our kampong people living in the suburbs of the country and whose condition leaves very much to be desired. As depicted in the Red Book, as it is called, the Plan would involve lots of expenditure, but I have to say that the money so spent will make our brothers and sisters, living in the kampongs, grateful to us and to our Government. A lot has been said, Sir, about the Plan, and I have heard outside that this Plan will be a failure in the near future. One of the reasons, that these people have said, is that the Malays, to which race I have the pride to belong to, are indolent. I am really surprised at the vindictiveness of some of these people. I am quite in agreement with the remarks made by the Honourable Nik Hassan just now, Sir, that as provision has been allocated by the Federal Government to each of the eleven States, it is the duty of the State in question to carry on with this development to the best of its ability.

Sir, I happen to be a Member of this Rural Development Committee in my State, Johore. I have gone to several of the places opened up by the Malays and I find to my surprise that these people, who have been supplied with the lands by the Government work very very hard everyday. They work on their lands to make it fruitful in due time under, of course, the supervision of the State Government. Their eagerness was so intense that the Rural Development Office was unable to cope with the

flow of applications for lands under the Scheme. In this, I would like to pay my sincere appreciation to our Alliance Government, particularly to the Honourable Tun Abdul Razak and his Assistant Minister in running here and there to see the due performance of the Plan.

I reiterate, Sir, and say again as once I did in this Honourable House, that only the Alliance Government could do this and have the foresight of such a Scheme, of this Five Year Plan (*Applause*). And, of course, as I said above, each State will have to do its job; the Federal Government cannot do all for the States.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the Estimates in respect of the Ministry of Education. Last year, the Estimates of Expenditure for this Ministry was about \$174½ million, and this year in 1961 it is \$189½ million—an increase of about \$15 million, or roughly 8.5%. I consider this, Sir, is a very small increase. This is inevitable in view of what the Honourable the Minister of Education stated in the Lower House a few days ago that there would be a net increase of 145,000 pupils in the Assisted Primary and Secondary Schools. But, Sir, in my humble opinion, we should also provide more provision for the expansion of our higher education and also for the University of Malaya. I say this, Sir, because, according to reliable sources, more than 1,000 Malayan students will go abroad for further studies in this year 1961. Sir, should not an attempt be made to stop this exodus of our children going abroad by providing more facilities and accommodation for them locally? In this, Sir, I am always on the side of the Education Department to see that more facilities, more accommodation and more expansion are given and merited to our children, because, in my opinion, these children will be the backbone of our nation in the near future.

Raja Rastam Shahrome: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-bagaimana rakan saya yang berchapak tadi maka saya juga

mengambil peluang berchapak di-Majlis ini. Baharu² ini kita telah mendengar melalui surat² khabar ia-itu satu kenyataan daripada. Yang Berhormat Menteri Pertanian sendiri mengatakan berkenaan dengan peruntukan wang sa-banyak \$10 juta bagi Bertanam Sa-mula Pekebun² Kelapa. Anggaran ini saya dapat tahu tidak di-masokkan dalam estimates yang di-kemukakan dalam Rumah ini ia-itu dalam Ranchangan 5 Tahun Yang Kedua. Kami bagi pehak Pekebun² Kechil Kelapa menguchapkan setinggi² tahniah kapada Menteri Pertanian kerana memberi anggaran sa-banyak 10 juta ringgit untuk Bertanam Sa-mula Pekebun² Kechil Kelapa. Kita pada tahun² yang sudah ia-itu sa-bahagian besar-nya daripada kaum tani kita mempunyai kebun² kelapa kechil, dan itu ada-lah satu daripada mata pencharian-nya.

Jadi saya harap supaya segala ranchangan yang akan di-buat untuk Pekebun² Kechil Kelapa itu di-laksanakan dengan sa-berapa segera-nya. Di-sini juga saya mengambil peluang ia-itu Kerajaan sudah melantek satu Jawatan-Kuasa Kerja berkenaan Pekebun² Kechil Kelapa dan saya ada-lah salah sa-orang daripada ahli Jawatan-Kuasa itu merecommendkan Bertanam Sa-mula Pekebun² Kechil dengan sa-berapa segera-nya.

Saya suka menyentuh kapada satu perkara dan saya harap perkara yang akan saya sebutkan itu tidak menjadi berkechil hati kapada Commissioner of Lands. Sa-belum merdeka dahulu Commissioner of Lands ini selalu pada tiap² tahun melawat Pejabat Tanah. Dengan lawatan itu dapat-lah Pejabat Tanah itu mendapat nasehat dan tegoran daripada pegawai²-nya dan dengan itu dapat-lah Pegawai Daerah itu menjalankan kerja²-nya dengan lichin, tetapi sekarang ini jarang sangat ia melawat Pejabat Tanah. Apa yang saya dapat tahu bahawa Pejabat Tanah itu ada beribu² permohonan—beratus² terpendam. Tidak ada siapa melaksanakan-nya satu² permintaan itu, kadang² sampai satu minggu, satu bulan pun tidak ada orang memeriksa-nya. Maka saya harap supaya Commissioner of Lands ini dapat memeraksa-nya dan dapat mengatorkan

pegawai² kanan-nya untuk menyiasat permintaan² tersebut, kerana di-situ-lah bergantung-nya segala pentadbiran dalam Pejabat Tanah itu. Perkara ini di-harap kepada pihak yang berkenaan minta-lah Commissioner of Lands ini selalu datang melawat Pejabat Tanah dan dengan ini segala kerja² yang bertimbun² dalam Pejabat Tanah itu (bukan di-tempat saya—tempat lain) dapat di-selesaikan.

Lagi satu perkara berkenaan dengan dasar Pejabat Kesihatan. Baharu² ini saya dapat satu permintaan dari seorang Dentist hendak minta di-daftarkan nama-nya sechara "category B" tetapi jawapan daripada Kementerian ini mengatakan yang pendaftaran itu sudah di-tutup. Saya harap perkara ini patut di-semak balek. Maka dengan yang demikian apa-kah pendirian Dentist ini yang tidak dapat memutuskan kerana kata-nya "close permanently under category B". Saya harap Kementerian yang berkenaan jika patut bukalah balek supaya di-terima Dentist ini dan yang akan datang, kerana orang ini sudah ada pengalaman dalam perkara itu.

Enche' Lim Hee Hong: Mr. President, Sir, I would like to speak on the rural development scheme. Apart from this scheme, I would urge the Government to supplement it by encouraging more people, Federal Citizens, in this country to own land. Why I am saying this is that about 70 per cent of the land in this country is not yet developed, so why not allot, say, between 20 and 25 acres to people—they need not necessarily go to work on the land—who have got some savings; people like myself, who probably cannot go there but send their representatives there, and this will provide employment for our workers. There are also workers who would like to own land. I am sure that there are such people like myself, factory workers, clerks, shop-assistants, etc., who would like to own land—so, why not give them a chance to own rubber estates in other parts of the country? In the Federation of Malaya with rubber estates costing about \$4,000 an acre, ten acres will cost \$40,000, and very few people can afford to buy rubber estates. Therefore,

I would appeal that a chance be given to such people who are not working on the land to own a small piece of land and thus have a stake in this country. The lease can be made out for 99 years, and each case be investigated according to the circumstances as to whether a man can afford to invest and finance five, ten or 15 acres. I think my suggestion will provide more employment for the workers and increase the prosperity of the Government. I hope, Sir, the Government will take this matter up and give my proposal serious consideration.

The other matter on which I would like to comment on is in regard to the Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham's long speech. I must admit that I know nothing about rubber, but the Honourable Dato' has drawn a very pessimistic picture of the consumption of rubber, natural and synthetic, in America without giving any figures in regard to rubber consumption in other parts of the world. We all know that America is the leading country in respect of the consumption of rubber today, but it is not necessary that it should have a monopoly all the time. He has not said and we have not heard about the consumption of rubber in other countries of the world—whether it has increased by 50 per cent or 60 per cent; so, we are in the dark. Further Sir, in the near future, we are going to produce our own tyres. Therefore, I am not surprised that in America consumption has been reduced to 40 per cent or 20 per cent, when other parts of the world increase their consumption.

I am not going to criticise him about sending missions overseas, but he has not given us a very clear picture of rubber consumption. He merely concentrated on America, and I am sure that America cannot maintain a monopoly throughout all these years. We also know that in time to come, Malaya and India will produce their own goods and be consuming their own rubber.

Enche' S. O. K. Ubaidulla: Sir, it is often said that it is not those who "carry the procession" who enjoy the beauty of the procession but those who

stand near windows and watch the procession are the ones who enjoy the beauty of the procession. This had been the case with me and my Honourable friend the Minister of Finance for a long time, because we belonged to the Back Bench in the old set-up of the Legislative Council, and we used to enjoy the procession of the Government Bench carrying on the Budget debate. Well, this opportunity of enjoying the procession has been with me up till now, but it has not been so in the case of my Honourable friend the Minister of Finance, because he has joined the "procession-carrying" side. Now he is "carrying the procession" and I am enjoying it. Sir, I mention this particularly to illustrate that those who see the procession going on are able to see more of the procession and enjoy it.

My Honourable friend the Minister of Finance is known for his outspokenness and courage of conviction which he has always put forth without mincing his words. To refer to a certain matter, I went through the Budget speeches of various years in the Hansard. When I turned to the Legislative Council debates of the year 1955, I found a reference which enables me to appeal to our Minister of Finance once again to do a few good things. Many a good thing he has done in the sphere of taxation policy when I read through those debates and I should like to congratulate him for implementing all his constructive criticisms although he has been in the Ministry of Finance for a short time. This is a tribute I would like to pay, because many people speak one thing when they are on this side of the Bench, and when having crossed over to the other side of the Bench they are not able to implement, or they are not very keen to implement it. However, there are more than half a dozen things, I noticed, he has done—one by one—within a short period of his occupying the chair of Minister of Finance.

Sir, one thing I wanted to welcome and that is when he referred to the few small items in the Customs Duties List. There are, however, many more small items in the Customs Duties List

which can be removed, and by so removing the items the Department would not incur expenses in raising the revenue, because the expenses incurred in raising the revenue are greater, in my presumption, than the revenue itself. The attempt he has made to remove those minor items is a good move and it is one in the right direction. I would, however, like him to go further into that List next year when we come to consider our Budget and to remove more items from the List. I say this because it is not only that the Government is spending money in the way of tabulating those small items and tying up many officers in doing this work but also that the commercial community feels a lot of practical difficulty in importing such small items. It is not the duty that matters to them most but, in presenting the List to the Customs Department, sometimes for one small item wrongly typed or wrongly marked or wrongly figured, the bills are returned more than twice, thrice and sometimes four times. Thus there is loss of plenty of time, loss of labour and loss of money on both sides, as more Government officers are tied up to raise this small sum of money and more commercial houses are feeling the difficulty in providing these items to the Customs Department. We must make business easier to business people, and if these small items are continued in the Dutiable List, business will be a difficulty. If business is made easy, and if businessmen are made to feel easy, there will be more exports and more imports into this country than it is now.

There is one more thing, Sir, which is still my regret, and that is our company tax policy. Our company tax is still higher than is found in some of the under-developed countries like ours. Of course, my Honourable friend Enche' Tan Siew Sin is not responsible for the 10 per cent increase in the Company Income Tax because then he was not in the place where he is now. It was our Tun H. S. Lee who was responsible for the increase of 10 per cent and I still think that that is a short-sighted policy. I would like to quote our Honourable Minister of Finance in a speech he made in the

year 1955 in the Budget Session. Sir, our Minister of Finance said then :

"Certain quarters will, I know, contend that public revenue could be increased by heavier taxation. While it is true that this country is not as heavily taxed as the highly industrialised countries of the West, it is also true that any substantial increase in taxation—the operative word is 'substantial'—at the present stage of our economic development when we are purely an agricultural country and when three quarters of this country is still under virgin and primeval jungle, would have only the effect of discouraging new capital development, or at least slowing down its pace, and this in turn would defeat the very object of our proposal, namely, an increase in revenue on a scale which would enable us to proceed with all the schemes of social development which are so obviously necessary if this country is to be free, prosperous and happy."

Sir, quoting this speech, which I consider is a very, very sound and farsighted one, I appeal to him whether he would consider this question of company income tax in the next year, because it has been like this hitherto: the customs duties list is increased due to the fear that the revenue from rubber will not be enough this year and once the customs duty has been raised or new goods are brought into the list they produce sumptuous revenue. At the same time the rubber price goes up and there too we get more revenue. But no Finance Minister comes up at a later date and says: "I planned thinking that we will not obtain enough revenue from rubber and tin, and thereby I raised the customs duty. But now that we have had enough money from rubber and tin, let me forego this customs duty on the new list." But none of them is out; once it is in the kitty of the Government it is never returned. It has been the practice for the past 10 years and somehow or other a lot of new items have come into the customs duty list. The increase in the company income tax was also brought about by such circumstances. Now that our revenue has increased—of course, next year is not as rosy as this year—somehow or other, in order to bring in more capital investment into this country, we should appear to be a very moderate and attractive country in our company tax policies. Then only more capital will come into this country.

Further, Sir, reading the speech of my Honourable friend the Minister of Finance, I find the welcome intention expressed by the Minister to present a legislation at a later date to assign tin ore revenue with proper authority to the State revenue. While we are at it, I wonder whether I can ask the Minister whether it would be a worthwhile proposition, or whether it would be profitable to set up a department on the pattern of the Mines Department to offer constructive ideas and assistance to tin ore exploiters. Given help, it would become a big business in time to come. I am told there are plenty of tin deposits in the various States of Malaya. I would therefore like him to consider whether a department on the Mines Department pattern can be set up to explore the possibility of large scale exploitations of tin ore, ilmenite and similar ores available in this country. It would also apply to palm oil, coconut oil and timber. These are becoming more and more resourceful revenue producing commodities of Malaya and the people who are engaged in these trades are not able to get substantial ready assistance—I mean technical and practical assistance—from the Government. For instance, the timber industry is one of those that can expand itself to large proportions. Of course, my Honourable friend the Minister of Commerce and Industry will, I am sure, give us quite an elaborate explanation about the good work they have done, which I am quite appreciative, because he is looking at me.

Sir, these are my one or two observations and I hope my Honourable friend the Minister of Finance would consider the question of company income tax if it is, from the Government point of view, a good suggestion to attract more foreign capital into Malaya.

Enche' Da Abdul Jalil (Trengganu):
Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam budget meeting pada hari ini, saya sungguh tertarek hati pada Ranchangan Pembangunan Luar Bandar yang akan di-jalankan. Kita mengetahui bahawa orang² kampung kita ada-lah gulungan yang telah terbiar tidak mendapat

pandangan daripada pemerintah. Dengan ada-nya Ranchangan Pembangunan Luar Bandar ini, tentu-lah keadaan mereka itu dapat di-baiki. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sapanjang yang dapat saya ikuti dalam Ranchangan Pembangunan Luar Bandar ini, Kerajaan ada-lah memberi kapada ra'ayat² itu bukan sahaja untuk membaiki taraf hidupnya tetapi ada-lah juga di-beri sa-luas² peluang kapada gulongan orang yang kaya², erti-nya mereka dapat faedah daripada ranchangan Kerajaan ini, ia-itu faedah yang sepatut-nya tidak di-beri kapada orang² itu. Umpama-nya dalam perusahaan perintis mereka di-bebaskan daripada membayar chukai kerana membuka kilang². Saya rasa, ini tidak-lah patut. Memang benar s-lama-nya negeri kita ini hanya bergantung kapada dua keluaran ia-itu getah dan bijeh dan kalau di-galakkan perusahaan² ini, maka dapat-lah di-beri peluang kapada anak negeri ini mendapat pengetahuan dan juga di-beri pekerjaan kapada mereka itu. Disamping itu jika di-beri segala kemudahan kapada industry atau perusahaan perintis ini, saya rasa, Kerajaan ada-lah terlampau murah hati kapada mereka itu kerana mereka itu bukan sahaja di-beri kebebasan dari membayar chukai, tetapi hendak-lah di-beri perlindungan dalam perniagaan (Trade Protection) pula dengan mengenakan chukai yang tinggi di-atas barang yang di-bawa masuk. Saya faham perlindungan ini di-beri ia-lah kerana tidak dapat di-tanding dalam Pasaran Bebas kerana kelemahan² industry² itu—memberi perlindungan kapada industry², ada-lah memberi peluang kapada orang² kaya atau kaum² modal menindas ra'ayat. Ini sangat² tidak di-kehendaki kerana ra'ayat jelata seluroh-nya terpaksa menanggung kesusahan dengan membeli barang² dengan harga yang mahal. Ini ada-lah bererti bahawa Kerajaan hendak memberatkan ra'ayat daripada memberi segala kemudahan kapada mereka. Di-zaman dahulu, zaman pemerintahan penjajah dahulu bukan sedikit di-beri peluang kapada kaum modal atau orang kaya di-negeri kita ini, untuk merampas kekayaan negara kita. Dan satelah merdeka maseh sengaja kita menchari kaum modal

untuk mengambil kesempatan dan kemudahan yang ada di-negeri ini. Saya bimbang, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, walau pun kita merdeka dalam politik, tetapi tidak dalam ekonomi kerana semakin hari semakin banyak kaum modal datang ka-negeri ini berniaga dan ra'ayat jelata negeri ini makin bertambah susah.

