

Volume II
No. 38



Saturday
11th December, 1965

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

**SECOND SESSION OF THE SECOND PARLIAMENT
OF MALAYSIA**

CONTENTS

**ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE UNDER STANDING
ORDER 12 (1) [Col. 5570]**

BILL:

The National Productivity Council (Incorporation) Bill
[Col. 5521]

The Supply Bill, 1966—

Committee of Supply (Thirteenth Allotted Day)—

Head S. 73 [Col. 5521]

Head S. 74 [Col. 5521]

Head S. 75 [Col. 5521]

Head S. 76 [Col. 5521]

Head S. 77 [Col. 5521]

MALAYSIA

DEWAN RA'AYAT

(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

Official Report

Second Session of the Second Dewan Ra'ayat

Saturday, 11th December, 1965

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

PRESENT:

- The Honourable Mr Speaker, DATO' CHIK MOHAMED YUSUF BIN SHEIKH ABDUL RAHMAN, S.P.M.P., J.P., Dato' Bendahara, Perak.
- „ the Minister of Transport, DATO' HAJI SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR, P.M.N. (Pontian Utara).
- „ the Minister of Commerce and Industry, DR LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).
- „ the Minister for Welfare Services, TUAN HAJI ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN, J.M.N., J.P. (Batang Padang).
- „ the Minister for Local Government and Housing, ENCHE' KHAW KAI-BOH, P.J.K. (Ulu Selangor).
- „ the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Klang).
- „ the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, ENCHE' SENU BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Kubang Pasu Barat).
- „ the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, TUAN HAJI MOHD. GHAZALI BIN HAJI JAWI (Ulu Perak).
- „ the Minister of Lands and Mines, ENCHE' ABDUL-RAHMAN BIN YA'KUB (Sarawak).
- „ the Assistant Minister of National and Rural Development, ENCHE' SULAIMAN BIN BULON (Bagan Datoh).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Education, ENCHE' LEE SIOK YEW, A.M.N., P.J.K., (Sepang).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Finance, DR NG KAM POH, J.P. (Telok Anson).
- „ the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, ENCHE' IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Seberang Tengah).
- „ the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' LEE SAN CHOON, K.M.N. (Segamat Selatan).
- „ the Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister, ENCHE' CHEN WING SUM (Damansara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL KARIM BIN ABU, A.M.N. (Melaka Selatan).
- „ WAN ABDUL KADIR BIN ISMAIL, P.P.T. (Kuala Trengganu Utara).
- „ WAN ABDUL RAHMAN BIN DATU TUANKU BUJANG (Sarawak).

- The Honourable TUAN HAJI ABDUL RASHID BIN HAJI JAIS (Sabah).
- .. TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI MOHD. SALLEH, A.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S. (Segamat Utara).
- .. TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN ABDULLAH (Kelantan Hilir).
- .. ENCHE' AHMAD BIN ARSHAD, A.M.N. (Muar Utara).
- .. TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SAAID, J.P. (Seberang Utara).
- .. CHE' AJIBAH BINTI ABOL (Sarawak).
- .. O. K. K. DATU ALIUDDIN BIN DATU HARUN, P.D.K. (Sabah).
- .. ENCHE' AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Muar Dalam).
- .. ENCHE' JONATHAN BANGAU ANAK RENANG, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- .. ENCHE' CHAN CHONG WEN, A.M.N. (Kluang Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' CHAN SIANG SUN (Bentong).
- .. ENCHE' CHIA CHIN SHIN, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- .. ENCHE' FRANCIS CHIA NYUK TONG (Sabah).
- .. ENCHE' CHIN FOON (Ulu Kinta).
- .. ENCHE' C. V. DEVAN NAIR (Bungsar).
- .. ENCHE' EDWIN ANAK TANGKUN (Sarawak).
- .. TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, J.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S. (Batu Pahat Dalam).
- .. DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI ABDUL MAJID (Johor Bahru Timor).
- .. ENCHE' S. FAZUL RAHMAN, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- .. ENCHE' GANING BIN JANGKAT (Sabah).
- .. ENCHE' GEH CHONG KEAT, K.M.N. (Penang Utara).
- .. TUAN HAJI HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Kapar).
- .. ENCHE' HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N., J.P. (Kulim Utara).
- .. ENCHE' HARUN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Baling).
- .. WAN HASSAN BIN WAN DAUD (Tumpat).
- .. ENCHE' STANLEY HO NGUN KHIU, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- .. ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN To' MUDA HASSAN, A.M.N. (Raub).
- .. TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN (Kota Bharu Hulu).
- .. ENCHE' IKHWAN ZAINI (Sarawak).
- .. ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN IDRIS (Penang Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' KAM WOON WAH, J.P. (Sitiawan).
- .. ENCHE' KHOO PENG LOONG (Sarawak).
- .. ENCHE' EDMUND LANGGU ANAK SAGA (Sarawak).
- .. ENCHE' LEE SECK FUN (Tanjong Malim).
- .. DATO' LING BENG SIEW, P.N.B.S. (Sarawak).
- .. DR LIM CHONG EU (Tanjong).
- .. DR MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD (Kota Star Selatan).
- .. ENCHE' T. MAHIMA SINGH, J.P. (Port Dickson).
- .. ENCHE' MOHD. ARIF SALLEH, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- .. ENCHE' MOHD. DAUD BIN ABDUL SAMAD (Besut).
- .. ENCHE' MOHAMED IDRIS BIN MATSIL, J.M.N., P.J.K., J.P. (Jelebu-Jempol).

- The Honourable ENCHE' MOHD. TAHIR BIN ABDUL MAJID, S.M.S., P.J.K. (Kuala Langat).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- „ WAN MOKHTAR BIN AHMAD (Kemaman).
- „ TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- „ TUAN HAJI MUHAMMAD SU'AUT BIN HAJI MUHD. TAHIR, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ DATO' HAJI MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ABDUL JABAR, D.P.M.S., A.M.N., J.P. (Sabak Bernam).
- „ ENCHE' MUSTAPHA BIN AHMAD (Tanah Merah).
- „ DATO' NIK AHMAD KAMIL, D.K., S.P.M.K., S.J.M.K., P.M.N., P.Y.G.P., Dato' Sri Setia Raja (Kota Bharu Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' NG FAH YAM (Batu Gajah).
- „ TUAN HAJI OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Hilir Perak).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Perlis Utara).
- „ ENCHE' RAMLI BIN OMAR (Krian Darat).
- „ RAJA ROME BIN RAJA MA'AMOR, P.J.K., J.P. (Kuala Selangor).
- „ ENCHE' SANDOM ANAK NYUAK (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' SEAH TENG NGIAB, P.I.S. (Muar Pantai).
- „ ENCHE' SIM BOON LIANG (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' SENAWI BIN ISMAIL, P.J.K. (Seberang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' SOH AH TECK (Batu Pahat).
- „ ENCHE' SULEIMAN BIN ALI (Dungun).
- „ PENGIRAN TAHIR PETRA (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' TAJUDDIN BIN ALI, P.J.K. (Larut Utara).
- „ ENCHE' TAI KUAN YANG (Kulim-Bandar Bharu).
- „ ENCHE' TAMA WENG TINGGANG WAN (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TSAK YU (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' TIAH ENG BEE (Kluang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' YEOH TAT BENG (Bruas).
- „ TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB, P.J.K. (Langat).

ABSENT:

- The Honourable the Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ, K.O.M. (Kuala Kedah).
- „ the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Minister of National and Rural Development, TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK BIN DATO' HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).
- „ the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Justice, DATO' DR ISMAIL BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Johor Timor).
- „ the Minister of Finance, ENCHE' TAN SIEW SIN, J.P. (Melaka Tengah).
- „ the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications, DATO' V. T. SAMBANTHAN, P.M.N. (Sungei Siput).
- „ the Minister of Education, ENCHE' MOHAMED KHIR JOHARI (Kedah Tengah).