Dalam ranchangan Kerajaan memberi kemudahan dan perlindungan yang besar kapada kaum modal itu saya harap jangan-lah pula Kerajaan memberatkan ra'ayat jelata yang kita semua mengetahui berada dalam bermacam² kesusahan. Kembali saya kapada Ahli yang berchakap di-sabelah kiri saya tadi ia-itu tentang Kerajaan hendak menolong orang² Melayu dalam lapangan perniagaan. Kita semua mengetahui bahawa di-antara berbagai² bangsa yang menjadi penghuni negeri kita ini orang² Melayu-lah yang paling lemah dalam segala lapangan. Mereka lemah dalam ekonomi, lemah dalam segala²-nya, sebab itu-lah dalam Perlembagaan negeri kita ini di-rangkakan satu syarat khas untuk memberi perlindungan kapada orang² Melayu baik dalam lapangan pelajaran mahu pun dalam lapangan ekonomi atau perniagaan. Saya harap perkara ini dapat di-laksanakan.

Saya juga suka mengeshorkan di-atas perjalanan RIDA. RIDA tujuan asalnya ia-lah untuk menolong orang² Melayu, tetapi ada-kah betul RIDA dapat memberi pertolongan ini kapada orang² Melayu? RIDA akan memberi pertolongan \$1,000 untuk berniaga sedangkan kaum pemodal mempunyai modal yang beratus² ribu ringgit maka dengan wang yang \$1,000 itu ada-lah mustahil perniagaan kita yang saperti itu dapat setanding dengan kaum² modal. Selebeh-nya mereka itu hanya menjadi broker. Tetapi saorang broker tidak akan menerima kerugian dan mendapat commission, tetapi ahli² perniagaan dengan modal yang kechil itu menjadi broker yang akan menanggung kerugian, kalau barang²-nya tidak laku. Itu-lah kedudukan orang² Melayu.

Saya nampak dalam perkara ini Kerajaan juga memberi pertolongan kapada orang² Melayu untuk berlateh

dengan RIDA dalam berbagai² lapangan, tetapi pekerjaan ini ada-lah semata² untuk melepaskan batok di-tangga sahaja. Salepas itu di-biarkan mereka untuk menchari pekerjaan-nya sendiri. Telah kita ketahui yang mereka itu juga kekurangan modal maka ada-lah sangat baik sakira-nya Kerajaan dapat menyuson satu dasar RIDA untuk memberi bantuan dan membimbing mereka yang telah di-lateh itu supaya mereka itu dapat hidup dalam pekerjaan-nya itu.

Sa-bagai chontoh, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka sebutkan mithal-nya di-Trengganu ada RIDA membuat satu dua perkara untuk orang² Melayu dalam perusahaan. Umpama-nya dalam sekolah bertenun dan menchelop di-sana ada 3 orang penuntut sekarang. Salepas di-beri latehan itu di-biarkan mereka pulang ka-kampung untuk menjalankan kerja. Kenapa Kerajaan tidak mengambil langkah setelah mereka itu di-beri latehan dalam satu² lapangan pelajaran dan perusahaan dalam rural industry itu bagi memimpin mereka memajukan perusaha-aaan itu? Kita mengetahui bahawa barang² yang keluar dari Malaya, umpama-nya kain songkit ada-lah mendapat pasaran yang baik dalam dunia ini, tetapi tidak ada satu langkah yang di-buat untuk membe-sarkan perusahaan itu.

Dalam pertunjukkan² perusahaan² yang di-adakan di-luar negeri pernah ada tawaran² bagi barang² dari Malaya, tetapi kerana perusahaan itu tidak tersusun dengan rapi maka tidak-lah dapat di-penuhi tawaran² yang datang dari luar negeri itu. Saya berani berkata bahawa dasar Kerajaan kita ada-lah terbahagi kepada dua perkara. Pertama ia-lah untuk memberi segala macam kemudahan kepada orang² kaya, kepada ahli² capitalist, yang hanya akan menambah penderitaan kepada orang² Melayu dan yang kedua hanya kadar memberi chukup makan sahaja kepada ra'ayat jelata seperti dasar kemajuan luar bandar ia-itu dasar Kerajaan yang hanya memberi per-tolongan ala kadar sahaja kepada orang² Melayu. Saya tidak nampak bagaimana Kerajaan hendak meno-long orang² Melayu supaya dapat

meningkat dalam perniagaan sa-bagaimana yang ada pada saudara² kita lain² bangsa yang menjadi ra'ayat negeri ini.

Kalau-lah perbedzaan dalam ekonomi antara berbagai² kaum, antara berbagai² bangsa yang tinggal dalam negeri kita ini tidak dapat di-betulkan, tidak dapat di-atasi, saya bimbang satu masa nanti akan timbul perasaan tidak puas hati daripada golongan yang sentiasa ter-tindas dalam ekonomi terhadap saudara²-nya yang mendapat hidup dalam segala macham kema'amoran itu. Saya berharap perkara ini tidak ber-laku, tetapi saya bimbang dan khuatir takut perkara yang tidak di-ingini itu akan berlaku dalam negeri kita yang aman dan ma'amor ini, kira-nya keada-an perbedzaan ini di-biarkan berkeka-lan.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tadi telah saya katakan bahawa Kerajaan telah mem-beri kebebasan, telah memberi kemuda-han kepada perusahaan perintis. Saya ingin mahu mendapat keterangan dari Yang Berhormat Menteri yang bersangkutan setakat mana-kah modal perintis yang di-dapati daripada anak negeri ini sendiri dan berapa banyak perusahaan itu yang telah dapat di-adakan, dan berapa banyak pemuda² kita yang telah mendapat pekerjaan dalam perusahaan itu. Saya rasa kalau perkara ini mendapat penjelasan dari Menteri yang berkenaan maka dapat-lah kepada kita satu gambaran yang lebeh baik di-atas kedudukan perusa-haan perintis itu ada-kah betul² mem-beri pertolongan kepada negeri kita ini.

Tadi telah saya sebutkan berkenaan dengan hal kemajuan luar bandar. Ini pun saya nampak keadaan orang² kampung kita maseh lagi ka-belakang, bukan sahaja susah dalam kehidupan, tetapi juga menderita dari segi kesiha-tan dan sa-bagai-nya di-sebabkan oleh kekurangan pengetahuan. Biasa-nya dasar Kerajaan hanya mengadakan sekolah² tinggi, sekolah² yang bagus itu dalam pekan atau bandar besar sahaja sedangkan di-kampung ra'ayat jelata tidak mendapat pelajaran sa-bagaimana yang boleh di-dapati oleh penduduk² di-dalam bandar atau pekan itu, walau pun ada sekolah² di-kampung

pada masa ini tetapi keadaan sekolahnya tidak seperti sekolah yang ada dalam bandar, baik dalam alat² sekolahnya mahu pun dalam perjalanan serta bimbingan-nya. Maka dengan keadaan itu keperchayaan yang ada di-kalangan orang² kampung itu maseh tinggal dengan karut marut juga dan dengan keperchayaan karut marut itu tidaklah dapat kanak² kita itu berfikir dengan chara yang lebih baik dengan chara yang berkemajuan dan dari itu sukar-lah kita untuk mencapai kemajuan dalam kemajuan luar bandar kita itu.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka menyebutkan dan menarek perhatian kepada kanak² yang mendapat Grade (C) dalam peperiksaan. Kita dapati ramai yang tidak dapat menyambungkan pelajaran-nya atau menchari pekerjaan. Sa-patut-nya kanak² yang mendapat Grade (C) dalam peperiksaan itu mendapat tempat supaya tidaklah mereka menjadi mangsa kepada anasir yang tidak di-ingini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-takat inilah sahaja pandangan saya dalam hal ini.

Enche' Ahmad bin Said: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hendak berchakap dalam masaalah yang telah timbul ia-itu berkaitan dengan sempadan kawasan pilehan raya yang baharu yang telah di-buat oleh Surohanjaya Pilehan Raya Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Sa-bagaimana yang kita ketahui bahawa Surohanjaya Pilehan Raya itu telah pun menerbitkan penyata dan peta bagi sempadan kawasan pilehan raya bagi Dewan Ra'ayat dan juga kawasan sempadan bagi pilehan raya Majlis² Undangan Negeri ia-itu mengikut bilangan bagaimana yang di-kehendaki oleh Perlembagaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Mengikut penyata yang telah di-terangkan oleh Surohanjaya Pilehan Raya bahawa kawasan pilehan raya yang baharu di-buat-nya itu ia-lah berpandukan kepada syarat² yang di-kehendaki oleh Perlembagaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu dengan menegaskan bahawa chara² yang di-buat-nya itu-lah yang boleh mendaftarkan ke'adilan dan memuaskan hati, dan kata-nya lagi mengekalkan

perjalanan Kerajaan yang berchara demokrasi dalam negeri ini.

Tetapi pada pendapat saya apa yang di-harapkan oleh pehak Surohanjaya ini nampak-nya telah menerbitkan hasil yang sa-balek-nya. Perasaan tidak puas hati daripada sa-genap pelusok negeri ini telah timbul dan berbagai bantahan yang telah di-suarakan oleh berbagai gulungan daripada berbagai tempat di-seluruh negeri ini.

Hal ini berlaku ia-lah semenjak daripada keluar-nya penyata Surohanjaya itu hingga-lah pada masa ini, dan saya perchaya di-masa akan datang akan terbit beberapa bantahan di-atas perkara ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hendak menarek perhatian Surohanjaya ini supaya dapat mengkaji apa-kah sebab²-nya yang bantahan² ini timbul? Dan bantahan ini nampak-nya ada-lah datang daripada pehak² yang bertanggong jawab dalam negeri ini, dan saya fikir bantahan² ini patut benar di-kaji dan di-semak sa-mula oleh Surohanjaya ini. Terhadap kepada Kerajaan negeri ini saya juga mengharapakan mengambil perhatian yang berat di-atas perkara yang mendatangkan tidak puas hati itu walau dengan apa chara sa-kali pun.

Berkenaan dengan hak keistimewaan orang Melayu sa-bagaimana yang di-chakapkan oleh Yang Berhormat Nik Hassan tadi saya suka berchakap sedikit sa-lain daripada yang di-sebutkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu dalam hak istimewa orang Melayu itu ada juga menyebutkan berkenaan dengan perkara jawatan untuk orang Melayu. Kita tahu dalam Perlembagaan menentukan beberapa jawatan sahaja yang ada di-untukkan kepada orang Melayu seperti jawatan M.C.S., sa-lain daripada itu tidak ada. Surohanjaya Perkhidmatan 'Awam dalam memenohi jawatan² yang di-kehendaki itu ada-lah memandang dengan kelayakkan dan kebolehan chalun yang meminta itu dengan tidak memandang warna kulit dan sa-bagai-nya. Ini memang menjadi tanggong jawab Surohanjaya Perkhidmatan 'Awam itu menjalankan kewajipan-nya dengan 'adil dan saksama.

Tidak-lah boleh di-napikan oleh sa-siapa pun bahawa daripada chalun² yang banyak itu tentu-lah chalun² daripada orang Melayu banyak yang lemah dalam pelajaran, sebab banyak yang tidak mendapat peluang belajar di-sekolah² tinggi. Maka dengan kelemahan ini-lah peluang bagi mereka mendapat kelulusan daripada pemeriksaan Surohanjaya itu kurang. Perlumbaan yang demikian itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tidak shak lagi akan berjalan terus-menerus, manakala orang Melayu makin lama makin tinggal ka-belakang dalam masaalah jawatan ini.

Sa-bagai meng'adili masaalah ini, dan dengan tidak pula mengeneipkan perkara yang di-chatitkan dalam Perlembagaan negeri ini saya rasa patut-lah Kerajaan mengikut bagaimana yang tersebut dalam Perlembagaan itu, maksud saya ka-bawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong dengan persetujuan Juma'ah Menteri membuat satu peruntokan yang tertentu kepada orang Melayu dalam masa mengisi jawatan yang kosong itu dengan memberi arahan kepada Surohanjaya Perkhidmatan 'Awam supaya berbuat demikian pada masa hendak memenohi jawatan² itu.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Mr. President, Sir, in rising to speak on the Supply Bill for 1961, I would like, first of all, to refer to the statement by the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister on the probability of a shortfall in the estimated surplus for the year 1960. He told us last Tuesday that the lowering trend in the price of rubber, due to depression in the United States and the difficulties that the motor-car industry is facing in the United Kingdom, was having an adverse effect on our Budget surplus. This means, Sir, that our national economy is tied to our dependence on the United States and the United Kingdom to a very large extent. It is in these countries that rapid progress is being made with the manufacture of synthetic rubber. Clearly, Sir, the Federation of Malaya must develop the market for natural rubber in countries where it is uneconomical, or where it is impossible, to produce synthetic rubber. For this

reason, I associate myself with the suggestion made by the Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham that a Rubber Mission under Government sponsorship should go abroad to ensure a steady and expanding market for our natural rubber. But I say here and now that I will not agree to such a Mission wasting its time in countries, which are producing synthetic rubber in competition with us, or in countries where politics constitute a threat to our national interests.

The synthetic industry has already planned a worldwide marketing organisation and unless we do something now, I feel that we will rue the day that we do not take note of the signs on the wall. Sir, I say that, obviously, we should not bank on selling rubber to countries where the synthetic industry is developing in full swing any more than is it desirable to depend on sales to countries behind the Iron Curtain. We should develop steady markets, for example, in India and Japan (DATO' E. E. C. THURAISINGHAM: HEAR, HEAR!) and it is in this direction that my thoughts turn when I associate myself with the suggestion of the Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham. In this connection, Sir, I wonder whether the time has not come for us to take the first step to move the location of the Natural Rubber Bureau. It was natural that when the United States was our best customer—and the biggest customer—we should have our Bureau there to advise them on rubber. But now that seems illogical because since our independence the United States has been progressively less as the U.S.A. is buying less rubber. The facts mentioned by Dato' Thuraisingham this morning are confirmed by the latest Reuter message which I have before me today. This is a message in which Reuter quotes the *Financial Times* Editor on the rubber market and its prospects in 1961.

I would like here briefly to read from that report, because it has just been received from London. The *Financial Times* Editor says:

"The rubber market entered 1961 in a particularly lively mood. Fears that political crisis in Laos might be intensified led to a considerable short covering or bear position

on Tuesday and the price of rubber in London rose by more than half a penny a pound to 26½ per pound. This sentiment has not, however, been maintained. Singapore dealers became keener sellers yesterday and the London market began to move back again in line with Singapore. The price of rubber has been showing a downward trend since the middle of last year and the failure of the present political disturbances to have more than a passing impact on the market simply reflects the bearishness currently prevailing there. Pan-Malayan stocks of rubber estimated at 130,000 to 140,000 tons at the end of December are still generally considered to be too high, and in the absence of a definite increase in demand any appreciable unloading could be done only at the risk of further reduced prices. Demand however on the whole remains no more than steady. In the United Kingdom the large rubber manufacturers are still in the market, but they are not by any means providing keen buyers and they are not likely to do so while hire purchase restrictions continue to affect tyre production."

The comment then goes on:

"In the rest of the world too consumption alone generally is not increasing. China apparently is unlikely to prove a big enough buyer to affect prices really significantly. Whether prices will continue to fall however remains a matter of some dispute. An important factor in the price fall last year was the growing demand for synthetic at the expense of natural rubber. Synthetic rubber now accounts for about 70 per cent of the total rubber consumption in the United States and about 40 to 50 per cent in the rest of the world, and these proportions are still apparently rising."

For this reason, Sir, as I have said, I support the idea that a rubber mission should go abroad, particularly to India and Japan, to develop a market for natural rubber.

I now pass on, Sir, to a general point in the speech of the Honourable Minister of Finance in the Dewan Ra'ayat. He refers to the Commission of Inquiry which is now examining the tender system and the procurement of supplies for Government. Sir, I hope the terms of reference of that Commission include investigation into the capabilities of local firms to replace the Crown Agents in the matter of procuring supplies for the Government. It is only fair that the local firms, which are now paying income tax at the high rate of 40 per cent be given the greatest possible share of this business.

Sir, I also wish to deal with the subject of income tax. I repeat my

previous plea that the Government should take note of the Asian family system under which a wage earner more often than not has to support a number of dependants. I ask the Government to study ways and means of giving relief to such wage earners in respect of such part of his income as he spends on the succour of his aged dependants.

Mr. President, the revenue budget is not before the House today, but I would like to urge that alternatives be found to deal with the present congestion at Port Swettenham. The Railways appear to be very jealous over their control at Port Swettenham, and they are not keen on letting others to come in to help in unloading ships. If it continues to take a ship eight to ten days to unload cargo at Port Swettenham, then obviously the port will cease to be visited by ships serving the international trade routes.

Now, Sir, I would like to turn to the Customs Department. It is doing a fine job of work, but there are complaints by businessmen that it takes three or four days to clear parcels through the Customs. No parcels may be claimed without the advice note from the Customs Department notwithstanding the production of relevant invoices. Sir, I hope the Government will find it possible to expedite delivery of parcels through the Customs to boost trade.

Now, Sir, I propose to deal with specific items in the Schedule to the Supply Bill before the House. It is not my intention to amend any item; I merely wish to make certain observations.

There is an item of \$1,353,000 under the heading of Election Commission. Included in this sum is an amount of 309,000-odd dollars to pay for expenses to be incurred on local authority elections in the 11 States in the Federation in 1961. However, to judge by the fun and games that have characterised some of the local authority council meetings, one wonders if we should continue with the elections to such councils. It seems it would be better for the State Government to appoint prominent people, well tried

in public service, to these councils rather than have in these councils people whose election is giving their voters second thoughts. I urge the Federal Government to give consideration to my suggestion that the \$300,000 vote should in future not be included in the budget provision.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not like to turn to the provisions in the Prime Minister's portfolio. I have not been able to find out under what Head is provision made for the Prime Minister's overseas trips. In making reference to this, I merely wish to repeat my suggestion that the Federation Government must see to it that there is ample provision to ensure that the Prime Minister travels in a manner befitting the dignity of his office and the prestige of our country.

I now turn to Broadcasting. Everyone feels that we should have a more efficient service in our country. The staff of Radio Malaya is, I am aware, working under the limitations imposed by the type of equipment, specified and designed for local listening by the former Colonial Government. Malaysians abroad are not able to listen to Radio Malaya. This should be remedied as soon as possible so that we can reach not only Malaysians abroad but the people of other nations and any wrong information spread about us in friendly quarters can thus be corrected.

While on the subject of broadcasting, I would like to know what progress has been made with our plans to introduce television into the Federation of Malaya. Singapore will have television within a year or so, and to the north, Thailand already has television. I know the Government has many problems to engage its attention, but I submit that television should be given priority because it has been proved elsewhere to be a very valuable channel through which to reach the masses. Whilst on this subject I would also urge the Government to adopt a system of television that is most commonly used in Asia and the Far East in view of the possibility of the exchange of programmes. It

stands to reason that if Europe has chosen to adopt one system common to all countries in the region, Asian and the Far East should similarly standardise their system to one most commonly used within the area today. From personal experience with the use of television in Europe, Asia and the Far East, I have no hesitation in saying that the picture clarity of the system in Asia and the Far East appears to be superior to the continental system. Finally, on the subject of television, I hope the Federation Government will give maximum encouragement to private enterprise to participate in the introduction of television in our country. The practical possibility of T.V. set assembly and commercial stations should be thoroughly examined and private enterprise be given every opportunity to contribute to the introduction and development of T.V. in the Federation of Malaya.

Mr. President, Sir, I would like now to turn to external affairs which comes within the portfolio of the Prime Minister. I welcome the increase of nearly half a million dollars in the provision under this Head. The Provisional Development Estimates include also an item of about \$650,000 to be spent on offices and buildings overseas. Mr. President, Sir, any Malayan who has visited our missions overseas will tell you that the offices and buildings occupied by our overseas missions are far from adequate, apart from the fact that they compare poorly with the ambassadorial residences and chanceries of nations much, much smaller than our's. Furthermore from the little that I have gathered, the Malayan staff in our missions overseas are not paid anything like enough and unless we correct this discrepancy between their salaries and the cost of living, we are not likely to attract the best talent into our foreign service in the future. In one of our embassies a few of the staff sent from Malaya do not even enjoy diplomatic privileges. Sir, I submit that there is a case for an inquiry into this matter, and I hope the Government will consider this suggestion.

I will now turn to the provisions in the Supply Bill under the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives. In fully supporting these budget provisions, I would like to refer to the Urea and Paper Mill projects, so much publicised by the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives. Can we possibly have a definite target date when the projects will be started or abandoned, so that private enterprise may know exactly where it stands. In the case of the paper mill, I believe the project has been before the Government for nearly two years. Capital earmarked by private enterprise for this project has been idle for that time. Private enterprise may be forced to other ventures for lack of encouragement in the paper manufacturing field.

Enche' Athi Nahappan: On a point of order, Sir. The Honourable Member is now going on to details of the Bill, but I think we should be generally discussing the policy in relation to the budget speech made by the Honourable Minister of Finance. Sir, Standing Order 53 says:

"(1) When a Bill has been read a second time it shall stand committed to a Committee of the whole Senate unless the Senate on motion commits it to a Select Committee. Such motion shall not require notice, must be made immediately after the Bill is read a second time, and may be proposed by any Senator; the question thereon shall be put forthwith and shall be decided without amendment or debate.

(2) When an annual or supplementary Supply Bill has been read a second time it shall be ordered to be read a third time either forthwith or on such future day as a Minister may name."

Sir, we are now discussing the general policy at policy level and we have not come to the details as provided by the Supply Bill, and I think the Honourable Member is not in order in going to the details.

Enche' T. H. Tan: With all deference to the previous speaker, Mr. President, Sir, I thought I gave the impression all along of speaking purely on principle (*Laughter*). I have not dwelt with any particular item beyond making brief references to those items. So, with your permission, may I

proceed? (Mr. President *indicates assent*).

Mr. President, Sir, I will now turn to the Ministry of Education. The ordinary budget makes a provision of \$189 million for Education. Provisional Development Estimates have about \$26.5 million under the same heading. No one will quarrel with these provisions, since education means, in our particular context, nation building. For this reason I was somewhat surprised that the statement of the Minister of Finance in the Dewan Ra'ayat did not indicate that the introduction of free primary education would take place as scheduled next year. Whatever may be the financial circumstances prevailing then, I urge the Government to regard education as part and parcel of our national development plan rating equal in importance with rural development. I am sure that this House will back the Government to the full in this matter.

While speaking on education, I would take the opportunity to refer to the obviously subversive motives of some groups foreign publishers supplying textbooks to the Chinese schools in the Federation of Malaya. Their terms plainly indicate dumping. A Government committee is, I am aware, sitting on this subject, but I urge that immediate action be taken by Government to prohibit at once books published by firms with undesirable connections overseas and to enforce the anti-dumping law against those who must have questionable motives in dumping their publications amongst our Chinese schools.

Sir, I would like now to turn to Social Welfare. There is a welcome increase in the subvention for welfare institutions and associations. These organisations have done great work among the less fortunate elements of our people.

Talking of the less fortunate people, I think the Family Planning Association is giving fine service to them. In paying this tribute, I do not wish to be drawn into, or to start, any religious controversy on the subject. I merely support the idea that the poor should

be properly educated to avoid the burden of over-size families who cannot be adequately provided for. The Family Planning Association is doing good work amongst those who seek their advice. I emphasise the word "seek", because I feel it will be wrong for the Association to make people practise family planning against their conscience or religion.

I refer now to the budget provision for the Police Force. I merely wish to take the opportunity to press the Government to make Operation Service a permanent feature of the Police Force. (*Applause*). I get the impression that there is a need for Operation Service to be revived with all the vigour at the command of the Police Force. However, this will encourage people to co-operate fully with the Police.

Sir, I would like also now to deal with rural development. The Government's efforts in this direction are commendable. They are designed, as we all know, to open up the rural areas and to raise the standard of living of the kampong people. What are the primary needs of the kampong people? I say that they are water and lighting. With regard to lighting, I hope the Government will find it possible to come to some practical financial arrangement with the C.E.B. to bring electricity to the kampongs. In this connection, the State Government of Penang has set a fine example, and by 1962 most of the villages in Penang and Province Wellesley will have electricity. The Federation Government may take the cue from this and allocate sufficient funds from the Development Estimates to help the C.E.B. to provide electricity to the Kampongs. Imagine all the major kampongs lighted up with electricity—that would be the brightest, biggest sign of rural development.

In conclusion, Sir, last year I had an occasion to pay tribute to the Minister of Finance for his realistic Budget. The anticipated surplus for 1960 shows that I was not wrong in paying that tribute. Now, with pleasure, I commend the passage of the Supply Act, 1961 by this House in the hope, however, that the

observations I have made will be considered worthy of Government's consideration.

Enche' Wan Ahmad bin Wan Daud:

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya pandang perbelanjaan Kerajaan bagi kemajuan ra'ayat negeri ini yang besar-nya ada tiga bahagian: Yang pertama—ranchangan kemajuan luar bandar—yang kedua—RIDA dan yang ketiga—pergerakan Sharikat² Bekerjasama². Saya dapati pada masa ini ranchangan luar bandar-lah yang berjalan dengan lichen dan baik di-dalam negeri saya Perlis. RIDA sudah banyak memberi pinjaman kepada ra'ayat dengan tujuan hendak memajukan perniagaan² dan pekerjaan² mereka itu, tetapi saya mendapat ketahu² banyak daripada mereka² yang meminjam itu tiada di-bayar balek pinjaman² mereka dengan tepat mengikut perjanjian masing², dan banyak juga pinjaman² yang tiada ada harapan akan di-bayar balek melainkan harta mereka² yang meminjam dan harta² penjamin² mereka, yang di-chagarkan itu di-lelong. Saya fikir yang boleh jadi demikian itu ia-lah kerana RIDA tiada chukup chermat menyiasat dan memeriksa ada-kah orang² yang memintak pinjaman² itu orang² yang beramanah, rajin dan ada pengetahuan atau kelayakan di-atas tujuan² mereka hendak menggunakan wang yang di-pintak pinjam itu.

Saya berpendapat kahadapan lagi tiap² permintaan hutang hendak-lah Pegawai RIDA menyiasat dengan chermat dan teliti di-atas kebaikan dan kelayakan orang² yang memintak hutang itu, dan mana² pemintak yang di-fikir tiada memberi keuntungan kapada-nya, jangan-lah di-beri hutang kapada-nya. Maka mereka² yang permintaan-nya tiada di-benarkan, akan marah dan menchachi RIDA atau Kerajaan kita, tetapi pada fikiran saya terlebih-lah baik kita menerima chachian kerana tiada memberi hutang yang kita pandang tiada memberi guna kapada si-pemintak itu daripada kita menerima chachian kerana melelongkan harta² mereka apakala tiada di-bayar atau di-jelaskan hutang² itu. Oleh sebab itu saya berharap Menteri yang berkenaan menimbangkan dengan halus-nya di-atas pandangan saya baik

bagi menggunakan di-atas perusahaan keinderaan, perniagaan dan lain² penggunaan-nya hendak-lah di-beri kapada mereka² yang rajin, beramanah dan ada pengalaman di-atas pekerjaan atau tujuan yang di-mintak hutang itu.

Berkenaan dengan pergerakan Sharikat² Bekerjasama² sa-bagaimana kita sekalian telah membacha di-dalam report² dan akhbar², bahawa Sharikat² itu telah menambah bilangan-nya dan banyak juga yang mendapat keuntongan yang banyak pada tiap² tahun saperti pada tahun² 1958-1959 dan 1960. Berkenaan dengan Sharikat² Kampong, saya mendapat tahu banyak juga ahli² yang tiada membayar yuran²-nya pada tiap² tahun dengan sempurna dan tiada membayar balek hutang² mereka mengikut janji di-dalam Bond hutang² mereka.

Saya tahu tujuan Kerajaan mengadakan Sharikat² Kampong itu ia-lah supaya memberi nasehat dan melateh tiap² sa-orang daripada ahli-nya berjimat chermat, rajin bekerja dan berusaha tidak menghilangkan waktu hidup-nya dengan sia² perchuma, menambahkan pendapatan-nya dan harta-nya pada tiap² tahun serta menambahkan perbelanjaan keperluan hidup-nya pada tiap² hari. Tetapi jika sakira-nya ahli² itu kebanyakan-nya tiada mendapat menambah mata pencharian atau pendapatan mereka, tiada dapat menambah harta²-nya dan tiada menambah perbelanjaan makan minum dan pakaian ahli²-nya, sebak-nya pula, harta² mereka semakin kurang, pendapatan mereka kian susut dan belanja makan minum tiap² hari perlahan sempit, maka Sharikat² yang sedemikian itu walau beberapa banyak yang ada atau berapa banyak bertambah pada tiap² tahun pun tiada-lah ada apa² faedah bagi ra'ayat bahkan membawa benchana pula kapada Kerajaan dan ra'ayat.

Sa-buah Sharikat yang ahli²-nya maju ya'ani dapat bertambah harta mereka, pendapatan mereka dan menghapuskan hutang² mereka terlebih-lah baik daripada beribu² Sharikat yang ahli-nya mundur di-dalam perkara² itu. Jika Kementerian yang berkenaan dan Pegawai² Sharikat pada tiap² negeri bersetuju dengan pandangan saya ini,

maka jalan mengubah atau memolehkan Sharikat² itu saya pandang tiadalah ada jalan yang lain melainkan rajin-lah Pegawai² melawat ka-kampong² memberi nasehat, mengadakan kursus² menyedarkan ahli² dan ra'ayat² supaya rajin bekerja menambahkan pendapatan masing², jimat chermat, menambahkan harta tiap² sa-orang mereka, dan banchi harta², hutang² dan pendapatan tiap² sa-orang ahli itu pada tiap² tahun. Tujuan Kerajaan dan ra'ayat bukan-lah semata² hendak memajukan Sharikat² itu sahaja, tetapi yang lebeh penting-nya ialah memajukan iktisad serta dengan hal keadaan hidup ahli² itu di-atas serba serbi-nya.

Berhubung dengan RIDA pula saya pandang ada kala-nya di-beri kelemahan kapada Sharikat² Bekerjasama², sebab Sharikat² Bekerjasama² tiada membenarkan hutang kapada orang² lain daripada ahli-nya dan begitu juga penjamin² hutang itu pun mesti-lah daripada ahli² Sharikat itu juga. Maka tiap² satu pinjaman itu di-benarkan banyak-nya setakat yang jawatan-kuasa tampak mudah di-bayar balek di-dalam tempoh yang di-janjikan ia-itu di-hisab di-atas pendapatan si-peminjam, di-tolak perbelanjaan² keperluan hidup-nya dan baki daripada perbelanjaan itu-lah sahaja yang di-benarkan hutang mengikut perjanjian di-dalam surat hutang itu, tetapi RIDA setakat yang saya tahu tiada diperdulikan banyak hutang itu asalkan sahaja ada penjamin atau chagaran daripada harta sesiapa pun yang di-anggarkan boleh menchukupi hutang itu. Oleh hal yang demikian, jika sa-orang ahli Sharikat tiada di-benarkan hutang kapada-nya oleh Sharikat-nya, dia mendapatkan pinjaman daripada RIDA dan orang² yang tiada menjadi ahli Sharikat pun RIDA beri hutang juga. Kalau begitu hal-nya ra'ayat yang belum sedar berkata apa-lah guna hendak masuk Sharikat hendak pintak berhutang pun payah, terlebih baik-lah kita pintak pinjam kapada RIDA siapa hendak jamin pun boleh. Saya pandang, jika Kerajaan sebenar² hendak memajukan Sharikat² Bekerjasama², maka RIDA sekali² jangan di-benarkan hutang kapada sa-orang yang tiada menjadi ahli Sharikat

Kampong, jadi mana² orang yang berkehendak meminjam wang hendaklah di-pintak pinjam daripada Sharikatnya dan mana² permintaan yang telah di-benarkan oleh Sharikat itu, jika Sharikat itu tiada mempunyai wang didalam tangan, maka Sharikat itu-lah yang meminjam kepada RIDA, dan hutang² itu di-jamin oleh Sharikat² Kampong itu dengan tanggungan ahli²-nya yang tiada berhad itu. Jika polisi ini di-jalankan baharu-lah pada pandangan saya Sharikat² Kampong itu akan maju.