- The Honourable the Minister of Health, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN, (Kuala Pilah).
- „ the Minister for Sarawak Affairs, DATO' TEMENGGONG JUGAH ANAK BARIENG, P.M.N., P.D.K. (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN, Assistant Minister (Kota Star Utara).
- „ ENGKU MUHSEIN BIN ABDUL KADIR, J.M.N., S.M.T., P.J.K., Assistant Minister (Trengganu Tengah).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL GHANI BIN ISHAK, A.M.N. (Melaka Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI TALIB, P.J.K. (Kuantan).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAUF BIN A. RAHMAN, K.M.N., P.J.K. (Krian Laut).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAZAK BIN HAJI HUSAIN (Lipis).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL SAMAD BIN GUL AHMAD MIANJI (Pasir Mas Hulu).
- „ DATO' ABDULLAH BIN ABDULRAHMAN, Dato' Bijaya di-Raja (Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
- „ Y.A.M. TUNKU ABDULLAH IBNI AL-MARHUM TUANKU ABDUL RAHMAN, P.P.T. (Rawang).
- „ ENCHE' ABU BAKAR BIN HAMZAH (Bachok).
- „ ENCHE' ALI BIN HAJI AHMAD (Pontian Selatan).
- „ DR AWANG BIN HASSAN, S.M.J. (Muar Selatan).
- „ PENGARAH BANYANG ANAK JANTING, P.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SEONG YOON (Setapak).
- „ ENCHE' D. A. DAGO ANAK RANDAN *alias* DAGOK ANAK RANDEN (Sarawak).
- „ DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM, P.M.N. (Jitra-Padang Terap).
- „ DATU GANIE GILONG, P.D.K., J.P. (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' HANAFIAH BIN HUSSAIN, A.M.N. (Jerai).
- „ DATO' HAJI HUSSEIN BIN MOHD. NOORDIN, D.P.M.P., A.M.N., P.J.K. (Parit).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN SULAIMAN (Ulu Kelantan).
- „ DATO' SYED JA'AFAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, P.M.N. (Johor Tenggara).
- „ PENGHULU JINGGUT ANAK ATTAN, Q.M.C., A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' KADAM ANAK KIAI (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' THOMAS KANA (Sarawak).
- „ DATO' KHOO SIAK CHIEW, P.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' AMADEUS MATHEW LEONG, A.D.K., J.P. (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).
- „ ENCHE' LIM PEE HUNG, P.J.K. (Alor Star).
- „ ENCHE' PETER LO SU YIN (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' JOSEPH DAVID MANJAJI (Sabah).
- „ DATO' DR HAJI MEGAT KHAS, D.P.M.P., J.P., P.J.K. (Kuala Kangsar).
- „ DATO' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA, P.M.K. (Pasir Puteh).

The Honourable ORANG TUA MOHAMMAD DARA BIN LANGPAD (Sabah).

- „ ENCHE' MOHD. ZAHIR BIN HAJI ISMAIL, J.M.N. (Sungai Patani).
- „ ENCHE' MUHAMMAD FAKHRUDDIN BIN HAJI ABDULLAH (Pasir Mas Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' ONG KEE HUI (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' QUEK KAI DONG, J.P. (Seremban Timor).
- „ TUAN HAJI RAHMAT BIN HAJI DAUD, A.M.N. (Johor Bahru Barat).
- „ TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID, P.J.K., J.P. (Rembau-Tampin).
- „ ENCHE' D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
- „ DATO' S. P. SEENIVASAGAM, D.P.M.P., P.M.P., J.P. (Menglembu).
- „ ENCHE' SIOW LOONG HIN, P.J.K. (Seremban Barat).
- „ ENCHE' SNG CHIN JOO (Sarawak).
- „ DR TAN CHEE KHOON (Batu).
- „ ENCHE' TAN CHENG BEE, J.P. (Bagan).
- „ ENCHE' TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Melaka).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TOH HONG (Bukit Bintang).
- „ ENCHE' TOH THEAM HOCK (Kampar).
- „ ENCHE' YEH PAO TZE (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' STEPHEN YONG KUET TZE (Sarawak).

PRAYERS

(Mr Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

(Mr Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*)

SCHEDULE

BILL PRESENTED

THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL (INCORPORATION) BILL

Bill to establish a body corporate to be called "The National Productivity Council" and to provide for matters connected therewith; presented by the Minister of Commerce and Industry; read the first time; to be read a second time at the subsequent sitting of this House.

BILL

THE SUPPLY BILL, 1966

Order read for resumed consideration in Committee of Supply (Thirteenth Allotted Day).

House immediately resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

Heads S. 73 to S. 77—

The Minister of Lands and Mines (Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub): Mr Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I beg to move that expenditure shown under Heads S. 73, S. 74, S. 75, S. 76 and S. 77 under the Ministry of Works, Posts and Telecommunications totalling \$107,563,396 be approved.

It will be observed, Mr Chairman, Sir, from these estimates that great emphasis has been paid to the necessity for economy in all the spheres of the Ministry's expenditure, and I can assure Honourable Members that the Ministry will continue to give its fullest co-operation in providing and keeping the public utility services running as efficiently as possible. The total expenditure asked for in 1966 is less than that for 1965 by \$20,745,799 and it would still be less even without the secession of Singapore from Malaysia.

Taking Supply Head S. 73 first, a sum of \$7,616,921 is requested for to meet the Personal Emoluments of the Headquarters of the Ministry including the Public Works Division. This amount shows increase of \$323,163 only over the provision made in 1965 due to a slight increase in the establishment to meet the expanding needs of the Ministry and also salary revisions. As the Public Works Division of the Ministry will continue to shoulder a major portion of the Development Plan Programme, it is necessary to employ sufficient staff to cope with the work.

While there is a slight increase of \$6,608 under Other Charges Annually Recurrent, a sum of \$221,484 is asked for under Special Expenditure which is \$83,066 less than in 1965.

Under Head S. 74, a total sum of \$29,349,428 is provided for the maintenance of Federal Roads, Buildings, Heavy Plants and Vehicles, Airfields, etc. This shows a reduction of \$2,096,222 over the provision made in 1965. The decrease is due partly to the exclusion of the Federal responsibility in Singapore and also the transfer of the provision for rent on Government Quarters in Sabah to Head S. 24—Treasury General Services.

Taking Head S. 75—Postal Services—the total expenditure for 1966 will be \$21,976,069. The proposed overall expenditure for 1966 in respect of the Headquarters organisation shows an increase of \$105,800. The increase of \$94,452 over 1965 in respect of Personal Emoluments is mainly due to revised Higher Salaries and Housing Allowances for the Clerical Staff which have been taken into account in the 1966 Estimates. Certain staffing increases have also been necessary owing to the growth of work. The slight increase of \$1,798 over 1965 in respect of O.C.A.R. is mainly due to revised Housing Allowances for the staff in the "Industrial and Manual Group". The increase of \$9,950 over 1965 in respect of O.C.S.E. is due to the provision for the purchase of the Speedaumat Addressing Machine for the production of Mail Bag Neck Labels and Letter Bundle Labels to overcome the

difficulties encountered in producing the growing variety of labels quickly and economically for supply to more than 200 Post Offices and 400 Postal Agencies throughout the country. Mail bag neck labels and letter bundle labels are indispensable items of mails stationery, and difficulty in production and supply can have an adverse effect on the accurate and prompt handling of mails.

Postal articles posted for inlands delivery in 1965 have exceeded the 1964 figure by about 1.5%. Second Class mail items posted for overseas have increased by about 46.2% while Second Class surface mail items posted for overseas have increased by about 101.9%. First Class airmail and surface items posted for overseas have increased by about 3.1% over 1964.

The policy of issuing commemorative postage stamps to mark important national and international events will continue in 1966 and provision has been made for a maximum of 3 issues. The decrease in the O.C.S.E. item is due to the replacement of the definitive postage stamps being replaced in 1965 and only the postal stationery items (i.e. Stamped envelopes, Light Air Letter forms, registration envelopes and postcards) and Postage Due Labels will be replaced in 1966.

The Post Office has and will continue to play its part in meeting with the increasing demand from the public for expansion of postal facilities. Resulting from this proposed expansion of postal facilities, it will be necessary to provide for increased staff and additional equipment under the Ordinary Estimates, 1966. The proposals under Personal Emoluments for the Operational Arm of the Postal Services Department in the States of Malaya amount to \$13,024,959. This represents an increase of \$1,679,238 over the 1965 provision. This increase is attributed to the increase in the volume of traffic handled, a factor which is beyond the control of the Department and also to the expansion of Postal facilities, both in the Urban and Rural areas, to meet the demand from the Public.

The Personal Emoluments, States of Malaya, include proposals for the following new appointments:

- (i) 2 Division I appointments—
(1 Superscale “J” and 1 Time-scale;
- (ii) 1 Division II appointment;
- (iii) 60 under the different categories in Division III; and
- (iv) 47 Division IV appointments.

The growth of business transacted and traffic handled by the Postal Services Department, which is the result of the rapid development in the country, has necessitated an increase of staff which are to be spread over the country.

Under Other Charges, Annually Recurrent, the provision for 1966 is \$6,512,319. The main increase under O.C.A.R. is in the vote “Conveyance of Mails” and this is obviously due to the expansion in Postal Services.

Under Special Expenditure, it will be noticed that the provision for 1966 is \$364,315; a decrease of \$1,266,505 over the 1965 provision. This is due to the decrease in the vote “Issues of New Stamps” since the replacement of definitive postage stamps has been carried out in 1965.

Under Head S. 76—Posts and Telecommunications—Borneo States, the total provision asked for is \$8,346,685 compared with \$8,719,315 provided for in the 1965 Estimates. The increase shown under Personal Emoluments for Sabah and Sarawak is to meet the normal increase in emoluments of staff and also the increase in establishment required for the normal growth of the services performed by the Department.

The total provision made under O.C.A.R. is \$8,256,675. Under Sub-head 2 the increase of \$20,000 is to meet the cost of increased power requirements of the Department’s development programme. With the gradual expansion of the Department, there has also been a corresponding increase in maintenance requirements and the provision made under Sub-head 5 is \$750,000.

Under Other Charges Annually Recurrent, the provision required is \$90,000. While there are increases in certain items reductions are also shown in a few.

Mr Chairman, Sir, I now come to the last Head, i.e. Head S. 77—Telecommunications under which a sum of \$37,893,074 is provided. Bearing in mind of the need for economy, the provision asked for has been cut down to the minimum. It is significant to note that there is a reduction of \$5,945,242 on the 1965 provision. A contributory cause of this reduction is, of course, the fact that the expenditure of the Telecommunications Department, Singapore, is no longer a charge on the Malaysian Government funds. However, even taking this into account, the funds asked for the year 1966 are less than that provided for 1965.

The activities of the Telecommunications Department continue to expand during the year. The number of telephones in service has increased from 107,582 on 1st January 1965 to 114,327, on 30th September, 1965. This represents an increase of 6.4% for the nine-month period, and the increase for the year is expected to reach 10%. It is hoped that the rate of increase of telephone installations will exceed 10% in 1966 with the completion in mid-1966 of several large telephone exchanges.

Work on the maintenance of television transmitters and the microwave links, that enable television programmes to be relayed throughout the country, has also increased with the extension of the television service to the whole of the west coast of Malaya.

Assistance, by way of loan of maintenance and survey teams, continue to be given to the Borneo region and, in fact, a team of technicians is currently in Sabah engaged on the overhaul of radio trunk-telephone equipment.

Under the Personal Emoluments, a total of \$21,730,754 is required for the year 1966. The total number of staff now employed in the Department is 4,493 and an additional 94 are being provided for in 1966. The additional

number to be provided is truly a remarkably low one, when it is remembered that the annual rate of telephone growth is approximately 10%, and the present annual net revenue from Telecommunications Department is approximately \$6,000,000.

Under Other Charges Annually Recurrent, the total sum asked for the year 1966 is \$13,875,820 compared with \$16,148,820 provided for the year 1965. The provision for 1965, however, covered expenditure of the Singapore Telecommunications Department which is now no longer a charge on Malaysian Government funds. Taking this into account, the 1966 figure is still slightly less than that provided for 1965. This limitation in expenditure is necessary in order to conserve funds and the Telecommunications Department will do its best to operate within the limit of the money available. However, in view of the growing demand for telephones and the need to keep the existing services functioning, it may be necessary for the Government to come forward sometime in 1966 for supplementary funds but this will only be done if found to be unavoidable.

It will be noted that all subheads have been reduced with the exception of Sub-head 9 "Rent (Land and Buildings)" and Sub-head 20 "Training School Expenses". The increase of \$6,500 under Sub-head 9 "Rent (Land and Buildings)" is to pay for rent on additional sites which have been acquired for the building of telecommunications installations throughout the country. Sub-head 20 is a new subhead which takes the place of Sub-head 14 "Training Equipment" in the year 1965 Ordinary Estimates, and part of Sub-head 51 "Test and Training Equipment and Tools" in the year 1965 Development Estimates. This has been done to streamline control of expenditure.

Under Special Expenditure, the sum asked for is \$2,286,500, as against \$3,720,710 provided for 1965. Here again, Mr Chairman, Sir, taking into account the Singapore Telecommunications element, the funds asked for the year 1966 are less than that provided for 1965 by approximately \$534,000.

Strict economy will be exercised and the provision for all sub-heads has been reduced with the exception of Sub-head 25—"Police Radio Renewals" and Sub-head 27—"Police Radio Service Minor Alterations and Extensions". The increases asked for these two sub-heads are necessary in order to enable essential police radio communications to function efficiently.

It will also be noted that the 1966 subheads "Typewriters", "Customs and Excise Payments" and "Expenses of Temporary Secondment of Cable and Wireless Limited Personal" have been deleted. These sub-heads have either been incorporated, for reasons of simplification, into other sub-heads or have been deleted as the project covered by the sub-heads has been completed.

I am glad to state that in Malaya both the Public Works Department and the Telecommunications Department have been Malayanised during the course of the year and in fact ahead of the Malayanisation schedule—the Postal Department was fully Malayanised a few years ago. The Government, Mr Chairman, Sir, would like to pay tribute to all officers expatriate and also local men of all these departments and the Ministry for the dedicated service they have rendered to the country. If the achievements of the Second Five-Year Plan have been reached, it has been because of the constant drive and initiative of everyone concerned. I am sure Members of Parliament would like to join me in thanking them.

Thank you, Mr Chairman, Sir.

Dr Lim Chong Eu (Tanjong): Mr Chairman, Sir, I wish to refer in particular to Head S. 77—Telecommunications; and, touching on the subject of the Ministry as a whole, to refer to items in page 616, Sub-head 30, page 615, Sub-head 13—Utilities; and in particular throughout all the presentations from Heads S.73 to S. 77, I shall be dealing with all the little sub-items contained under Housing and Hotel Allowances in this provision; and with this reference Sir, I would like to make my general comments.

Sir, unfortunately, this provision for Telecommunications has received great attention throughout the country during the course of this debate, and I would first draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Honourable Minister has already indicated that Head S. 77 provides for a reduction of \$5,945,242, as compared to the provision for last year. Sir, that is a very interesting allocation, because it shows that the Government, to some extent, is trying to carry out its objective for an austerity Budget. Sir, the references that I wish to make hinge upon this question of the proposed telephone tax. Unfortunately, from comments made by the Honourable Minister of Finance in this House—namely, that the people who are trying to oppose this tax are potential income tax evaders and not fit to be businessmen—and statements made outside this House that the people of this country should no longer write to him, because their requests and their appeals would all be thrown into the wastepaper basket, and in view of the fact that the Honourable Prime Minister has said in defence of the Honourable Minister of Finance that he is a very frank man, we have to say to this House and to the Honourable Minister concerned that the people of this country are very frank, very simple, and very straightforward, and they do not like this tax. Sir, I have brought up all these references under Head S. 77, because it is quite clear that if the Government were to exercise a greater austerity and go through a more careful pruning exercise, and if Government were to deal with provisions for its departments and Ministries in the terms of the words which we are now able to read from the proposed Five-Year Malaysian Plan—viz, that it will look to the question of increasing personal emoluments, and costs and provide for a Commission to look into how to provide for greater administrative efficiency and lowering of costs—we can make savings which will make it unnecessary to impose this telephone tax which will only bring us \$5.3 million. Sir, you will ask me why I am talking in these general terms. If

we look through all the provisions for Housing and for Hotel Allowances, taking only those Housing and Hotel Allowances, not taking into consideration the allowances specifically provided for Housing, we will see that under this Ministry there is an increase of \$927,388 in the provision for Hotel and Housing for this year as compared to last year, and the total provision for Hotel and Housing for the whole of the Ministry is \$1,978,383. Sir, I have, throughout the Committee Stage of the Supply Bill, made references to this item of Hotel and Housing from the very first Supply Head of Agriculture, which we dealt with, and where the Minister for Finance is involved under Treasury; now this is the last item and I made reference to it, Sir, because the total expenditure in excess of last year for Hotel and Housing is \$3,834,566—I cannot be absolutely accurate up to the last dollar. Sir, I have gone through my homework, and I would say it is in the neighbourhood of \$3.8 million and, if we were to take into consideration the provision for Housing and Rent, which are particularly associated with the Borneo Territories, the figure could very well reach the 4 million mark.