Berkenaan dengan Sharikat² Bekerjasama² bagi orang² yang makan gaji, saya biasa bertanya kepada sa-tengah² daripada Pegawai² Kerajaan—"adakah Enche' atau Tuan masok Sharikat?" jawab-nya "Ada". Berapa tahun sudah menjadi ahli? "di-jawab" ada yang 3 tahun, 5 tahun atau lebih. "Berapa banyak yuran yang telah di-bayar?" ada yang menjawab \$1,000 dan seterusnya. Apabila di-tanya adakah Enche' atau Tuan bersangkut hutang kepada Sharikat? di-jawab ada, dan banyak juga yang sa-tiap² masa hutang-nya itu lebih banyak daripada yuran-nya yang telah di-bayar itu. Ahli² yang samacham ini, jika ia bersara atau mati tetap menjadi beban kepada diri-nya atau waris²-nya terkena bayar hutang yang lebih daripada yuran-nya itu. Bertambahan pula ada juga daripada mereka itu yang ada hutang-nya lagi di-luar sa-lain daripada kepada Sharikat-nya. Ada banyak juga daripada ahli² Sharikat itu keluar daripada Sharikat-nya jika permintaan hutang-nya tiada di-benarkan atau di-benarkan korang daripada yang di-pintak, maka mereka keluar daripada Sharikat dan menerima balek ka-semua yuran-nya yang telah di-bayar.

Orang² yang sa-macham ini membawa mudzarat bagi diri-nya dan merosakkan Sharikat-nya, kerana yang dia masok menjadi ahli Sharikat itu semata² tujuan-nya hendak berhutang. Jadi berlawan-lah dengan sebenar² tujuan Sharikat itu ia-itu menyimpan sedikit² daripada gaji-nya pada tiap² bulan itu kerana jimat chermat bekal masa tua-nya atau mati-nya. Di-dalam peratoran Sharikat² orang² yang bergaji ini ada di-sharatkan, mana² ahli yang telah bersara, jika ia tiada mengambil

balek yuran-nya daripada Sharikat-nya, maka Sharikat-nya itu akan memberi penshion juga kepada-nya pada tiap² tahun ia-itu bahagian untong (Dividend) pada tiap² kali di-tutupkan kira² tahunan Sharikat itu.

Saya harap-lah pehak Kerajaan dan ahli² Sharikat menggerakkan Sharikat² itu dengan banyak memberi nasehat dan sharahan² kepada ahli-nya supaya tiap² sa-orang ahli itu menggunakan Sharikat² itu dengan tujuan yang sa-benar yang akan memberi natijah yang beruntong kepada Sharikat dan kepada tiap² sa-orang daripada ahli-nya.

Maksud saya bukan-lah menegah Sharikat itu daripada memberi hutang kepada ahli²-nya, tetapi hutang² itu ia-lah yang memberi keuntungan dan jangan-lah di-beri lebih pada sa-orang itu daripada 80 peratus daripada yuran-nya yang telah di-bayar, melainkan hutang kerana menjelaskan hutang ahli itu di-luar pada masa ia-nya mula² masok bersharikat.

Sekian-lah sahaja pandangan saya.

Sitting suspended at 1.00 p.m.

Sitting resumed at 2.30 p.m.

(Mr. President in the Chair)

THE SUPPLY BILL, 1961

Debate resumed.

Question again proposed.

Enche' J. E. S. Crawford: Mr. President, Sir, in rising to support the Budget presented by the Alliance Government, which is undoubtedly a good one, very well prepared, I heartily congratulate the Honourable Minister of Finance for producing what in general can be considered an excellent and sound budget. As far as the rubber industry is concerned, Mr. President, Sir, naturally the extra duty between the price range of 80 cents and \$1 and the turning of the anti-inflationary cess into duty not refundable caused much concern. We realise that money must be found for the social and rural development of independent Malaya, and that in times of prosperity especially rubber and tin can, and should, make their full contribution. We do, however, maintain that these industries were already over-taxed, and

we consider that the present increase in export duty coupled with the recent substantial increase in company tax places a very heavy burden on these two industries, especially in comparison with those industries which pay only income tax. We, therefore, sincerely trust and hope that the Honourable Minister of Finance will look elsewhere should further funds be required to balance future budgets. It will be difficult enough as it is for the rubber industry as a whole to pay the shareholders a reasonable return on the capital employed and yet to continue with the amount of replanting which is absolutely essential during the coming years if we are to compete with the new synthetic rubber. It is for this reason, Mr. President, Sir, that I trust that the Government will consider immediate further substantial aid for the replanting of both smallholders and large estates, as our profits, taxed as they are, will be insufficient to provide the reserves necessary to carry out a steady and expensive programme of replanting in the years ahead when the price of rubber may be low. With Government aid in the past, the task of replanting has begun well. Will the Government now come with the industry and help us to finish the job.

In conclusion, Sir, I should like to congratulate my Honourable friend and fellow planter Dato' Thuraisingham for his able speech on sending missions abroad, but would mention here the famous slogan "Replant, or Die", and I fear that unless we complete our replanting programme before the mission goes abroad, when the Dato' and the mission return to Malaya after their selling campaigns across the seas, they might find that we have passed peacefully away and that we are producing no rubber to sell (*Laughter*).

Enche' Abdul Hamid bin Mahmud: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menyokong dengan kuat anggaran perbelanjaan bagi tahun ini yang dibentangkan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan itu. Saya nampak anggaran perbelanjaan bagi tahun 1961, ini kokoh dan kuat, kerana dalam tahun yang lepas ada berlebeh (surplus) sa-banyak \$168 juta, dan

jumlah baki yang ada dalam tahun lepas sa-banyak \$324 juta. Dengan sebab itu nampak pada kita walau pun banyak perbelanjaan yang di-jalankan oleh Kerajaan, tetapi wang maseh berbaki. Ini menunjukkan kebijaksanaan Kerajaan Perikatan memerintah negeri ini dalam masa yang lalu. Saya nampak dalam Estimates tahun ini perbelanjaan di-anggarkan berbaki sa-banyak \$13 juta. Pada masa yang lalu belum ada satu belanjawan yang mempunyai kelebehan wang masok daripada wang keluar. Semenjak Parti Perikatan memerintah Persekutuan Tanah Melayu lima tahun yang lalu telah menambah perbelanjaan sa-banyak \$211 juta, kita terpaksa berbelanja dengan banyak kerana kemajuan dan kema'amoran ra'ayat, terutama di-kawasan luar bandar supaya taraf pelajaran, ekonomi dan masharakat dapat di-tinggikan dengan segera. Kerajaan Perikatan bukan sahaja telah menunaikan janjinya yang tersebut dalam manifesto tetapi juga dengan chara yang baik dan beransor Kerajaan ini menghapuskan fahaman komunis dalam negeri ini.

Mengikut Fasal 16 dalam ucapan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan di-Dewan Ra'ayat mengatakan negeri kita telah mengexpot barang sa-banyak \$2,453 juta, berbanding dengan barang yang di-beli sa-banyak \$1,769 juta. Ini bermakna barang yang kita jual lebeh sa-banyak \$684 juta. Jikalau bagini keadaan kewangan kita berlebeh, maka kema'amoran negeri kita ada-lah tetap terjamin. Dan mengikut Fasal 43 dalam ucapan itu telah menyatakan bahawa Kerajaan telah berhutang sehingga akhir tahun yang lalu sa-banyak \$1,127 juta. Wang pinjaman ini saya perchaya tentu-lah untuk membuat kemajuan dalam negeri ini. Walau pun sekarang ini kita membuat kemajuan, tetapi kita sentiasa berjimat dan tiap² tahun wang berbaki yang menjadi sa-bagai wang "reserve" Kerajaan.

Berkenaan dengan chukai pendapatan saya nampak semenjak elau di-turunkan pada tahun yang lepas wang pendapatan daripada Income tax telah bertambah sa-banyak \$185 juta, dan pembayar chukai telah bertambah

sa-banyak 32,000 orang. Chara yang dijalankan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan itu harus kita puji kerana ia berkehendakkan wang. Tetapi apabila negeri kita mendapat chukai lebeh dan chukai expot bertambah tinggi, saya perchaya Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan akan menimbangkan semula berkenaan pembayar chukai yang mempunyai anak lebeh daripada lima orang. Kerana saya suka menyatakan menanggung sa-orang anak kechil yang berumur enam bulan sa-kurang²nya \$30.00 sa-bulan, jadi orang yang mempunyai anak lebeh daripada lima orang tentu-lah berbelanja lebeh daripada ini. Buat masa ini apa boleh buat, kita terpaksa mengurangkan belanja kerana hendak menchukupkan perbelanjaan. Saya harap pada tahun hadapan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan akan menimbangkan dengan berat kepada pembayar chukai yang mempunyai anak lebeh daripada lima orang.

Ra'ayat dalam negeri ini bertambah dengan chukup chepat, dan mengikut anggaran Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan ra'ayat dalam negeri ini bertambah dalam sa-tahun hampir² 3½ peratus, manakala kemajuan ekonomi bertambah 2½ peratus. Dengan sebab itu Kerajaan mesti-lah menggalakkan penanaman modal daripada luar negeri untuk membanyakkan perusahaan dalam negeri ini yang mana daripada perusahaan itu ra'ayat dalam negeri ini akan dapat peluang bekerja, dan dengan ada-nya perusahaan itu juga ra'ayat negeri ini dapat membeli barang² dalam negeri ini yang mana wang negeri ini tidak pergi ka-luar negeri dengan banyak-nya.

Perbuatan kita menggalakkan penanaman modal daripada luar negeri untuk membuka perusahaan yang besar dalam negeri ini yang akan membanyakkan pekerjaan kepada ra'ayat negeri ini bukan-lah sa-kali² menyusahkan ra'ayat, dan bertentangan sa-kali dengan fikiran² yang mengatakan penanaman modal itu ada-lah menghalang atau menyusahkan ra'ayat negeri ini. Yang sa-benar-nya dengan banyak-nya perusahaan itu-lah ra'ayat dan orang yang menganggor dapat peluang bekerja.

Saya tidak bersetuju dengan fikiran sa-orang Ahli Yang Berhormat yang berchakap dahulu daripada saya tadi yang mengatakan bahawa kesenangan dan kemudahan akan di-beri kepada kapitalis daripada luar negeri untuk menanam modal dan membuat perusahaan dalam negeri ini sa-bagai "perusahaan perintis", kemudian di-beri pula naongan atau perlindungan kepada perusahaan itu. Kalau kita hendak menggalakkan modal daripada luar negeri dengan banyak untuk membuat perusahaan dan membanyakkan pekerjaan dalam negeri ini mesti-lah kita memberi peluang yang baik kepada mereka. Umpama-nya, kita mengkehualikan chukai pendapatan sa-lama 5 tahun itu ada-lah memberi galakan dan menjamin kepada modal mereka yang membuat perusahaan dalam negeri ini, dalam masa 5 tahun mereka dapat balek sa-bahagian daripada modal-nya itu. Ini memberanikan mereka membuka perusahaan dalam negeri kita.

Dan saya tidak bersetuju dengan yang di-katakan, kerajaan negeri ini hendak menyenangkan perusahaan orang luar tetapi menchukai kepada ra'ayat atau mengenakan kepada ra'ayat chukai yang berat. Chukai yang di-kenakan kepada ra'ayat negeri ini ada-lah di-jalankan sa-bagaimana lain² negeri juga. Ra'ayat kena-lah sama² berkorban untuk kepentingan negara dengan jalan membayar chukai dengan chara langsung atau tidak langsung. Kerana dengan langkah yang demikian akan mendatangkan kesenangan kepada semua penduduk negeri ini. Kerajaan kita ada-lah Kerajaan democracy, Kerajaan yang bebas. Dengan sebab itu-lah Kerajaan menggalakkan modal luar menanamkan modal-nya untuk memajukan negeri ini dan Kerajaan terpaksa juga memberi peluang yang luas kepada ra'ayat negeri ini supaya mereka hidup bebas dalam negara yang democracy saperti yang ada pada hari ini. Saya ada-lah menyokong dengan kuat-nya akan budget yang di-buat oleh Menteri Kewangan ini sa-bagai satu budget yang bijaksana dan baik sakali.

Enche' Athi Nahappan: Mr. President, Sir, I have read the speech by the Honourable the Minister of

Finance, and I would like to say that it is a very able speech pregnant with facts and figures. For anyone who cares to know something about the financial affairs of our country, this document will serve a valid need.

Mr. President, Sir, the Honourable the Minister of Finance, in his business-like speech, right at the outset itself, referred to the stability of our currency and said that it would be one of his main objectives to maintain the stability of our currency. I was particularly happy to note—and I am sure all the Members of this House would support me—that we are all with him in trying to maintain the stability of our dollars. We have had an awful war for the last twelve years during the Emergency. We have spent so much money. In spite of it all, we have been able to maintain the strength of our dollar. We just have to look around the neighbouring countries to see how they are faring in their economic positions and particularly some countries have been suffering from high inflation. Though we have had a war and we had to spend quite a good deal of money, the policy of the Alliance has maintained the strength of our currency so that inflation was not allowed to come creeping into our life, and the dollar is enjoying a good international position, and it is, and can be said to be a hard currency. One has to travel around to see the respect enjoyed by the Malayan dollar. Our financial policy is in keeping with that sound economic system that we have been having under the administration of the Alliance Government.

During the course of his speech, the Minister of Finance referred to the growth of the population of this country; and he also warned that the rate of the population growth is outstripping all the production growth—economic production. If that rate grows, then we would be having too many people chasing too limited economic resources, and as a result of that the progressive development of our economic status may be hampered. Therefore, it is becoming increasingly important, and it has been realised by a number of countries including a

number of Asian countries, that family planning should be adopted as the Government policy. My Honourable friend Mr. T. H. Tan referred to this in his speech, and I am with him fully. We have to make our people conscious of planning out their families. In fact, India has gone ahead several steps in its trend. They have even advocated mass sterilization. We need not go to that extent. Our population is not so staggering, but certainly we have to educate our people to maintain suitable families like some of those Scandinavian countries so that they can provide all the necessary facilities that children in these modern days require; and I hope the Government would allocate a substantial amount of money for this purpose.

Now, as to the speech of my Honourable and learned friend Dato' Thuraisingham, I wish to associate myself with him. He made a very eloquent, able and a very substantial speech this morning, and I feel he had made a reasonable case for sending a mission abroad to promote the sale of our main commodity. No one better understands or has understood the importance, I hope, of the promoting of this sale than the Minister of Finance himself. During the course of his speech, he the Minister had referred to that again and again—to the importance that rubber plays in our economic life. He had said, and he had said it very candidly and frankly, how he was wrong in estimating the price of rubber as recently as 20th September, 1960. When he predicted that rubber would not fall below one dollar, within six weeks of his prediction, the price of rubber fell below 90 cents and he did not mince words in admitting his wrong prediction. He had referred to the importance of rubber, in that he had said that it constituted 2/3 of our total export income or about 25 per cent of our national income. He had warned in one of the paragraphs in his Budget Speech, para. 76, that synthetic rubber could be a very formidable competitor. He had also said that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, had assumed that the price of rubber during the sixties, in the middle

sixties, would be around 80 cents and probably would decline thereafter. He himself had taken note of this situation, and in the light of the unpredictable prices of rubber it is only obvious that we, as the paramount rubber producing country, have to do all we can in the way of promoting our sales whether there is a demand or not. If you can sell, if there is enough demand, even then I think it is very important, as it has been pointed out by the Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham, that we have to be all the time drumming in the importance of using natural rubber, particularly in face of opposition from synthetic rubber. The Honourable the Minister of Finance himself has been associated all his life with the rubber industry, and I am sure he knows the importance of this as well as anyone else.