Sir, I say that the Government can save \$5.3 million so that it doesn't have to impose this telephone tax on the people. It is unfortunate for the Telecommunications Department for whom I have a great admiration because of the work they have done. It is a department which has steadily increased its work; and the job done by the staff under very difficult circumstances is something to be envied and certainly worthy of praise in this House. But for all the efforts, inspite of this curtailment of \$5 million in the estimates for Head S. 77, each time the people in this country are going to raise their telephones after the third time in a day they would have to pay 10 cents and they would curse this Department. Sir, this is why I feel very strongly that if the Government were to look into items, like the items I have mentioned before, and exercise greater austerity by some pruning we need not impose this iniquitous tax.

The other factor, that I referred to are in Page 616, Sub-head 30, and page 615, Sub-head 13, namely, Utilities and Telecommunications Renewals. Sir, in view of the fact that the Government is imposing this telephone tax, and after listening to the Honourable Acting Minister that the Government expects telephone installations to increase by 10% this year and hopes to continue this increase next year, I would advise the Government that, in view of the imposition of the telephone tax, we should not count on these increased installations—This is the first point. I would ask Government that in providing for utilities and for renewals, the Government should think in terms of providing more public telephone booths where the public can go and pay their 10 cent call whenever they want to phone; otherwise there will be a lot of disturbance in the social aspect of the utility of public service—a neighbour, a friend, coming in the middle of the night to your house to borrow your telephone. Sir, I will not raise question of businesses and the question of family involvement over this telephone tax, but I urge the Government to provide more public telephone booths and, secondly, to provide for the installations of more coin boxes or automatic payment telephone boxes in public business concerns for example a coffee shop-keeper, or grocer, who previously used to instal the ordinary telephone might now under the tax imposition find it more profitable, more courteous to their clients, and easier for them to carry on their businesses in a simple human kinship, if the Government were to allow them to put in more of those “A” and “B” push button boxes, so that people coming to these places to use the telephones will put in their 10 cents without having to ask all these questions of, “May I use your telephone” and “Tuan, will you pay me 10 cents”. This will also obviate the change by the Government that a lot of the coffee shops and grocers are now already charging 10 cents and taking away potential Government revenue. Therefore, I think it would be better for the Government, to provide the instruments to obviate this charge.

The other fact Sir, that I would like to mention to the Honourable Minister is this: in view of the telephone tax and in view of the fact that the people are now taking umbrage, I would urge the Government to insist on a higher level and a better level of service with regard to telephone exchanges. Sir, we all know that on occasions people, who are making or asking for long distance trunk calls, have to wait for quite a long period before the connection is obtained. Secondly, Sir, when people make telephone calls, even local calls, quite often it is not an infrequent experience to have their calls directed to the wrong number. Thirdly, Sir, I would say that all Government installations—that is all Government Departments with telephone with a telephone operator operating a machine in their telephone service—should give careful attention to the public, because it is not an infrequent experience of the public to ring up a Government Department (potential 10 cents) and find out that they have been put to the wrong Department or to the wrong person, and the reply from the Government Department is “So-and-so is out, please ring back again”. Then when you ring back again the reply is, “So-and-so is in the toilet”. Each call costs ten cents. So, Sir, we hope that some system of Government liaison with the public through the Telecommunications Department can be established so that there will be a minimum of delay and stress between the public and the Government.

Enche' Hussein bin To' Muda Hassan (Raub): Dato' Pengerusi, saya hendak mengambil perhatian dalam muka surat 581 Sub-head 1 Menteri Ker'ja Raya, Pos dan Talikom. Sejak sa-tahun yang sudah Kementerian ini dan juga Jabatan² di-bawah-nya telah beransor baik dari satu masa ka-satu masa. Saya hendak memberi kepujian kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri Kerja Raya ini dan kaki-tangan-nya yang telah berjaya melaksanakan segala rancangan² untuk kebaikan negara kita ini.

Saya harap Kementerian ini akan menjayakan lagi, menjayakan lebih giat

lagi untuk faedah negara kita. Tetapi dalam pada itu, saya suka hendak memberi pandangan kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri ini, yang saya dapat dalam Pejabat Pos ini sedikit kesilapan sahaja ia itu berkenaan dengan pengiriman "Telegram Money Order" maseh lagi tidak memuaskan ra'ayat, tetapi saya perchaya perkara ini ia-lah perkara kechil. Barangkali tentu-lah ada kesilapan di-sana, maka saya harap Perkhidmatan Telegram Money Order dan Telegram ini akan berjalan dengan lebeh baik lagi pada masa hadapan.

Pada muka surat 596, Sub-head 13, Maintenance of Public Roads and Bridges. Jalan² raya yang ada dalam negara kita pada masa sekarang sangatlah boleh saya katakan terlampau baik, kerana perjalanan daripada satu tempat ka-satu tempat pada masa dahulu kita mengambil masa lama lima jam; pada masa sekarang kita boleh sampai dalam masa tiga jam sahaja.

Jadi-nya, saya berharap wang yang di-peruntokkan dalam maintenance public roads and bridges ini pada tahun hadapan, saya harap lebehkan-lah sedikit peruntokkan ini kepada daerah² supaya boleh jurutera² daerah menyempurnakan dengan membuboh minyak tar kepada jalan² raya yang telah dibuat dalam Ranchangan Pembangunan Luar Bandar, kerana di-sini sungutan daripada penduduk² yang telah ditempohi oleh jalan raya ini pada musim ta' hujan banyak sangat habok. Jadi, kalau sa-kira-nya dapat Jabatan Kerja Raya, kalau tidak dapat meminyak tarkan sa-panjang² jalan yang telah dibuat dalam Ranchangan Luar Bandar itu di-mana² tempat orang ramai, atau pun rumah² yang banyak, patut-lah dibuboh minyak tar dahulu. Ini bukan saya hendak minta bagi kawasan saya sahaja, tetapi barangkali sahabat² saya yang lain pun ada mendapat sa-rupa saya juga.

Berkenaan dengan Sub-head 14—Maintenance and Operation of Water Supplies. Perkhidmatan ini yang saya dapati daripada satu masa ka-satu masa telah juga beransor baik dan akan bertambah baik, dan saya harap daripada satu masa ka-satu masa per-

khidmatan ayer ini apabila sa-sabuah kampung yang mudah di-sambong ka-tempat-nya, harap-lah di-laksanakan.

Akhir-nya, saya harap kepada Menteri sungoh pun perkara ini ada di-dalam pembangunan negara kita, jalan daripada Cameron Highlands yang terus ka-bandar Raub dan terus ka-Kuala Lumpur ini mendapat perhatian dengan sa-berat²-nya, kerana saya dapati jikalau jalan ini di-teruskan dengan sa-chepat²-nya tanah di-antara sempadan Perak dengan Pahang itu boleh di-buka dan akan mema'morkan ra'ayat yang ada dalam negeri Perak dan dalam negeri Pahang sendiri.

Saya harap perhatian saya ini akan mendapat pertimbangan dari pada Kementerian ini. Terima kaseh.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, before I commence to speak on Supply Head S. 73, item (1) Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications, item (23), Director of Public Works, item (37), Senior Treasury Accountant, I would like to wish the Honourable Minister a speedy recovery, as I understand he is sick.

Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to compliment the Ministry of Works, Posts and Telecommunications—the Honourable Minister and the staff right down to the bottom rung of the ladder of this Ministry—for the engineering progress that have been achieved in the telephonic and radio communication fields, and also on the development and various constructions throughout our country—the very big projects and the roads linking various States, towns and villages.

Sir, touching on this matter of development, naturally I have got to think of public funds and the manner the P.W.D., or the J.K.R., are implementing the policies of the Government and the Funds voted to this Ministry. Sir, I understand that in the various fields of contracts and tenders, the Government contractors, big and small are finding it difficult to tender or undertake Government contracts due to lack of capital and extra overheads plus financial tie-ups which involve their capital and profits being withheld

by the J.K.R. Department resulting in extra costs of incidental charges being added to the tenders. These extras which I have been told are for looking after the entertainment and appeasement of the J.K.R. staff who are vested with powers of making decisions and also certain departments which have direct dealing with the public as the contractors, considerations have got to pass through their hands.

Sir, as I said, I have been informed that malpractices are increasing, the incidence of corruption and improper payments between the contractors and the staff of the J.K.R. Departments and they will, in the long run, have to be borne by the public in general. Sir, this is a fact that I would like to ask the Honourable Minister of Finance to focus his attention on, as this will add up to the cost of the various construction works of the Government; and any action taken by him will be on the basis of an austerity drive.

Sir, it is in the interest of the small contractors that I am requesting the Honourable Minister of Works, Posts, and Telecommunications to check on the J.K.R. Department which, I understand, has been left sitting pretty on public funds. Sir, a common complaint by the contractors and the small sub-contractors is that there are delays in obtaining payments for works completed. These people complain that those who handle the payments require consideration, either to accelerate payments or to refrain from delaying payments. I understand that the J.K.R. had introduced improved methods of accounting and payment which will much reduce genuine delays. I also understand that a suggestion was put through that at each office where payments are numerous, there should be fixed dates of making payments—i.e. all bills received, say by the 10th of the month, should be paid by the 17th.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Mr Chairman, Sir, I do not want to interrupt, but in the course of the debate the Honourable Member mentioned corruption and malpractices. This is a very serious matter—allegation of corruption, allegation of

malpractices. I do hope that the Honourable Member, when asked to supply the facts, will be able to give the Government the facts, because I myself intend to follow up after the meeting, to write to Honourable Members who have alleged malpractices or corruption in Government departments, and I do hope that co-operation will be given by all of them to substantiate any allegation that is made in this House.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, as I have said, I have been given to understand and, as a public representative, where I hear opinion expressed, I just convey them to the House.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: It must be made clear whether he believes in the allegations, and is he prepared to tell the Government who the gentlemen were who gave him this information?

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: What I am talking about is public opinion, which it is my privilege to convey; and it is up to the Ministry to check up.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: No, Sir. I must pin this thing down. It is not a question of public opinion. Public opinion is a very vague term—I think putting things in the newspapers, sending anonymous letters may constitute public opinion in the opinion of some Honourable Members. Now, I want to know definitely whether the Honourable Member has the names of the persons, who informed him of the corruption and malpractices in the J.K.R.? If that is so, I want the names to be given, even confidentially, to the Government so that the Government can pass this matter on to the Attorney-General. I do not mean just vague allegations like those mentioned by some Members of the Opposition, Sir.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: As I have said, Sir, this is public opinion which I am trying to transmit to the House, and which I suggest should receive the attention of the Minister; perhaps, with co-ordination between the Minister of Finance, that is through the Treasury Department, and the Public Works

Department, through the supervision of fulfilling the contract, a method could be worked out to prevent the adverse opinion of the public that delays have been purposely done. Therefore, if the Honourable Minister will be a little bit patient and listen to what I have to say, he will not aggravate the matter—not by using threat to try to prevent me from making my speech.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Sir, I am only trying to emphasise the seriousness of the allegation of corruption. If anyone comes forward and says that there is corruption in the Department, there are malpractices in the Department, it will not help things by saying, "I am conveying public opinion", for public opinion may be rather an abstract guide. Let him come forward and say, "Well, I have received information from this gentleman and that gentleman, will the Minister investigate?". If I get the names I can pass that information rightaway to the Attorney-General so that investigation can be carried out forthwith.

Mr Chairman: Berkenaan dengan *corruption* ini, saya fikir, tidak boleh di-bahathkan di-sini. Kalau sa-kira-nya Ahli Yang Berhormat boleh memberi nama²-nya orang itu, boleh-lah di-hantarkan kepada yang berkenaan tetapi tidak ada kena-mengena dengan pejabat ini.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, as I have said, I am only transmitting public opinion. I have not made any accusation yet, and when I come to the relevant section, if the Honourable Minister would like it, I will quote from the Report of a Commission to inquire into matters affecting the integrity of the public service, 1955, and I hope the Minister will pursue the matter to find out whether the recommendations of the Commission have been implemented.

Sir, to continue, I say that this will make it impossible for the payee to obtain acceleration of payment. Sir, some paying clerks . . .

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Sir, I do not quite catch it, but is he

saying that there have been rumours, vague rumours floating about that the J.K.R. staff are demanding money, in order to accelerate payment, or is he asserting a statement of fact from his personal knowledge from information from very reliable persons, that such things do in fact happen? We must be clear on these two things. If he is just conveying vague ideas heard in the coffee shops and so on, he should say so. If, on the other hand, he has received definite information that J.K.R. staff have been demanding money in order to accelerate payment, he should say so definitely, so that I know, or the Government knows, what to do.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, as I said, I am transmitting the views of the public. As a representative of the public I have to be the medium of transmission and that is the democratic basis on which we form this House. I am not trying to make a direct accusation—I understand the Standing Orders. If I do, then I will have to produce documents which, unfortunately, I do not have. I am trying to save Government from humiliation by trying to find out various views that have been presented in public for the Honourable Minister to study. I am only appealing to the Honourable Minister to study what I am trying to bring out, as I am sure this will help him a lot.

Sir, I understand that the Treasury—now, I say that I understand that the Treasury—are at times quite baffled over the question of unsettled dues, left unclaimed with the Treasury monthly.

The Assistant Minister of Finance (Dr Ng Kam Poh): Sir, will he clarify what he means by "left unclaimed in the Treasury"?

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: It is quite normal that a cheque made out for payment in a month say negotiable in a month if it is not handed over after a certain period, has to be returned to the Treasury. So, it is only by comparing the amount which is voted, or which is intended for payment to be

made, will the amount of payment made that the Treasury will know whether these payments have been paid or not—i.e., the difference between the sum voted for it and the payment actually made or claimed by the contractor. Sir, I only request the Ministry to work out a system to smoothen the passage of payments, that is to say, if a contract has been fulfilled and has been certified by the engineer supervising the job, then it should go through its normal courses to the relevant officer to certify the payment; and then it will be put to the Treasury which will make out a cheque and send it out. That is what we are asking for, and I am sure, Sir, this is what has been recommended by this Commission.

Dr Ng Kam Poh: Sir, on a point of clarification, is the Honourable Member for Penang Utara insinuating that the Treasury is corrupt?

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Sir, I am not insinuating, but I am only commenting on the system in which the Ministry and the Public Works work and the functioning of the Treasury. While one is very anxious to hand out the amount that is voted for, the other is not making it work smoothly.

Dr Ng Kam Poh: On a point of clarification. Which one is he talking about—one is very anxious to pay out or one who is not very anxious to take in. I do not know which one, Sir. Will he please elucidate?

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: If the Honourable Assistant Minister had listened to me he would have heard that I said that at times the Treasury had been quite careful. Therefore it is of course a credit to the Treasury.

Dr Ng Kam Poh: Thank you!

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: That is what he really wants. As I have said, I am only requesting the Government to look into this matter. I may point out to the Government that if things are done smoothly, the cost of tender will be reduced without the extra

charges, and we can get jobs done better and there will be a big saving in Government expenditure.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Sir, is he definitely saying that there have been extra outside charges, or call it corruption, or call it what else? Is he definitely ascertaining that as a fact? I have not been able to get a definite statement of fact from the Honourable Member. He wants us to do this, he wants us to do that. I am asking him, is he asserting it as a fact that certain members of the J.K.R. have been demanding payments?

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, I think the Honourable Minister is trying to push me to a corner where he can tackle me! *(Laughter)*.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Sir, I am only reminding him that, as a Member of the Dewan Ra'ayat, he must take responsibility under the Standing Orders in respect of any allegation of fact. We have seen what happened in the case of the Honourable Member for Sarawak!

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, as I have said, I am not trying to contest with the Assistant Minister on the manner

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: I am not an Assistant Minister, Sir, but I am a Cabinet Minister. *(Laughter)*.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: I am sorry. I mean the Honourable Minister *(Laughter)* and I would like to tender my apology for that.

Sir, I was not trying to make an accusation, but this is public opinion. I only request that a really modern and efficient system be devised by the Treasury with the advice of the Organisation and Methods Adviser and, perhaps, with the Director of Audit, in respect of this Ministry to improve the system.

Enche' Ibrahim bin Abdul Rahman: Sir, on a point of clarification, I do

do not know whether the Honourable Member has got vested interests in contract business! (*Laughter*).

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, talking of vested interests, I for one in this House have no vested interests. I have no interest in road transport, I have no interest in commerce or any pecuniary gain as a contractor, nor do I participate in applying for a licence—I never do that. I am a clean Member of Parliament right through. (*Laughter*). My profession is that of a humble Assistant Manager of a Bank and a good parliamentarian, who has got to hear of the woes of the people. If they have any problems and if they put to me, I try to represent them as best as I can.

Enche' Ibrahim bin Abdul Rahman: Good parliamentarians always substantiate their statements. He does not, and that is what the Honourable Minister has just now asked him to do—to substantiate any specific allegation.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, this is a matter of opinion. A good parliamentarian has got to have patient ears and must be tolerant to listen to people's problems; and after listening, he has got to weigh them. If the people feel that there is reason to present their views, then he has to present them. That is what I am doing now—it is my duty and I am presenting their views. So, I would like to request you, Mr Chairman, if you want me to make my speech short, to please request them not to try to harass me. (*Laughter*).

Mr Deputy Chairman: Pendek sahaja!

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Sir, I see that the complicating budget in between the Federal and State Treasuries frequently results in the Parliament being asked to do more work in the latter part of the year. I say that they can effectively supervise the spending of money, which might not re-voted, thus obviating the position where at the end of the year. They have got to keep on spending the money. If you

look it at other way, it may tantamount to squandering. On the other hand, as a Government procedure, they are doing the right thing, because they have got to spend the money; otherwise they will not have the money to pay for work done.

Sir, next, I am coming to deliveries of materials. Sir, the problem of short supplies is the delivery of materials has been the main drainage in respect of the J.K.R. allocation of public funds. That is what I have been told or what I have learnt from the public. It has resulted in very unrealistic quotations at times in tender, and it has also contributed to the high standard of living in a luxurious manner in which some of the staff have been indulging in. These are some of the public observations and. Ministries, and Members of Parliament are not free from public eyes. These are the observations made and, therefore, I would like to quote a section on this question of delivery of materials from the Report of the Commission to enquire into matters affecting the integrity of the Public Service—I am trying to find out whether they have been looked into or implemented—and it says:

"Assuming that the reasons for special check were similar to those which we know would have existed on other occasions, it is highly unlikely that but for his efforts even 70% would have been delivered."

This passage refers to the case of . . .

Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad (Muar Utara): Tuan Pengerusi, saya hendak mendapat penjelasan daripada Yang Berhormat itu. Dia berchakap di-atas Kepala berapa?

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Tuan Pengerusi, saya minta ma'af-lah kapada kawan kita ini. Saya berchakap di-atas perkara *Director of Public Works*; ini bukan lain² hal; ini ada-lah perkara kontrek dan barang² pemborong.

Tuan Pengerusi, as I said in the case of supplies of materials, it is quite usual to use a "ticket system" as a counter check; and as a surprise method of checking, to allow a lower group of subordinate officers to tackle the receiving and tallying of the

supplies. Sir, we know, this is what I learnt, that when the Sports Stadium in Jakarta was constructed they had an entrance into the construction site "in" and the other way "out". One lorry went in and passed through and on the second trip they delivered the goods. So, in other words, only 50% of the goods were delivered. Thank God, in Malaya we are not like that, we are much better. From what I have heard from the Report, if the Government check carefully, they say, "The officer who estimated really got 90% but for special efforts really got 60% or 70%". By bringing in this, I am only appealing to the officers to work honestly and hard and I only request the Department that in times like this—our austerity drive—we have got to have first class men, we have got to have educated engineers and staff, and we must not forget that the lower income group must be well paid. Sir, there are labourers, junior technicians and technical assistants, who have got to earn a living and they too have their families to look after. Therefore, I request the Honourable Minister not to overlook the salaries of this lower income group.

Sir, I have been so much harassed that I think I will drop this subject for the time being. I think this is enough. I think I have stirred up a hornets' nest and it has also roused the Honourable Minister's attention and the Government backbenchers' attention to look into this issue. Therefore, I request the Honourable Minister to look into the report on the Integrity of the Public Service Commission, 1955, and let us know to what extent he is going to implement, or he has or has had implemented, the findings of this Committee. Sir, touching on Telecommunications

Mr (Deputy) Chairman: Nampak-nya Yang Berhormat panjang sangat sudah. Beri peluang kepada orang lain kerana banyak orang yang hendak berchakap lagi.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Sir, touching on Telecommunications on Head S. 77, I notice one thing. In Kuala Lumpur they have public call instruments rented out to coffee shops

at business rate but allowing the shops to collect the amount of the coins put in, therefore resulting in some shops, as reported by the press, collecting about \$300 a month. Perhaps this may give the Honourable Minister of Finance the impression that all coffee shops collect about \$300 a month.

Sir, the Member for Tanjong has suggested that the Government put in more telephones in these coffee shops. While agreeing with him, I would like to request the Honourable Minister not to forget one point: that is these instruments must either be installed in the shops free of rental and the Government collecting all the collections from the boxes, or it rent these instruments to them on the basis of "Pay-and-call" without charging any rental. So, it is up to the Honourable Minister to work out whichever is beneficial. But, above all, if you can have a sort of slot instrument-type machines in the coffee-shops and places of public entertainment, I am sure it will help boost up revenue, if the Government is going to collect the revenue.

Now, in speaking on television, I would request the Honourable Minister to improve its transmission; if possible, to have two channels for the televisions circuit. By the setting up of two channels, then, perhaps the Television Section can have one for commercial and the other for national programme, thereby allowing the public a choice of either national programme on Government matters or on public interest and the other one strictly on commercial lines. Thank you, Sir.

Tuan Haji Othman bin Abdullah (Hilir Perak): Tuan Pengerusi, saya hendak berchakap pendek sahaja, yang pertama-nya saya mengucapkan banyak² terima kasih kepada pegawai² Kementerian ini yang saya rasa didalam masa pembangunan ini pegawai² ini-lah yang telah bertanggung-jawab bagi menyelenggarakan dan menunaikan sa-tiap langkah dan ranchangan yang di-buat oleh Kerajaan kita—kapada mereka ini kita harapkan, supaya akan dapat melipat gandakan

kerja-nya bagi menghadapi Pembangunan Lima Tahun Yang Pertama bagi Malaysia ini.