Sir, my Honourable friend, Enche' Abu Bakar, from Penang, in the course of his criticism of the Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham, said that we should not sell rubber, in effect, to communist countries. I do not see the logic of this at all; I do not see any reason why we should not sell rubber to any country in the world at all, whether that country be a socialist or communist country. We are dependent on rubber for our livelihood and we admit the fact that two-thirds of our export come from it and, therefore, it does not matter as to who buys it; so long as we have a good price for it, we can sell it. I do not see the logic of mixing politics with trade. It does not mean that if we sell rubber to communist countries, we are accepting their theory of life; and it is certainly not a compliment to our political tradition and conviction to say that by merely doing trade with communist countries, we shall be letting them in: that will show that we lack confidence in ourselves. It has been said that Englishmen came to the East under the cloak of tradesmen and later on ended up as political masters. Those days are gone. We can certainly be vigilant and prevent anybody coming here and trying to bring in politics. Further, I am sure that we are, as a nation, sufficiently mature—we have had experience of the onslaught of communism too—not to be easily led

astray. There is no reason for us to say that we should not trade with communist countries. We should be prepared to trade with anyone, and I am sure that if we do not sell, others will sell. I am sure there are other countries who are trying to grab the market. In fact, Ceylon made capital of it several years ago. As a matter of fact, you will agree that this sort of thing is, in political life, in international affairs, not permanent—no enemy is permanent. A few years ago, it was the policy of this Government not to recognise Communist China. Now, one would observe, there is a modification in that policy. Our Prime Minister has said that Communist China might be recognised provided Formosa was recognised. So, there is a change of policy, and any progressive country has got to change its policy according to the situation. Today's friends are tomorrow's enemies and yesterday's enemies are today's friends in international affairs. So in trade there is no political apartheid, and we should be prepared to sell all we can.

Now, Sir, as to the other item, I am particularly grateful to note that there is some relief given to dependants and relatives in the affairs of income tax. Last year when the tax level was broadened, there was a good deal of criticism, particularly by those who professed to champion the cause of the proletariat and the underdogs, and they said that it was going to soak the poor to make the rich richer. However, we have found that after things settled down, the Malayan people too have settled down to the realities of the day and become more responsible.

The Honourable Enche' T. H. Tan has referred to the importance of the Asian structure of family life and this should be noted. Representations have been made by Members of this House that it should be given some consideration and that relief be extended to cover dependants and relatives. This, Sir, has been provided for, and there is a proposal to amend section 35 of the Income Tax Ordinance, which provides a maximum relief of up to \$1,000—the Honourable Minister has referred to “earned income” and “unearned income”—and

this relief is extended to dependants and relatives of the group in the "earned income".

Dato' J. E. S. Crawford: Mr. President, Sir, I do not think that what the Honourable Member has stated is quite correct. I do not think it is a question of relief in respect of dependants and relatives—it is a question of relief for earned income. I think the Honourable Member is misquoting.

Enche' Athi Nahappan: Well, Sir, the Honourable Minister in his speech has referred to the proposal to amend the Ordinance to provide relief and to that extent, I am sure it would be satisfactory to a large number of people.

Sir, on the whole, this year's Budget, judging from the proposals, is a sort of carrying-on Budget from last year, and generally it helps to continue the work that the Alliance Government has embarked upon; and the citizens of our country will appreciate that if the Government is to do good for the people in the various aspects of their life, then the Government has to have a regular flow of money—and it is only then that they will be able to have satisfactory developments all round. Therefore, I have great pleasure in supporting this Bill, and I have no doubt that the other Honourable Members here will do the same. *(Applause)*.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: Mr. President, Sir, I wish to support the Supply (1961) Bill, and I wish to say that I have read the policy speech of the Honourable the Minister of Finance. I think it is a very good speech. However, I must say that the praise must also be given to the officials of his Ministry who prepared this Budget *(Laughter)*, because we know—if you have been doing a bit of budgeting for the supply bill of your country—that you will find that even at the last minute you have got to alter your figures and that sometimes you have got to go through ten drafts before you produce that Budget for presentation. I think that great credit should also be given to the Department concerned. *(Applause)*.

I am also happy, and will always appreciate the learned speech of my Honourable friend, Dato' Thuraisingham. He has presented a very good case for a Mission to be sent abroad, because rubber is also in my blood. *(Laughter)*. When in 1909 we started planting rubber in Penang—there were about 57 acres on Penang Island—I had to help my father to do the pruning of trees; and when the seeds fell, I had to collect the seeds and sell them at a cent each. Those were the wonderful days! If we are really producing two types of rubber as stated by Dato' Thuraisingham—one is the Special Processed Rubber and the other is the PA 80—I do not see why we should not advertise these products abroad so that we can compete with synthetic. If we allow ourselves to be lulled into a false sense of security we will be dead—as my Honourable friend Dato' Crawford said, "when you come back from the Mission you will be peacefully dead". I agree absolutely that we should sell our rubber to any country that will make a higher bid for it, irrespective of their ideologies. Selling things abroad do not mean that we follow the ideology of the country to which we sell our things. We must survive through rubber now, but we must also find other means of support for our country; and I think it is up to our Government to find other resources to support our country, because in most of our rural areas, even in our Rural Development Plan, the peasants are asked to plant about three acres of rubber to support themselves so that after the padi has been harvested, and the land lying fallow, they can then tap rubber to help themselves. I think rubber is our very life and I believe in what the Honourable Dato' Crawford said, "Replant or die".

Another point I would like to bring out is about relief to our aged people. I think our Minister of Finance has done something by giving a relief of about \$1,000 in the form of rebate in taxation to those who earn their income. But it is time that the aged dependants—dependent parents of poor people—should be given some medical assistance if possible. I think there is

some sense in giving relief in this matter, because most of the incomes of the sons and daughters are spent in meeting the medical bills of their aged parents. In advanced countries, Sir, we have old-age pensions, and if we want to consider our country as an advanced country, I think we should also give an old-age pension from the age of 65, if possible.

Mr. President, Sir, yesterday we passed a Bill giving pensions to the Consorts of our two late Yang di-Pertuan Agongs. I believe it would be a most gracious act if we were to give them pensions free of income tax. After all, the income tax on the pensions would not amount to very much.

When we come to the Committee stage of the Supply Bill, Sir, I have got a few things to say, but on the broad policy of it I agree with the speech of the Minister of Finance, and I support this Supply Bill.

Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam membahathkan ucapan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan telah banyak Ahli² Yang Berhormat berchakap dan memberi tahniah atas ucapan-nya yang baik itu dan ada yang membanggakan kebolehan dan kebijaksanaan pentadbiran Kerajaan Perikatan sebab perbelanjaan dalam tahun yang lalu berlebeh (surplus) berbelas juta ringgit.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mengambil peluang hendak berchakap dalam perkara ini. Walau bagaimana sa-kali pun dudok-nya masalah pendapatan chukai ia-itu hasil bagi Persekutuan Tanah Melayu dan dari situ pula di-jadikan asas untuk perbelanjaan negeri kita yang dalam Supply Bill ini kira² \$800 juta akan di-belanjakan untuk 1961, nasib Persekutuan Tanah Melayu sa-bahagian besar ada-lah bergantung hasil daripada perusahaan expot getah dan bijeh yang menjadi dua sumber kewangan bagi Persekutuan Tanah Melayu semenjak berpuluh tahun yang lalu. Perkara ini dengan tegas di-sebutkan dalam ucapan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan dan di-ulang pula dengan ucapan yang ringkas oleh Yang Berhormat Timbalan Perdana

Menteri kelmarin yang menyatakan harga getah jatuh dan naik, sedangkan nasib ra'ayat Persekutuan Tanah Melayu dan pembuat barang² di-luar negeri ada hubungan-nya pula dengan penjualan getah dari Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Jadi, dalam kenyataan yang benar ini nampak-lah kapada kita jika ada pun wang berlebeh yang kita terima dalam tahun 1960, yang di-banggakan itu, saya kata itu ada-lah kebetulan, kerana harga getah kebetulan naik. Dan dalam tahun 1961 pun kalau ada satu peristiwa yang besar berlaku seperti perang Korea dahulu, Malaya mungkin bernasib baik—tetapi ra'ayat yang chintakan keamanan tentu-lah tidak akan mendo'akan sa-barang peperangan seperti di-Korea itu. Dari masa dahulu kita sa-mata² bergantung kapada getah dan bijeh, sedangkan hasil penjualan getah dan bijeh itu ada terikat oleh beberapa tali ikatan sa-bagaimana yang telah di-terangkan dengan nyata tadi oleh Yang Berhormat Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham ia-itu Amerika sa-bagai pelanggan utama bagi negeri ini yang membeli getah dari Persekutuan Tanah Melayu banyak menggunakan benda daripada getah itu menggunakan getah tiruan 2/3 dan getah asli hanya 1/3.

Saya ingat dalam ucapan-nya membahathkan expenditure untuk tahun 1960 ya'ani pada akhir tahun 1959 ada mengatakan berkenaan pembelian getah oleh Amereka dari negeri ini. Jadi, nyata-lah kehidupan kita semata² bergantung kapada pembelian getah daripada Amereka dan British.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Yang Berhormat Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham seperti di-dalam ucapan-nya pada akhir tahun 1959; saya ingin juga mengulangi, supaya Persekutuan Tanah Melayu meng'ilan atau menggalakkan negeri² lain supaya suka membeli getah asli daripada Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Ini satu chara yang sudah sa-tahun lebeh telah di-beri pandangan dalam Dewan ini tetapi Kerajaan tidak bagitu mengambil perhatian sangat sa-hinggakan pada tahun ini sa-kali lagi Yang Berhormat itu mengulangi-nya.

Saya nampak, kita boleh menerima pada Peraktis-nya menjual getah asli

bukan sahaja kapada Amereka, pada British dan kawasan²-nya tetapi juga kapada sesiapa sahaja dalam dunia ini supaya dapat membeli getah kita dengan sa-berapa banyak-nya, kerana itu kita mahu mendapatkan wang penghasilan getah bagi kepentingan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Apa yang saya tidak mahu, jangan-lah banyak Diplomatik sahaja tetapi patut-lah Duta kita itu membuat perhubungan perdagangan getah.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, mengingatkan perlumbaan membuat getah ini dari beberapa negeri maka Persekutuan Tanah Melayu pada masa akan datang mungkin senentiasa di-ancham, maka saya fikir munasabah kita mengadakan susunan sa-bagai satu bangsa yang merdeka supaya kita tidak terbiar salama²-nya. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, hanya penjajah sahaja, baik daripada bangsa apa sa-kali pun membiarkan negeri jajahan mereka hidup menjadi chontoh dan puncha mengeluarkan hasil² barang mentah kapada negeri industry—negeri perusahaan, yang hanya untuk kema'moran kapada bangsa mereka sendiri. Sa-sudah Persekutuan Tanah Melayu merdeka Malaya maseh berjalan terus mengeluarkan barang² mentah, kita mesti-lah berikhtiar dengan keras-nya dalam perkara getah ini yang mana kita satu daripada negeri yang ada banyak mengeluarkan getah untuk perusahaan kilang² di-luar negeri yang mahu membeli getah atau barang² mentah dari Persekutuan Tanah Melayu ini mesti-lah menukar dasar mengadakan kilang² perusahaan getah dan lebeh baik hasil² perusahaan kita itu di-jual ka-luar negeri daripada hanya menjual bahan² mentah sahaja, sa-kali pun itu mungkin memakan masa.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, puncha mendapatkan chukai di-atas barang² yang masok ka-Persekutuan Tanah Melayu ini dalam mengenakan chukai-nya, selama ini tidak-lah saimbang di-antara chukai² yang di-kenakan kapada barang² yang di-masokkan dari Jerman dan Amerika dengan barang² dari England mithal-nya. Pada masa kita di-jajah saya rasa, ini adalah satu soal yang tidak dapat di-elakkan, apabila pehak yang berkenaan

memikirkan bahawa kemasokan barang² mereka dalam negeri ini mahu mendapat perlindungan chukai yang kechil. Tetapi sa-sudah kita merdeka apa sahaja barang² dari England juga chukai-nya hanya 10 peratus sahaja. Pada fahaman saya, sa-sabuah negeri yang merdeka, kita harus mengadakan perubahan yang berani dalam perkara ini sa-kali pun kita ahli Commonwealth, kita mesti insaf dan sedar. Kalau negeri yang banyak mendapat chukai tentu-lah kedudukan pendapatan-nya lebeh baik. Puncha dari barang² yang di-bawa masok bagi Persekutuan Tanah Melayu jika di-pandang pada hari ini di-anggarkan kira² \$37,473, tetapi kira-nya kita menghapuskan perbezaan chukai ini maka sudah tentu negeri ini mendapat chukai dan kejayaan yang lebeh bagi kema'amoran ra'ayat Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Jadi, sa-benar-nya, penjajah yang menjajah negeri kita dahulu itu mempertahankan hak mereka dari segi perniagaan di-mana mereka itu berada. Saya nampak sa-olah² maseh ada lagi penjajahan berlaku di-dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu ini sa-sudah pada lahir-nya British meninggalkan kaki-nya dari Persekutuan Tanah Melayu ini.

Saya akan berchakap dalam perkara detail nanti sechara dalam Jawatan-Kuasa, tetapi sekarang ini saya akan berchakap tentang perkara pokok sahaja. Kita boleh menchari kelebehan kewangan jikalau kita berani. Sa-bagai satu bangsa yang merdeka yang telah melepaskan rantai penjajah yang membelanggu lahir kita. Malang-nya kita tidak berani terhadap penjajah, chuma berani kapada ra'ayat sendiri, mithal-nya beberapa tahun dahulu pelayan² Hospital atau Attendant yang mendapat keistimewaan jikalau mereka itu sakit mendapat klas 2 kerana mereka berkhidmat dalam Hospital, tetapi bila Kerajaan mahu menjimatkan wang dan kerana mendapatkan wang maka Kerajaan telah mengadakan satu perentah supaya semua orang mesti turut scheme gaji mereka. Jadi pelayan² itu yang biasa-nya boleh dudok dalam klas 2 sekarang boleh klas 3 sahaja. Ini chara-nya yang Kerajaan mahu

menjimatkan wang atau mahu menambahkan wang dengan menekan kepada kedudukan ra'ayat sendiri, tetapi tidak sanggup menghadapi penjajah yang menekan kita dalam perkara yang besar ini.

Saya minta supaya Kerajaan kita lebih berani dalam menghadapi penjajah dan saya percaya Ahli² Dewan ini dan juga ra'ayat² Persekutuan Tanah Melayu akan berdiri di-belakang Kerajaan. Sebarang gerakan bagi melepaskan bangsa kita dalam erti kata yang sa-benar²-nya merdeka, dalam politik, ekonomi dan sa-bagai-nya. Satu daripada usaha² Kerajaan yang disebutkan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri kewangan dalam ucapan-nya ia-lah mengenai Ranchangan Kerajaan memajukan usaha perintis sa-hingga sekarang telah banyak perusahaan² yang diberi taraf perintis dengan mendapat perlindungan, dengan mana mendapat kebebasan dari cukai Income Tax selama 5 tahun. Pada dasar-nya bukanlah saya menentang seperti yang telah kita ketahui bahawa pada masa dahulu tidak-lah kita menentang dasar-nya dalam perkara ini, akan tetapi saya tidak tahu kerana menggalakkan perusahaan perintis yang kita terpaksa melonggarkan peratoran Income Tax dengan di-lepaskan kepada mereka selama 5 tahun daripada membayar cukai pendapatan. Entah berapa puloh million cukai Income Tax yang Kerajaan tidak dapati kerana ada kemudahan² yang di-beri kepada perusahaan perintis ini pada hal saya faham Persekutuan Tanah Melayu memang diinginkan oleh sesiapa pun kerana terjamin keamanan-nya dan mempunyai Kerajaan yang kukuh maka saya percaya dan saya faham banyak negeri² yang ingin masuk—yang ingin mahu menanam modal, sa-kali pun tidak-lah sampai begitu sa-kali kita melonggarkan peluang² ini. Dengan memberi taraf perusahaan perintis ini saya nampak lebih banyak modal dari luar negeri yang telah dapat taraf perintis itu akan tetapi yang dari dalam negeri sa-kali pun di-minta ada yang tak dapat. Jadi ini harus di-kaji—saya tidak mahu keritik, membongkar satu demi satu akan tetapi saya percaya Ahli² Yang

Berhormat dan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan mengetahui dalam hal ini seperti perusahaan Dunlop Tyre mithal-nya, dan seterusnya. Oleh kerana terlanjur tadi sa-orang Ahli Yang Berhormat saudara Nik Hassan ada berchakap mengenai orang² Melayu dalam lapangan perniagaan. Nyata daripada apa yang di-chakapkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat tadi bahawa dalam kedudukan ekonomi dalam negeri ini terang sa-kali tidak ada persaimbangan dan sa-kali pun telah bertahun² kita mendengar suara² yang lemak manis begitu dan bagini, tetapi hasil-nya saya pinjam apa yang di-katakan oleh saudara itu ia-itu bukan bertambah baik, tetapi bertambah merusut ka-belakang. Saya nampak sa-bagaimana shor yang kita dengar konon-nya warga negara dari keturunan China sedia memberi peluang kepada orang² Melayu menjadi pelateh² dalam perusahaan mereka, menjadi kuli, tukang timbang satu dua kati tetapi untong kepada mereka sa-bagai satu peluang mendapatkan kuli murah—itu pun nampak-nya tidak menjadi kenyataan bagi diperaktikkan dalam negeri Persekutuan Tanah Melayu ini.