Tuan Pengerusi, saya hendak menyatakan di-sini berkenaan dengan talipon—Perkhidmatan Talipon yang pada faham saya talipon² yang ada di-pondok² talipon di-tepi jalan ini nampak-nya sudah-lah banyak tetapi malang-nya barangkali tidak begitu diperhatikan oleh pehak yang berkenaan sa-hingga talipon itu tidak dapat di-gunakan, jangankan di-luar bandar, dalam bandar sendiri di-Petaling Jaya saya sudah pernah menhuba pada satu hari kerana mustahak hendak menalipon, saya telah pergi ka-pondok talipon itu 10 buah pondok dan satu pun tidak dapat di-gunakan ada terchabut dia punya nombor, ada wayar-nya terkopak, ada pintu-nya pechah, ada macham². Sa-puloh pondok talipon telah saya tengok baharu ini. Di-dalam meshuarat ini saya dapati tidak ada satu pun dapat di-gunakan sa-hingga terpaksa-lah kita menggunakan talipon di-tempat² yang berjaga. Sebab itu saya minta perhatian kalau sa-kira-nya pondok talipon itu hendak di-buat, walau pun kita ini baharu merdeka tetapi fahaman kita itu tentang menjaga hak milek ra'ayat, hak milek negara ini tidak begitu civic sangat—tangan kurang belajar sedikit, dia pergi putus-kan sana dia pergi chabut di-sini, dia pergi buang di-sana, dia pergi buang di-sini. Jadi kalau Kerajaan begitu belanja satu² itu berapa ratus ribu ringgit. Jadi sebab itu saya minta kepada Kementerian ini—kapada pegawai yang berkenaan supaya menyelia mana pondok² talipon yang tidak dapat di-gunakan itu daripada di-gunakan itu daripada di-letakkan di-situ menyusah-kan orang berhenti motokar hendak talipon tidak dapat—lebih baik bawa balek dan bagikan kapada orang yang hendak talipon, bagikan kapada orang itu lebih mendatangkan munafa'at-nya daripada kita letak dengan tidak ada faedah.

Di-kampong pula bagus pada hari yang pertama Menteri yang berkenaan buka-lah talipon itu dapat-lah dia berchakap dengan ibu pesawat, hari yang kedua langsung tidak payah sampai-lah sekarang ini dan sampai-lah

abadalabidin—entah bila hendak betul-kan. Jadi ini semua-nya, Tuan Pengerusi, kita nampak chantek sahaja bangunan pondok talipon itu tetapi tidak dapat di-gunakan. Ini saya minta walau dalam bandar—walau di-luar bandar kejadian ini sa-rupa sahaja, ada yang dia punya cabel tidak betul, ada dia punya wayar sudah tersangkut² di-sana-sini dan bila kita tanya ini Ipoh punya fasal dan bila kita tanya ini kata-nya Telok Anson punya fasal ini kawasan saya ini di-luar bandar itu dia punya wayar itu tinggi lagi daripada wayar lalu ikut bawah.

Jadi benda macham ini membazirkan duit kita sendiri lebih baik tidak usah di-buat kalau tidak dapat di-gunakan. Atau kalau hendak di-buat pun biar dapat di-gunakan satu berkenaan dengan talipon.

Kedua berkenaan dengan jalan, pekerjaan Perkhidmatan Kerja Raya—Perkhidmatan Kerja Raya kita ini memuaskan-lah nampak-nya tetapi kadang² ada jalan² itu kita sedang laju berjalan di-jalan² yang bagus-lah tahu² ada lubang besar kalau motorcar tidak apa juga-lah Tuan Pengerusi, kalau motor cycle masok dalam lubang itu 'ah jahanam dua² terbang, kita hantar orang itu ka-kubor. Jadi elok di-perhatikan mana ada lubang² yang boleh mendatangkan bahaya tolong betulkan. Itu saya sebutkan ini di-waktu ra'ayat ini, Tuan Pengerusi, lubang besar di-tengah jalan ini Wakil Ra'ayat kena maki juga, dia kata apa wakil ra'ayat ini kerja? Lubang di-tengah jalan ini pun dia tidak chakap dengan Kerajaan, 'ah macham ini sa-kali! (*Ketawa*). Jadi begitu sa-kali orang kampong orang pandang kapada Wakil Ra'ayat ini dia tidak tengok ini J.K.R. bekerja tidak bekerja dia tidak peduli, lubang tengah jalan batu berlonggok—tengok Wakil Ra'ayat kita bukan dia buat kerja, lubang kata-nya, dia tidak betul-kan, orang jatuh dia tidak peduli, ini segala longgok² batu di-tengah jalan dia tidak ratakan, dia ingat kita ini J.K.R. Ini-lah kita minta supaya Pejabat ini dapat membetulkan ini. Kalau hendak di-buat—buat betul², kalau tidak lubang² di-tepi jalan itu elok-lah di-kambus elok² jangan sampai

merbahaya kepada orang ramai. Sekarang ini orang kampung Tuan Pengerusi, dia pakai scooter, taraf hidupnya sudah tinggi sedikit ma'alum-lah kita ini dalam pembangunan sudah banyak membeli Honda. Dia melangkak² dia pakai langkah ka-depan dan belakang, melangkak² pok masuk dalam lubang 'ah habis hidong.

Jadi saya minta-lah kepada Perkhidmatan—ini perkara kechil—tetapi menyakitkan hati orang ramai ini sudah sedikit, kechil sangat.

Yang ketiga-nya berkenaan jalan raya juga barangkali tidak ada hubongan-nya dengan Kementerian ini, tetapi saya hendak chakapkan juga sebab dia berkenaan dengan jalan raya. Sa-panjang² jalan raya ini bagus, melainkan bandar Kuala Lumpur. Kalau bandar Kuala Lumpur ini sudah-lah jalan raya berlubang sa-kejap orang ini pergi gali di-sini sudah itu timbus, dia pergi gali pula sa-hingga, Tuan Pengerusi, kalau motorcar baharu tiga hari hantar workshop fasal patah sana, patah sini, sekeru-nya sudah gonchang berlubang sana, berlubang sini. Chuba tengok. Tuan Pengerusi, kita hendak masuk ka-Parlimen ini sahaja apalah salah dia orang buat tengah malam, tengah malam buat kerja—senang orang lalu—ini siang² tengah hari orang hendak pergi office dia buat kerja, sudah bagini motokar yang motor cycle yang terlanggar, motokar hentam belakang—fasal dia orang itu buat kerja pagi². Chuba buat ikhtiar malam kalau dalam bandar Kuala Lumpur ini mithal-nya kata dalam Petaling Jaya buat malam, tengah malam tidak ada orang—bagi-lah dia elaun sedikit tidak apa—kita boleh luluskan di-sini tidak menjadi soal! (Ketawa). Tetapi itu-lah menyusahkan orang ramai itu, betul dia buat jalan tetapi menyusahkan orang ramai—dia punya perkakas satu dekat hendak masuk Parlimen punya besar² ini tahu-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau silap² haribulan kita pun masuk hospital di-buat-nya.

Jadi saya minta supaya dalam bandar Kuala Lumpur ini umpama-nya kalau ada J.K.R. bekerja biar-lah malam². Berlubang² itu tolong-lah

timbun elok² balek, dan ini semua sekali menyakitkan mata, menyakitkan hati, menyakitkan orang² yang ada dalam bandar kita dan orang² yang di-luar bandar. Jadi itu-lah tiga perkara saya minta kepada Kementerian ini mengambil walau pun kechil tetapi jangan-lah sampai kita biarkan. Terima kaseh.

Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed (Kota Star Selatan): Mr Chairman, Sir, firstly, I would like to congratulate the Ministry of Works, Posts and Telecommunications which has done a great deal of work during the past year and a lot of improvement has been made in the way of communications on the ground, through the wires, and through the ether.

Sir, I would like to make some comments regarding the sending of cables from Kuala Lumpur. I suppose we did not realise that, when Malaysia was formed, there would come a time when Singapore might leave us and become a separate republic. So, we have sent all our organisations regarding cables and all that to Singapore with the result that it is difficult to send cables from Kuala Lumpur or Malaysia to other centres in this world and this is not in keeping with the status of an independent country. I hope that the Minister concerned would see to it that some arrangements be made so that cable handling facilities which are very useful for the foreign press should somehow be centred in Kuala Lumpur and not in Singapore.

Another matter which I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister is a very specific one. It concerns the erection of an embankment—embankment in Alor Star along the Sungei Kedah. The specifications for this embankment—the retaining wall for this embankment—were made by the P.W.D. and one of the specifications, I was told, was that the wall should extend to eight or nine feet below the water level at high tide, and this specification was followed by the contractor. But, unfortunately, eight or nine feet below the water level along the Sungei Kedah at times would mean that the wall is floating in mud. So,

before the wall was two months old it has cracked and has fallen into the river; the result is that the P.W.D. have now undertaken to do the job themselves, and I think a considerable amount of money is being spent. I do hope that the Minister would institute an investigation and find out who was responsible for making this specification because, quite obviously, the men who made this specification must be either unqualified or grossly negligent, and this is the sort of thing which wastes a lot of public money.