Saya nampak kalau dengan itu sa-haja jaminan² yang di-keluarkan dari ucapan pemimpin² baik atas nama jawatan Menteri atau pun bukan tidak-lah akan menolong dan menggalak warga negara yang berketurunan Melayu ka-arrah kemajuan dalam lapangan perniagaan sa-bagaimana yang di-maksudkan menjadi saimbang di-antara warga negara dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu. Jikalau mahu di-jalankan saya mengeshorkan untuk menyama kedudukan ra'ayat Persekutuan yang kira² 5 juta semua-nya maka tentu-lah kebanyakan orang² yang di-katakan warga negara itu keturunan dari bangsa Melayu maka mengapa-kah Kerajaan tidak mahu menimbangkan supaya tiap² perusahaan perintis dan sa-bagai-nya yang di-buka dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu di-sharatkan kepada mereka supaya mereka mengambil pekerja²-nya jangan banyak asal jangan kurang daripada 50 peratus pun jadi-lah—bukan hanya untuk menjadi buroh menyapu sampah, menjadi driver atau membawa kereta, tetapi biar-lah sebarang pekerjaan dalam

segala perusahaan dalam negeri ini daripada Penolong Manager sampai kepada kerani, sampai kepada buruh kasar jua.

Ini ada-lah satu ubat yang paling mujrab jikalau Kerajaan mahu mengadakan satu peratoran tetap menolong kepada orang² Melayu dengan memberi 50 per cent dalam segala perusahaan dalam negeri ini daripada setinggi² sa-hingga serendah²-nya supaya mereka dapat pekerjaan. Mereka mendapat pengetahuan dan pengalaman dalam mentadbirkan perusahaan dan patut-lah Kerajaan mengadakan satu peratoran merupakan undang².

Tidak-lah bererti dengan chara itu merampas hak kaum lain, kerana 50 peratus warga negara Persekutuan ini ia-lah keturunan daripada bangsa Melayu. Maka 50 peratus yang saya minta itu tidak banyak dan tidak merampas hak sa-siapa. Jika tidak ada perlindungan maka akan nyata-lah tidak akan memberi manfa'at kepada warga negara keturunan daripada bangsa Melayu menjayakan perdagangan dan perusahaan dan mempelajari chara berniaga dan menghadapi segala masaalah yang mengenai dunia perniagaan.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pada 'am-nya saya suka menyatakan apa yang di-chakapkan oleh Yang Berhormat Nik Hassan tadi saya menyokong kuat supaya Kerajaan mengambil berat mengenai dengan RIDA. Biar-lah RIDA itu benar² menjadi tempat tumpuan yang boleh menyelamatkan dan meminjamkan bantuan modal kepada perusahaan keturunan daripada bangsa Melayu. Usaha RIDA sa-lama ini hanya sa-bagai "melepaskan batok di-tangga". Saya boleh memberi satu chontoh kepada sa-orang yang menjalankan perusahaan membuat barang² alatan rumah daripada meshen telah mengadu kepada saya kata-nya, dia telah meminjam wang daripada RIDA untuk membeli meshen memotong kayu, sa-sudah pinjaman itu di-jelaskan dia membuat permintaan yang kedua hendak meminjam lebeh kurang \$10,000 untuk membeli satu jenis meshen lain untuk memotong kayu kerana hendak membuat perkakas rumah seperti meja, kerusi dan lain².

Apa yang di-jawab oleh RIDA ia-lah "you can stand by yourself" awak boleh berdiri di-atas kaki sendiri, bantuan tidak mustahak di-beri. RIDA satu badan yang di-harap²kan itu telah bertindak dengan chara yang sangat² di-kesalkan dalam menghadapi pembangunan ekonomi orang Melayu khusus-nya.

Saya harap dengan pandangan yang saya beri ini—bukan dengan tujuan yang burok, tetapi satu pandangan untuk membena Persekutuan Tanah Melayu supaya pehak Kerajaan mengambil perhatian yang berat untuk menimbangkan dengan sa-baik²-nya.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ini-lah sahaja perchakapan saya dalam membahathkan dasar ucapan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan, dan apabila sampai dalam jawatan-kuasa saya akan berchakap satu² persatu dalam perkara ini.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari): Mr. President, Sir, I must thank Honourable Members for the various comments that they have made on the work and policy of my Ministry. Sir, anyone who comes into my office in the Ministry will notice that I have three trays on my table—one is the "in" tray, another the "out" tray, and the third tray—perhaps Honourable Members will be curious to know it—is the "L.B.W." tray. Honourable Members who have been playing cricket, or have been cricketers, and I was one before, would know the meaning L.B.W., but I am not using the term "L.B.W." as a cricketer. In this case it means "Let the Blighter Wait". (*Laughter*). Sir, I can assure you that I shall try my best to avoid placing the comments made by Honourable Members in that "L.B.W." tray.

There has been a lot of comments on the future of natural rubber *vis-a-vis* synthetic. I had thought that it would be better for me to leave this to be answered by the expert on rubber, my Honourable colleague the Minister of Finance, who is a most out-spoken man, but on second thought I think that it is only fair that I should say something and leave the rest to

him. Sir, I must emphasise the fact that Government is fully aware of the situation with regard to competition by synthetic. As Honourable Members are aware, 1960 has been a year when the average price of natural rubber exceeded \$1.00 per pound, and with the considerably higher price of natural rubber the percentage of its consumption in the United States of America has fallen to the 30 per cent level for the first time. Whilst there are certain factors in a specific country which influence the choice between natural and synthetic—for example, marketing and distribution practices, grading, quality, etc.—the major influence will almost certainly come from the overall competitive position of the two products, that is supply, quality, prices of natural and synthetic rubbers, and world demand for rubber as a whole. We are, therefore, not unaware that in the coming years the competition between natural and synthetic will hinge entirely on the availability of natural rubber at prices competitive with synthetic.

The reason why synthetic plants are being built in Western Europe, Japan and other industrialised countries, is that partly the price of natural rubber has been higher than synthetic, and partly because the natural rubber supply has not been forthcoming to meet the rise in world consumption. These are factors which have to be borne in mind, when you read in the papers of the establishment of new synthetic plants. We are not unaware of this fact. In fact, both the Government and the industry as early as 1953 have seen the gloomy threats of synthetic rubber in the horizon, and our vast replanting programme, which we have embarked upon since then, is one answer. The second answer is, of course, the intensification of our research efforts. The Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham was until recently on the Malayan Rubber Replanting Board, and he must be aware of the steps taken to put our natural rubber industry on a competitive footing. He must have known that we have consistently been putting our propaganda

across to consumer countries by way of various publicity measures through the publicity agencies of the Natural Rubber Development Board. The setting up of technical advisory services in the U.S.A., and later on, in other countries, is to counteract the "synthetic-minded" manufacturers; in the same way, we have got to counteract the "synthetic-minded" Members. *(Laughter)*.

Sir, it is rather unfair on the part of my learned friend Dato' Thuraisingham to say that the Government has not given any sense of urgency to the need to give publicity to natural rubber and to find new markets for our natural rubber. Every effort is being made not only to find new markets but also to make a survey of consumption trends and those countries which offer great potentialities. The Honourable Dato' refers to the Jute Board in India, the Tea Board in Ceylon, etc., but he seems to forget that we have in Malaya the same organ for publicity in the agencies of the Malayan Rubber Fund Board.

The Honourable Dato' has again referred to his pet hobby horse—the sending of an overseas mission. The Honourable Dato' is aware that his proposal has been given very careful consideration in the Malayan Rubber Fund Board, and it was agreed that sending such a mission overseas would be, apart from any other reason, quite expensive.

Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham: I do not think so. *(Laughter)*.

Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari: It is a matter of opinion, Sir. *(Laughter)*. Besides, any information required in respect of member countries of the International Rubber Study Group could be obtained through the I.R.S.G. Secretariat. Doubts were expressed as to whether such a mission could obtain much information in countries behind the iron and bamboo curtains. For these reasons, the Board agreed that the first step would be to undertake a survey of the natural rubber requirements and consumption patterns of

those countries which offer potentialities for expanding use of natural rubber, e.g., India, Pakistan, the Latin American countries and some Western European countries. A good example of these countries is India. Malaya provides India with the major proportion of her requirements of natural rubber and that there is every good chance that natural rubber imports into India will be greater in the years ahead. India is also one of those countries where synthetic rubber is beginning to be produced and as long as natural rubber is freely available at prices competitive with synthetic rubber there is every likelihood of increasing quantities of natural rubber to be imported by India. Current opinion in India is that if more natural rubber is going to be available at competitive prices, then it is unlikely that further synthetic rubber plants will be set up. And I would like to tell Honourable Members that the question of inviting a mission from India to come to this country or, alternatively, a mission from here to India is being actively considered in my Ministry.

On the point raised by the Honourable Enche' T. H. Tan about moving the Headquarters of the Natural Rubber Bureau away from the U.S.A., I wish to point out a factual error. The Head Office of the Natural Rubber Bureau (or what used to be called the Natural Rubber Development Board) is in London, and not in Washington.

Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham: Why? *(Laughter)*.

Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari: Sir, I will explain that later. *(Laughter)*. What we do have are offices of the Natural Rubber Bureau in various parts of the world, viz., in U.S.A., Canada, South Africa, Malaya, New Zealand and Australia. Plans are in hand to set up offices in India and Pakistan. What is more important is that the Natural Rubber Bureau is now embarking on providing technical services to manufactures. A start has been made in U.S.A. and it is hoped that this will be followed in other countries.

I do not think I can agree with the Honourable Enche' T. H. Tan that

because the percentage of natural rubber consumption is failing in America, we must withdraw our Natural Rubber Bureau office from there. I would consider this a defeatist attitude; in fact, what the Malayan Rubber Fund Board is planning to do is to wage a more intensive battle with synthetic on the spot. It is hoped that besides the one office in Washington, we will have another one in Akron which is the centre of the rubber world in America. The Government is also aware that only quality and price would make natural rubber competitive with synthetic, but our market organisation must be such as to be acceptable to international trading circles throughout the world. In order to build up international confidence in the stability of our rubber market it is the intention of the Government to establish a rubber exchange, which should be organised here in Malaya on sound lines. Active steps have been taken in this direction and it is hoped that very shortly the necessary legislation and machinery will be ready.

Now, I would also like to reply to the two other points raised by the Honourable Enche' T. H. Tan. With regard to rural electrification by the Central Electricity Board, I should like to tell the House that rural electrification is one of the major policies of the C.E.B. and it is the intention of the Federal Government, in co-operation with the State Governments, to go ahead with rural electrification as speedily as possible. The Honourable Enche' T. H. Tan quoted the example of Penang where rural electrification has gone very far ahead. I must say that this is entirely due to the initiative of the Penang State Government, and if the other State Governments, like Kelantan and Trengganu, were to follow the example of Penang, I am sure we will soon have electricity in our rural areas.

The Honourable Enche' T. H. Tan enquired as to the target date when the paper mill will start operation, and I can assure him that active consideration is being given and it is expected

that a definite decision one way or the other will be arrived at in the very near future.

With regard to the Honourable Member who is an expert on copra, I would like to say that he himself is a member of the working party, and he will recollect that the working party of the coconut advisory committee was appointed in November last year to formulate a replanting scheme for coconut small holdings and to consider in what manner the scheme should be financed. Pending the findings of this working committee party, an estimate of \$10 million has been requested for inclusion in the forthcoming Five Year Development Plan which will be presented to this Honourable House some time next month.

Kemudian saya suka, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, menjawab hujah² yang di-bawa oleh Yang Berhormat Enche' Da Abdul Jalil di-atas dasar taraf perintis kepada perusahaan baharu dalam negeri ini. Kata Ahli Yang Berhormat itu ada-lah dasar ini menguntungkan orang² kaya. Saya suka tegaskan di-sini bahawa dasar perusahaan perintis ini termasuk segala perlindungan yang di-beri kepada perusahaan² itu ada-lah di-jalankan oleh semua negara yang bebas dan merdeka, bukan sahaja yang jauh dari negeri kita bahkan yang berjiran dengan kita, tetapi pehak kita telah mendapat kejayaan yang memuaskan dalam masa yang singkat ia-lah di-sebabkan bahawa negeri kita ini bernasib baik mempunyai apa yang kita katakan ketenteraman politik atau political stability yang agak lebih jikalau di-bandingkan dengan negara² yang berjiran dengan kita. Ketenteraman politik ini ia-lah menjadi satu faktor yang terpenting sa-kali dalam usaha sa-suatu negara untuk memajukan perdagangan dan perusahaan dalam sa-sabuah negara itu, dan inilah kelebihan negara kita yang di-bawah Kerajaan Perikatan. Kalau sa-sabuah negara itu semacam yang selalu menghadapi krisis, atau semacam negeri Trengganu, barangkali tidak ada siapa pun hendak membuat perusahaan di-sana. (*Ketawa*). Oleh

sebab kita bernasib baik, kalau kita berharap hendak menchari churi ahli itu dudok dalam parti lain untuk menchukopi bilangan parti kita itu tentu-lah tidak ada perusahaan yang mahu datang dalam negeri kita.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga telah mengatakan bahawa Kerajaan menaikkan chukai untuk menyenangkan orang² kaya. Ini ada-lah satu tuduhan yang tidak berasas, kerana tiap² tindakan yang di-jalankan oleh sa-sabuah Kerajaan saperti mana Kerajaan Perikatan ada-lah penoh bertanggung jawab. Ini ia-lah dengan tujuan semata² untuk menchari jalan bagaimana kita dapat melebehkan kesenangan bagi ra'ayat jelata semua-nya. Tiap² negara yang telah menjalankan dasar perusahaan terpaksa-lah berkehendakkan pengorbanan dari ra'ayat bagi permulaan-nya. Saya tujukan satu atau dua chontoh bagi menerangkan maksud saya, umpama-nya rokok "Players" buatan England. Kata-lah rokok "Players" di-buat dan di-usahakan serta di-bungkus di-England. Dia datang ka-Malaya sa-jauh 8,000 batu sampai di-sini, tetapi rokok yang kita beli di-sini harga-nya 45 sen satu bungkus, tetapi rokok sa-macham itu juga kotak-nya kalau kita beli di-England harga-nya lebih kurang 90 sen—dua kali ganda atau dua kali double. (*Ketawa*). Jadi di-sini 45 sen di-sana 90 sen—rokok itu juga, dan ta'kan-lah orang² Eropah atau Inggeris itu bodoh. Apa fasal rokok di-Malaya lebih murah daripada rokok yang di-buat di-England sana? Sebab-nya mereka sedar jikalau mereka itu berkehendakkan barang² perusahaan mereka di-hantar ka-seberang laut untuk menchari foreign exchange dan untuk meluaskan perniagaan mereka itu maka terpaksa-lah mereka itu mengorbankan sa-banyak 45 sen di-tambah untuk membeli rokok semacham kita dapati sekarang. Begitu juga saperti harga motor-car, umpama-nya kebanyakan Ahli² Yang Berhormat di-sini ada motor-car. Kalau motor-car itu hendak di-beli di-England barangkali lebih sa-tengah harga daripada apa yang kita dapati di-sini. Jadi itu-lah dasar perusahaan. Tiap² ra'ayat itu terpaksa membuat

pengorbanan daripada satu masa ka-satu masa untuk menjayakan perusaha-an yang di-jalankan oleh negara itu. Bagitu juga barangkali Ahli Yang Berhormat itu tidak tahu macham mana camera kalau kita beli buatan Jepon, kalau beli di-Hong Kong atau beli di-Singapura umpama-nya lebeh murah lagi daripada kita beli di-negeri Jepon. Bagitu-lah dasar perusahaan sa-sabuah negara, tetapi dalam pada itu pun ada pengorbanan yang terpaksa di-buat—memang ada keuntongan yang kita dapati daripada industrialisation atau pun dasar perusahaan.

Selain daripada chukai² pendapatan sunggoh pun kadang² tidak kira chukai pendapatan selama dua tiga atau lima tahun, tetapi Kerajaan akan dapat chukai pendapatan company daripada sharikat itu sa-lepas masa yang di-tetapkan. Kemudian daripada itu anak² negeri kita pula dapat mempelajari ilmu² teknik yang mereka tak boleh dapat jikalau sakira-nya tidak kita menjalankan perusahaan ini. Di-samping itu ada banyak lagi keuntongan mithal-nya kerja² semenjak kita menjalakan dasar perusahaan kita dan kita dapat mencari pekerjaan kapada 6,138 orang yang bekerja dalam sharikat² atau gudang² yang di-dirikan di-bawah undang² perusahaan.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga telah bertanya berkenaan dengan modal tempatan yang telah mengambil bahagian dalam perusahaan. Saya suka memberitahu di-sini bahawa setakat yang kita jalankan ini sa-banyak 11 barangkali dekat dengan 12 juta ringgit modal wang yang di-keluarkan ia-lah datang-nya daripada Tanah Melayu sendiri, chuma 14 juta ringgit lebeh sahaja yang datang daripada luar negeri ia-itu tidak banyak bedza-nya \$14 juta dengan \$12 juta jikalau di-bandingkan dengan modal dari luar negeri. Maka tak boleh siapa yang menudoh bahawa kita menjalankan dasar ini ia-lah chuma hendak menguntongkan modal yang datang dari luar negeri. Memang dasar Kerajaan kita lebeh² lagi kita suka satu² sharikat itu ia-lah dengan jalan perkongsian yang ada kala-nya 51 per cent daripada Tanah Melayu dan 49 per

cent daripada luar negeri atau pun 50-50. Itu-lah yang di-utamakan dari pehak Kementerian saya bagi memberi taraf perintis kapada gudang² perniagaan yang datang ka-negeri ini.

Penghabisan sa-kali saya suka menjawab kawan saya Yang Berhormat Nik Hassan yang telah memberi berbagai² shor berkenaan dengan memajukan orang² Melayu dalam lapangan perusahaan dan perdagangan. Di-atas shor² itu saya ucapkan terima kaseh. Saya berchadang dalam bulan February ini hendak mengadakan satu persidangan khas dalam mana saya akan menjemput Menteri² Besar dan juga Ketua² Menteri supaya dapat berunding dengan Kerajaan Persekutuan ia-itu bagaimana dapat kita menjalankan dasar memajukan orang² Melayu ini dengan lebeh tegas lagi. Umpama-nya saperti yang di-sebutkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat tadi berkenaan dengan lesen "saw-mill". Mengeluarkan lesen "saw-mill" ini ada-lah dalam tangan Kerajaan Negeri. Sangat-lah susah bagi Kerajaan Persekutuan untok memberi perintah kapada Kerajaan Negeri membuat sa-suatu apa yang kita kehendaki, tetapi saya perchaya dengan jalan perundingan kita dapat membuat policy yang tegas yang dapat di-gunakan oleh seluroh negeri, sa-kurang²-nya negeri² yang di-bawah pemerentahan Parti Perikatan. Itu-lah sahaja, saya ucapkan terima kaseh.

The Assistant Minister of Rural Development (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Yang Berhormat Nik Hassan telah menegor tentang dasar peruntokan wang kapada Kerajaan Negeri berkenaan dengan ranchangan kemajuan luar bandar. Saya suka mengambil kesempatan ini menerangkan bahawa dalam "Buku Merah" memang telah di-tetapkan satu polisi berkenaan dengan yang di-katakan "Financial Policy" yang telah di-chatitkan dengan terang-nya dalam "Buku Merah" itu. Jikalau di-semak dan di-halusi polisi itu kita boleh tahu bahawa mana² Kerajaan Negeri yang hendak bantuan wang daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan berkenaan dengan kemajuan luar bandar, maka Kerajaan Negeri itu

mesti-lah terlebih dahulu menunjokkan dengan sunggoh²-nya bahawa negeri itu hendak mengusaha dan membelanjakan dengan wang Kerajaan-nya sendiri terlebih dahulu, jika ada apa² kekurangan daripada Kerajaan Negeri itu baharu-lah Kerajaan Persekutuan membantu dan menolong kepada Kerajaan Negeri itu.

Yang Berhormat itu menyebutkan berkenaan dengan RIDA dan beliau bertanya bila-kah penyata yang dibuat oleh Mr. Fiennes itu dapat dikeluarkan untuk pengetahuan orang ramai. Saya suka menyebutkan di-sini semenjak Mr. Fiennes membuat penyata-nya, kita telah dapat peluang menjemput sa-orang pakar ia-itu Mr. Cohen untuk membuat penyata berkenaan dengan RIDA dan perjalanannya. Dan sa-lepas itu kita telah menubuhkan Jawatan-Kuasa yang dinamakan "Working Committee" dan "Working Committee" ini telah pun menyemak penyata Mr. Cohen berkenaan dengan chadangan hendak mengadakan Bank Ra'ayat di-bawah RIDA. Dan sa-lepas daripada itu kita telah dapat peluang pula menjemput sa-orang pakar dari India ia-itu Dr. J. E. Stepanek yang mana ia juga telah membuat penyata. Dan sekarang kita telah pun melantek satu Jawatan-Kuasa yang di-Pengerusikan oleh Enche' Jamil bin Rais, dan kita perchaya tidak berapa lama lagi Jawatan-Kuasa ini menyusun kerja RIDA sa-bagaimana yang dikehendakki oleh polisi yang di-tetapkan oleh Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar.

Sekarang saya suka hendak menjawab tegoran yang di-datangkan oleh Yang Berhormat Enche' Amaluddin. Yang Berhormat itu membawa satu chontoh dengan mengatakan bahawa RIDA dalam usaha-nya hendak menolong orang Melayu dalam perusahaan kecil hanya sa-bagai "melepaskan batok di-tangga". Chontoh itu mengatakan RIDA tidak hendak memberi pinjam pada kali yang kedua kepada satu² permintaan yang telah pun meminta satu pinjaman dan katanya, perusahaan itu telah berjaya. Di-sini saya suka hendak menegaskan

kalau kita sifatkan perkara itu "discrimination" kita tidak "discrimination" kepada orang Melayu sahaja. Kita memang menjalankan polisi ini, dan saya mengaku perkara ini memang membangkit pada semua orang. Di-Muar, ada satu permintaan daripada orang China, ia dahulu telah meminjam wang kerana hendak berternak babi, kita beri pinjaman kepada-nya, dan perusahaan babi-nya telah pun berjaya. Kemudian, ia hendak minta pinjam kali yang kedua. Pihak RIDA mengatakan, nampak-nya sekarang awak sudah berjaya, dan kita perchaya jikalau awak bersunggoh² lagi tentu boleh dapat kejayaan yang besar. Bagitu juga-lah dengan sa-orang Melayu yang membuat perusahaan balak yang telah dibangkitkan oleh Yang Berhormat Enche' Amaluddin tadi. Ini menunjokkan bahawa kita tidak hendak "discriminate" sa-siapa. Tetapi, kita perchaya bagi hendak memperbaiki satu² perusahaan yang di-jalankan oleh sa-saorang itu tidak guna-lah, kata orang kita "spoon feed" dia sangat. Kalau ia betul² tidak menchukupi wang atau modal, kita patut tolong, tetapi setelah kita tolong di-dapati ia boleh berjaya, kita biarkan ia berdiri diatas kaki-nya sendiri dengan ke'azaman dan semangat dia hendak menjayakan perusahaan dan perniagaannya sendiri. Saya perchaya dengan pertolongan yang kita berikan itu tentu boleh berjaya.

Saya suka hendak memberi tahu bahawa hendak memajukan perusahaan tidak-lah sa-mata² bergantung kepada modal. Kebanyakan orang kita orang Melayu khas-nya perchaya kalau hendak maju dalam perusahaan kita hendak modal ia-itu wang. Yang sa-benar-nya, kalau kita hendak memajukan satu² perusahaan soal yang besarnya ia-lah soal experience, business acumen, good management dan pasaran. Itu sebab-nya pihak RIDA mengusahakan bahagian latehan (training) dan juga kita memberi nasihat kepada orang yang hendak menjalankan perusahaan. Sebab kita tidak perchaya dengan memberi modal orang kita boleh berjaya dalam perusahaan atau perniagaan, melainkan mereka mesti ada pengalaman,

itu-lah yang mustahak-nya. Jadi, saya suka hendak memberi keterangan yang lanjut dan menapikan tuduhan bahawa RIDA membuat kerja sa-bagai "melepaskan batok di-tangga" itu ia-itu kita mengikut dasar baharu yang hendak memajukan perusahaan kechil di-kawasan² luar bandar, sebab kita perchaya dengan jalan memajukan perusahaan kechil di-luar bandar itu dapat-lah orang² yang dudok di-kawasan luar bandar itu menambah mata pencharian-nya.

Dalam soal perusahaan luar bandar kita bahagikan kepada dua bahagian yang besar ia-itu "small industries" dan "cottage industries". Sa-tengah orang menyangka perkara ini membazir sahaja, yang sa-benar-nya kita memberi peluang kepada mereka menchari nafkah, menchari wang dalam masa lapang (spare time) tetapi yang lebeh besar-nya lagi RIDA sedang menjalankan sekarang ini ia-lah hendak memajukan "small industries" yang mana di-usahakan oleh RIDA sendiri. RIDA sedar bahawa kalau di-beri modal kepada orang kita mereka tidak boleh menjayakan perusahaan kechil di-kawasan luar bandar, sebab itu RIDA di-beri tugas ia-itu di-tempat² yang sharikat kerjasama tidak boleh menjayakan-nya, RIDA sendiri menjadi pelupor dalam perusahaan kechil itu, ia-itu RIDA menjalankan perusahaan itu sendiri dan sa-telah berjaya RIDA akan meminta supaya sharikat kerjasama di-tubuhkan. Mudah²an sharikat kerjasama ini dapat menerima perusahaan yang telah di-majukan oleh RIDA itu dengan jalan beransor². Di-samping RIDA memajukan perusahaan itu RIDA akan melateh pegawai sharikat kerjasama dalam soal mentadbir (menagement) dan segala²-nya. Saya perchaya sa-telah sharikat kerjasama itu menerima perusahaan yang telah di-pelupori oleh RIDA dengan pegawai-nya yang sangat mahir d a l a m perkara "management" dan "marketing" maka dapat-lah ra'ayat sendiri menjalankan perusahaan kechil di-kawasan luar bandar dengan lebeh jaya-nya. Tetapi malang-nya, polisi ini baharu sahaja di-jalankan, sebab pada masa yang sudah² ia-itu sa-belum Kementerian

Pembangunan Luar Bandar di-adakan, RIDA menjalankan tugas yang sangat besar. Pendek kata, segala yang mengikut undang² yang di-berikan kepada RIDA, RIDA boleh buat. Jadi, RIDA pada masa itu membuat jalan, jambatan, titian dan segala²-nya. Pada rengkas-nya, RIDA pada masa itu "Jack of all trades" sa-hinggakan RIDA tidak dapat menumpukan segala usaha dan tenaga untuk memajukan perusahaan². Kita memang sedar di-atas kelemahan dan keburukan itu, sebab itu-lah kita menubuhkan Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar, dan sekarang ini kebanyakan daripada kerja² RIDA di-jalankan oleh Kementerian sendiri, dan RIDA sa-bagai satu cabang atau satu pechahan daripada Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar yang hanya menumpukan kerja untuk hendak memajukan "rural industries" dan memajukan "processing" dan "marketing".

Dan saya perchaya dengan chara, arahan dan dengan susunan yang baharu yang di-bawa oleh Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar pada masa akan datang dapat-lah kita dengan chepat menjayakan perusahaan kechil di-kawasan luar bandar dan untuk menolong orang di-kawasan luar bandar, dan dengan ini saya perchaya tuduhan bahawa RIDA menjalankan usaha sa-bagai "melepaskan batok di-tangga" tidak dapat di-bangkitkan lagi. Sa-takat ini-lah sahaja yang dapat saya chakapkan.

The Minister of Transport (Enche' Sardon bin Haji Jubir): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka hendak menjawab sedikit berkenaan dengan ucapan Yang Berhormat sahabat saya Enche' Nik Hassan berkenaan dengan pengangkutan. Saya suka terangkan di-sini, semenjak sa-tahun saya memegang jawatan Kementerian Pengangkutan ini, saya dapati banyak-lah kemajuan² daripada tahun² yang sudah. Saya perchaya Yang Berhormat itu sendiri telah pun membacha surat khabar, keterangan² bilangan lori², bilangan bus, bilangan taxi. Tetapi yang di-soalkan di-sini, jalan² belum lagi di-tentukan oleh Kerajaan yang mana di-untokkan kepada orang Melayu. Dasar ini telah di-putuskan waktu Yang

Berhormat itu sendiri menjadi Ahli Legislative Council dan dasar itu terang, mana² jalan yang baharu dibuat—permohonan daripada orang Melayu itu akan dapat keistimewaan. Tetapi buat jalan yang telah ada di-jalankan bus hari ini ya'ani bus² yang di-punya'i oleh bukan orang Melayu sa-kira-nya hendak di-tambah bilangan bus atau hendak menambah bilangan kali bus² itu lalu lalang; hendak-lah mereka mengambil modal Melayu. Oleh kerana itu, saya menyeru kepada orang Melayu hendak-nya menyatu padukan segala kompani² sama ada bus-nya atau taxi-nya, lori-nya yang kecil² itu biar di-jadikan besar, modal-nya besar dan perniagaan yang kecil² itu di-satukan dengan modal yang sedia ada itu. Apabila perniagaan² pengangkutan bangsa asing, mengikut dasar kita, di-bukakan modal-nya kepada bangsa² Melayu dan daripada modal² kompani Melayu ini boleh-lah di-rundingkan dan di-terima. Ini telah pun saya jalankan dengan sedaya upaya di-sebelah Utara, barangkali Yang Berhormat Enche' Hashim bin Awang pun mengetahui hal ini.

Berkenaan dengan kurang bilangan taxi² atau kereta² sewa, barangkali di-Kota Bharu saya tahu, soal bilangan taxi² ini di-tetapkan oleh sa-buah Lembaga Penasehat yang menyiasat taxi² dalam negeri itu dan Lembaga itu akan menghantarkan ka-Persekutuan dan saya sa-bagai Menteri Pengangkutan sedia menimbangkan dan menerima apa jua akuan² daripada negeri Kelantan terutama-nya meminta lebih bilangan taxi, sila-lah siasat penduduk negeri itu terlebih dahulu.

Di-sebutkan juga tambahan licence² di-Kuala Lumpur ini. Patut juga, kalau dahulu barangkali penduduk² berjumlah 20, 30 ribu tinggal di-bandar Kuala Lumpur, sekarang 300,000 berma'ana 10 kali ganda. Kalau dahulu ada 10 buah taxi berma'ana berapa banyak ganda lagi taxi ada pada masa sekarang ini. Jadi, kereta² sewa ini tidak-lah dikeluarkan dengan suka hati kerana itu akan menjadi rugi terutama sa-kali bagi orang² Melayu yang menchari nafkah daripada sabuah licence taxi-nya. Taxi di-keluarkan di-satu² tempat yang bilangan penduduk-nya tidak

kurang daripada 2,000 orang penduduk supaya perniagaan taxi di-tempat itu dapat untung.

Bagitu juga berkenaan dengan lori, kompani Melayu-lah yang dapat keistimewaan. Apabila telah disabitkan dalam siasatan Majlis Pelesenan itu dan di-dapati ada kekurangan lori² yang membawa barang² dagang itu apabila ada permohonan dari kompani² Melayu dan apabila ada kekurangan lori² sewa ini, baharu-lah di-timbangkan dan di-bagikan keutamaan kepada orang Melayu.

Sa-lain daripada itu, saya suka menjawab ucapan Yang Berhormat sahabat saya Enche' T. H. Tan berkenaan dengan Port Swettenham. Sa-lagi North Klang State Project ini, ya'ani pelabohan yang besar di-Telok Klang yang ada itu belum di-sempurnakan lagi, yang di-harap akan siap pada akhir tahun 1963. Maka dengan sebab itu-lah pelabohan itu tidak dapat menerima kapal² yang besar berlaboh dan memunggah barang² atau menerima barang². Tetapi hari ini juga pehak Swettenham Board dan juga pegawai² daripada Swettenham Board dan saya sendiri ada-lah berikhtiar serta membuat peruntukan lebih \$600,000 untuk membeli segala alat² supaya lekas di-sempurnakan berkenaan dengan punggah dan memuat barang². Kami juga menguntokkan hampir² \$300,000 barangkali untuk membuat tambatan di-mana kapal² itu boleh berhenti dan memunggah barang² di-kapal² yang kecil itu. Jadi, saya harap-lah Ahli² Yang Berhormat Rumah ini, kami memang-lah mengusahakan sunggoh² Pelabohan Port Swettenham ini dan akan menerima beberapa banyak bilangan tan² sa-kali pun pelabohan ini tidak dapat menerima lebih daripada yang ada pada hari ini di-dalam memunggah barang². Jadi, saya harap Ahli² Yang Berhormat tidak akan kuatir, sa-berapa lekas-nya kita akan usahakan pelabohan Port Swettenham itu, insha-allah banyak kapal lagi akan datang ka-pelabohan itu.

The Minister of Health and Social Welfare (Dato' Ong Yoke Lin): Mr. President, Sir, two Honourable Members have referred to the subject of family planning and the work of the Family Planning Associations in this country. As Honourable Members know, it is Government's policy to encourage voluntary organisations in the fields of social welfare work, and I fully appreciate the very good work that Family Planning Associations are doing. I would like to pay a very warm tribute to the many men and women who sacrifice a great deal of their time in carrying on this very useful work.

I have received an application from the Federation Family Planning Association for a grant of \$100,000 and this application is receiving the sympathetic consideration of the Government.

The Honourable Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus has referred to the matter of attendants in hospitals who used to be warded in second class wards before—I believe, he said before Merdeka—but are now warded in third class wards only. Sir, there is a General Order governing this sort of matters. Entitlement of privileges in respect of Government employees is laid down in General Orders, Cap. F, and employees of the Health Ministry, or Medical Department before, have an additional privilege over other Government servants in that they would not be charged hospital fees or ward charges, when they are warded in hospitals, whereas other Government servants are charged ward charges. Under this General Order, they are not entitled to be warded in a class higher than that to which they would normally be eligible according to their salaries.

The Audit Department has queried the authority of the Health Ministry in admitting student nurses, who are entitled to second class wards, into first class wards. I admit that this was the case in the past, but recently this has been the subject of an audit query, and this matter was discussed at meetings of the Public Accounts

Committee. This General Order is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Establishment Office or the Principal Establishment Officer, and the Federal Establishment Office would not support the case of affording extra ward privileges to staff of the Health Ministry over which they are entitled: the general policy is not to permit special privileges to certain categories of employees, except where they also form part of their conditions of service, or are enshrined in the regulations.

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr. President, Sir, I have listened with very close interest and deep attention to the many speeches which have been made on the Budget, and I must say that I am extremely gratified by the very widespread measure of support which has been forthcoming for this Budget from all parts of the House. If I may say so, Sir, many of the speakers have been extremely constructive in their comments and, though they have criticised, I think the Government will find that their criticisms have been both useful and well informed. It may be that the Members of this House, unlike the Members of the Lower House, have one inestimable advantage—and that is that in all their actions and speeches they do not have to cast one eye on the public Press and the other on the electorate. *(Laughter).*

I shall now try to deal with the points which have been raised by a number of speakers in regard to my own portfolio. The Honourable Dato' Thuraisingham has again repeated his plea for the sending of missions overseas, in order to boost our sales of natural rubber. My Honourable friend and colleague the Minister of Commerce and Industry has adequately replied to my Honourable friend, but I think there is one point which I myself should make. From a number of speeches which followed that of Dato' Thuraisingham, I have gained the impression that the Government is being castigated for not allowing sales of rubber, for

example, to Communist countries. I think it should be stated quite clearly that there is no ban whatsoever on sales of natural rubber to anybody, including the Communist countries. I think one Honourable Member in particular—I think it was Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus—was quite worked up on this point and I can assure him that since 1956—in fact one year after the Alliance came into power—we have lifted the ban on rubber sales to Communist countries and since then there has been completely free trade between Communist countries and Malaya, not only in respect of rubber but in respect of every other commodity and every other article of trade (*Applause*). The issue, therefore, is not the sale of rubber to Communist countries. Dato' Thuraisingham, for example, thought that I was being unduly optimistic when I said sometime ago that there was a terrific future for natural rubber, and he tried to prove me wrong by giving facts and figures to show that the percentage of natural rubber used in the United States has been falling in recent months. If today one is not in full possession of the facts, one could almost be convinced by his arguments—unfortunately he is not here now—but I venture to say, Sir, that probably he did not bring out some relevant facts and figures. For example, in the early months of last year, Honourable Members will recall that the price of rubber went up to \$1.40 cents a pound and it is significant, or it was significant, that even at that extremely high price—and that was a price which was nearly double that of synthetic rubber—every pound of natural rubber produced was sold, while there was still idle synthetic plant capacity in the United States. I suggest, Sir, that that means that even at that very high price natural rubber, owing to its intrinsic qualities and its inherently superior qualities, could still command a substantial premium over synthetic rubber. That goes to show that there is a terrific future for natural rubber and I venture to suggest, Sir, that the sole reason, or the main reason, why

today the industrialised countries of the West are using more and more synthetic rubber is not because synthetic rubber is better, but that it is because we simply cannot produce enough natural rubber. That is the real reason, and that is the reason why the Government thinks it is idle to send an overseas mission abroad, when in point of fact we cannot produce enough natural rubber for the needs of the world—I think the events of the past few months have in fact amply proved this point. The trouble today is not so much the superiority of synthetic rubber over natural rubber, though as I have stated in my Budget speech, it is improving. The point at issue today is that we simply cannot produce enough natural rubber for the needs of the world. It is also very significant, for example, that some of the large American manufacturers who own synthetic plants are today themselves extending their natural rubber plantations in West Africa. That fact, I think, speaks more eloquently than words.

My Honourable friend and colleague the Minister of Commerce and Industry has also dealt with the Government's efforts to disseminate more information about our natural rubber and to encourage its use—I mean he referred to the efforts which have been made by the Natural Rubber Development Board, now called the Natural Rubber Bureau. It will be seen, therefore, that the Government is not unaware of the vital need to popularise the virtues of natural rubber so that those who are now inclined towards synthetic rubber may be more aware of the qualities of the natural product. I will not go further into this as my Honourable friend has already elaborated on it fairly fully.

My Honourable friend Dato' Sheikh Abu Bakar, I think, was under a misapprehension when he felt that the allocation for rural development in the current estimates would also mean that the allocation for this important Ministry would not be further increased in the Five-Year Plan. I should point out that these two estimates are quite

separate and he will find, when the Five-Year Plan is published, that full regard has been given to the necessity of giving sufficient attention to the needs of rural development. I cannot, of course, divulge what the figure is, because it has not even been approved by the Cabinet, but the final figure, I am almost certain, will be far in excess of what probably he himself has in mind.

I would also like on behalf of the Treasury to thank Honourable Members for their, I think, very deserved comments in regard to my officials. It is no secret that one month before Budget Day nearly every officer of importance in the Treasury has to work very late hours, and I am sure they will feel that the acknowledgment, which has been made in this House, more than compensates for all the hard work put in before Budget Day. *(Applause)*.

My Honourable friend Enche' Ubaidulla referred in his speech to the anomalies in the Customs tariff. He himself, I think, is aware that we have made efforts in the last twelve months to put right these anomalies; and if he feels there are any further anomalies, I should be glad to hear about them, so that we can see what can be done.

He also feels that the rate of company tax is high. That of course, I think, is a matter on which there can be more than one opinion. I have to bear in mind the needs of the Government, and I think it may not be possible to do what he wants us to do.

He also gave me quite a shock when he asserted that I had promised to return the tin export duty to the States. I think in this connection he referred to paragraph 15 of my speech, in which I referred to the duty on iron ore and not tin ore. *(Laughter)* He will probably be aware that the tin export duty forms a very significant element of Federal revenue, and I am afraid it will not be possible to return that to the States. *(Laughter)* However, I do not think I have ever promised to return that to the States.

Enche' S. O. K. Ubaidulla: Sir, there has been a misunderstanding. I only

asked whether it would be a worthwhile proposition to set up a department on the pattern of the Mines Department to assist tin ore prospectors so that this industry can be enlarged.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Yes, but I think you did refer to the tin ore export duty too.

Enche' S. O. K. Ubaidulla: Sir, I referred to the legislation contemplated by the Government to properly assign this revenue to the States. And while we are at it, could I ask the Government, whether it could contemplate on these lines? That is all.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: That is a matter for the Minister of Rural Development who, I have no doubt, will give the suggestion due consideration.

My Honourable friend Enche' T. H. Tan referred to the Commission of Inquiry which has been set up in regard to the system of Government tenders and he felt, I think, that that Commission should be given sufficient terms of reference so that it could inquire into the desirability or otherwise of buying from overseas, in particular from the Crown Agents. I do not know whether the terms of reference of the Commission have been made public—I think they have—and I can assure him that they are very wide indeed. They would cover the point which he had in mind.

When I spoke in the Lower House a few weeks ago, I think I made it clear that I, myself, have no sympathy with the view that we should grant relief from income tax for the support of dependent parents—not because I think that is not a very laudable objective, but because we in the Treasury feel that the grant of such a concession would lead to very widespread abuse. The Department of Inland Revenue, understaffed as it is, would not be able to find out whether those who claim such relief were in fact entitled to it; and knowing conditions in this country, I am almost certain that if such a concession is granted it would lead to very widespread abuse. That of course does not mean that those who have dependent parents

should not support them (*Laughter*). By all means do so, but I do not think it is the job of the Government to give relief in such cases.

He also referred to the Customs delays at Port Swettenham—I think he was referring to Port Swettenham—and if there are any specific cases of delay I should be pleased to hear about them so that we will do what we can; but it will be appreciated that it is extremely difficult for me to deal with general allegations.

He also asked that the Prime Minister's journeys abroad should not be cramped for lack of funds. I can assure him that although there is no specific vote, either in the Treasury or elsewhere for this item, these journeys, if and when they do occur, are suitably provided for and are financed by advances from the Contingencies Fund.

He also implied by one of his statements that the overseas staff of the External Affairs Service are underpaid. If I may say so, Sir, I think that nearly every one of the hundreds or thousands in the Civil Service in this country has the same feeling (*Laughter*) and it would be difficult to satisfy them. I may even say that some of my colleagues feel that they are underpaid (*Laughter*).

He further expressed disappointment at my inability to guarantee beforehand that the Government would be able to implement the recommendation of the Rahman Talib Education Review Committee that universal primary education be implemented in 1962. In my speech I did not exactly close the door, but I did say that the date of implementation would depend on the availability of funds. That, I think, is a reasonable statement to make, because you have got to pay for everything you want; and if today the people of this country want universal primary education they have got to pay for it; and I should say that it might be difficult to pay for such a colossal undertaking at the present level of taxation (*Laughter*). I made it clear then that if today we were to implement the recommendation of the

Committee in full, we would have to spend in 1962 \$58 million more than we did in 1960. That, I think, is not an inconsiderable sum; it requires a certain amount of raising, and Honourable Members can guess where that money has to come from (*Laughter*).

My Honourable friend Dato' Crawford referred to the anti-inflationary cess and the additional levy on tin. I appreciate the attitude which has been taken by both industries in not protesting too excessively against these recent impositions. The Government certainly appreciates their co-operation and I would bear this in mind when formulating the Second Five Year Plan. I do not imply by this that I am going to make any promise, but we certainly appreciate that the rubber and tin industries have contributed their fair share towards the revenue of this country and it gives me very great pleasure to acknowledge their co-operation in this House.

My Honourable friend Enche' Abdul Hamid stated that I gave the figure of 30 per cent per annum as the rate of natural increase in this country. I think the figure I gave was 3.3 per cent, because I do not believe that even Malaya is capable of such an achievement! (*Laughter*) I agree, however, with his other comments and will certainly consider some of the suggestions which he has made.

My Honourable friend Enche' Athi Nahappan referred to my statement about my anxiety about the strength and stability of the Malayan dollar. In fact, I feel that if I can ensure during my term of office, or further if the Alliance Government can ensure that the strength and stability of the Malayan dollar is unimpaired if and when we ever leave office, then I think we would have done a good job at the Treasury, I feel so strongly about this matter that, in fact, I have given instructions that a design should be made which would be circulated to all officers of the Treasury so that they can be always bear in mind that one of their most important functions is to maintain the strength and stability of the Malayan

dollar. I call it the three "S"—strength, stability and dollar. (*Applause*).

The Honourable Enche' Nahappan also stated that I had promised to give relief for the support of dependants. Section 35 of the Ordinance refers to relief for earned income and not to the relief for the support of dependent parents. I think what we have given so far is sufficiently generous, and I hope that it will not be thought that we have been too stingy in that regard.

My Honourable friend Dato' Cheah Toon Lok referred to the desirability of giving, I think, old-age pensions. In fact, for myself, I went so far as to make some calculations, and I think it is going to cost much more than he realises or even I realised at the beginning. I do not think it is so easy unless we increase again the level of taxation far beyond the level at present existing. It is very desirable, but it is a very expensive job.

My Honourable friend Enche' Chan Kwong Hon went back to his favourite subject of fuel oil. I had recently been looking at the balance sheets of some tin companies and judging from the results achieved, I must say that one does not get the impression that they are suffering unduly as a result of the tax. Share prices have gone up considerably, and if there are marginal mines which cannot make ends meet as a result of the tax, then they must be extremely marginal mines; and I do not think it is the business of Government to help mines which are so inefficient that they cannot make a decent profit when most mines are making a take of profit which could be highly satisfactory in any country in the world.

The Honourable Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus waxed very eloquently on the question of Commonwealth preference. This is a matter for my Honourable friend, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, but as he is not here, I might make a few remarks. I think he was referring to Commonwealth preference when he castigated

the Government for allowing Commonwealth goods to come in at lower rates of tariff than non-Commonwealth goods. As an independent country we could abolish Commonwealth preference with one stroke of the pen. In fact, at least one Commonwealth country has done so. But I suggest it is not so easy as that—there are advantages and disadvantages in whatever we do, but we in the Government think that on the balance it will be more advantageous to retain for the time being the system of Commonwealth preference.

To begin with, it is reciprocal. It is true that we allow Commonwealth goods to come in duty free, but at the same time other Commonwealth countries also allow our goods to go there at preferential rates, and this is a matter of some importance especially when we ourselves want to industrialise. Secondly, there is another advantage in retaining the system for the time being, because it can be used as a bargaining lever in trade negotiations with other countries. For example, if tomorrow we were to conclude a trade agreement with the United States of America, we could say that we are prepared to whittle down a certain item on which Commonwealth preference is granted in order to get a concession from such a country; and that can be a very useful bargaining lever or trump card in future trade negotiations with such countries. So I say there are some advantages for the time being in retaining the system, although it is not our intention to retain it for ever if our interest so indicates. In fact, I foresee that as time goes on, we will whittle down Commonwealth preference on certain items if it is in our interest to do so and if we can get reciprocal advantages in our trade negotiations with other countries. And it must also be remembered that if today we were to abolish Commonwealth preference, tomorrow there is no guarantee that our revenue will go up, because that would obviously bring about a radical change in the structure of our trade. In such circumstances, it would be difficult to

say how much we will gain, but I venture to suggest that the gain would not be as much as that envisaged by the Honourable Member.

The Honourable Member also thinks that it is wrong for us to have foreign troops in our country. This is not a matter for me—it is a matter for the Minister of Defence—but I would like to remind him of the financial implications of that arrangement. I assume he refers to the existence of the Anglo-Malayan Defence Treaty, and he might remember that but for the Treaty we would today be spending far more on Defence. In 1961, the estimated figure is just under \$90 million, and that comes to less than 10% of our estimated expenditure of \$958 million. That figure of less than 10% is, I suggest, extremely low and compares

very favourably with the Defence expenditure of other countries in this part of the world. But for that Treaty we would be spending far more on Defence, and that would mean in turn that we will have to spend far less on things like Education, Health, Rural Development and so on. As an example, I could tell him that if we are to maintain a frigate—and a frigate is a very small gun-boat—it will cost us \$2 million; one soldier will cost \$6,000 a year. That means that one division will cost us something like \$60 million a year. So the Honourable Member will appreciate that money spent on Defence means that that much money will not be available for other and much more important social services. (*Applause*).

Adjourned at 4.50 p.m.