The third thing which I like to point out to the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications is that the surfacing of roads in Kedah is being done by contract given to a certain private firm. Sir, I have nothing against the manner the road surfacing was done but, unfortunately, private firms have a tendency not to employ local labour. I do not think surfacing of roads is very difficult, because half the time is normally spent in smoking cigarettes. So, I should think that local kampong people could also be employed to smoke cigarettes part of their time and, maybe, surface the roads during the other part. I do hope that, if possible, the J.K.R. should do their own road surfacing and thus give a chance for local labour to be employed.

Finally, Sir, I would like to point out that engineers who are expected to advise local authorities on various matters tend to treat local authorities with some disdain. If local authorities were to suggest certain things which are not what the engineer wants, then the answer is usually that it cannot be done. Now, these words "cannot be done", I think, should not be too frequently on the lips of the engineers, because engineers are supposed to solve problems; and if they say that this thing cannot be done and that thing cannot be done, then they are not very much engineers by my standard. Sir, I do hope, that engineers who are required to work with and advise local authorities should give their utmost co-operation and should try to carry out the instructions or the decisions made by local authorities.

This matter is particularly related to road traffic signs and the way roads should be laid out. Just because engineers feel that instead of traffic signs, or traffic signals, there should be roundabouts does not mean that the decision of the council to have traffic signs will meet with non-co-operation later on from the engineers. I hope that this could be pointed out to the engineers. Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Enche' Chia Chin Shin (Sarawak):

Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to touch on Supply Head S. 76—Posts Telecommunications, Borneo States, Sub-head 5, Page 608—Maintenance of Telecommunications. Time and again there are general complaints of unsatisfactory service in respect of trunk calls between Kuching and Miri and also between Sibu and Miri. I would like to bring to the notice of the Honourable Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications that very often when one wishes to make a trunk call to Miri from Kuching, the telephone operator will either say "Line faulty" or "Line out of order." Sometimes it is most disappointing that throughout the three minutes one could hear nothing from both ends but "Hello, Hallo, hello", or "Hello, hello, can you hear me?" I would appeal to the Minister concerned to consider the inclusion of funds for the improvement of the trunk call service in Sarawak. Sarawak is known all this time as an under-developed State. It will take too long a time to wait for trunk calls to go through to the big towns in Sarawak. On top of that, trunk call service is very poor. Sometimes the airports are closed for traffic and what have you. Mr Chairman, Sir, this state of affairs surely warrants priority for improvement. I understand that for next year there is no provision for a micro-wave system to be introduced in Sarawak. I would, therefore, appeal to the Honourable Minister to look into this matter seriously. Thank you, Sir.

Dato' Haji Mustapha bin Abdul Jabar (Sabak Bernam):

Tuan Pengerusi, saya bersama² menyokong Anggaran Perbelanjaan Kementerian ini dan suka saya menyampaikan ucapan

terima kaseh kepada Kementerian ini dan kepada pegawai² serta kaki-tangan-nya daripada sa-rendah²-nya hingga sa-tinggi²-nya yang telah dapat menjalankan tugas-nya dengan baik bagi pembangunan negara ini.

Tuan Pengerusi, di-sini saya suka hendak memberi sedikit pandangan di-dalam S. 73, ia-itu di-bawah baha-gian Kerja Raya. Tuan Pengerusi, satu perkara yang saya suka hendak beri pandangan di-sini ia-itu berkenaan Jambatan Kota di-Kelang. Jambatan Kota ini ada-lah satu jambatan yang baik dan saya kata paling panjang sa-kali. Dan jambatan ini ada-lah satu jambatan yang sangat mustahak bagi menghubungkan di-antara Pelabuhan Port Swettenham dengan bandar Ibu Kota, Kuala Lumpur ini. Dan Jam-batan ini-lah yang banyak sa-kali di-gunakan oleh kereta² lalu-lalang, ter-utama sa-kali lori². Tetapi sayang sedikit, Tuan Pengerusi, jambatan ini sangat kecil.

Jadi apabila tiba masa-nya kereta yang sebok dan kebanyakan lori² yang lalu lalang dari Port Swettenham ka-Ibu Kota ini, dan jika di-dapati lori² ini rosak di-tengah jalan maka kereta yang menunggu di-belakang lori itu terpaksa-lah menunggu jalan sa-belah itu sa-hingga lapang, baharu-lah boleh lalu kerana hanya dua buah lori sahaja pergi dan balek yang boleh lalu di-atas jambatan ini. Jadi saya berharap-lah kepada Yang Ber-hormat bagi pehak Kementerian ini supaya dapat mengkaji sa-mula sama ada hendak di-buatkan lagi satu jam-batan yang begitu besar-nya, atau pun di-besarkan lagi atau pun macham mana, kerana saya perchaya pada mula-nya jambatan ini di-buat dahulu barangkali harus juga, bagi pehak Pengarah jabatan ini memikirkan Ibu Kota ini tidak bagini sebok dan Port Swettenham ini tidak akan menjadi pelabuhan Antara Bangsa. Jadi oleh kerana itu saya harap akan dapat pandangan dan perhatian daripada pehak Yang Berhormat Menteri yang berkenaan.

Yang kedua, Tuan Pengerusi, saya bawa kepada S. 74, ia-itu di-bawah Pechahan-kepala 2, Penyiasatan Ke-juruteraan, muka 596. Tuan Pengerusi,

saya tengok pehak Penyiasatan Ke-juruteraan ini telah mendapat kejayaan yang baik terutama sa-kali bagi meng-gantikan segala ferry² yang ada di-Pantai Timor sana dengan jambatan, dan ini sangat-lah menggembirakan dan menyukakan hati orang² yang di-sa-belah Pantai Timor, tetapi saya berharap dapat-lah kira-nya Kemen-terian ini juga chuba menjalankan penyiasatan untok menggantikan ferry yang ada di-Sabak Bernam dan Kuala Selangor itu dengan jambatan. Kerana jalan² ini juga tidak kurang ramai-nya sa-bagaimana juga jalan di-Pantai Timor dan ferry di-Sabak Bernam dan di-Kuala Selangor ini juga saya fikir sangat mustahak kalau dapat di-adakan penyiasatan sama ada boleh atau tidak di-adakan jambatan tetapi saya perchaya kerana bagi pehak kejuruteraan kita, Pengarah Kerja Raya kita ini akan dapat mengadakan jambatan di-kedua buah ferry yang ada di-Sabak Bernam dan di-Kuala Selangor.

Lagi satu, Tuan Pengerusi, saya bawa kepada S. 77 ia-itu muka 609 berkenaan dengan Pengarah Talikom Negara. Berkenaan dengan Talikom ini, Tuan Pengerusi, saya hendak memberi pandangan pada pehak pen-duduk di-Sabak Bernam sana agak berasa sedikit dukachita, kerana bila membuat perhubungan talipon dari-pada Sabak Bernam ka-Kuala Lumpur ini terpaksa melalui Teluk Anson, melalui Ipoh dan baharu-lah sampai di-Kuala Lumpur. Dengan jalan yang sa-bagitu jauh maka sa-saorang yang membuat panggilan jauh saperti itu terpaksa membayar bayaran yang mahal dan lambat sangat baharu boleh sampai. Jadi ada jalan yang dekat, Tuan Pengerusi, mithal-nya kalau boleh Jabatan ini chuba membuat per-hubungan yang dekat daripada Kuala Lumpur melalui Kuala Selangor dan terus ka-Sabak Bernam, sangat dekat dan sangat hampir, dan saya perchaya dapat di-jalankan oleh Kementerian ini.

Jadi itu-lah sahaja, Tuan Pengerusi, yang suka saya hendak beri pandangan atas Kementerian ini. Saya harap akan dapat perhatian daripada pehak Kementerian ini. Terima kaseh.

Enche' Lee Seck Fun (Tanjong Malim): Mr Chairman, Sir, I wish to touch on Supply Head 75, Postal Services, page 604 Sub-head 44 Stamp-Vending Machines.

Sir, I am happy that following my previous suggestion to the Minister a sum of \$10,050 is voted for in this year's budget for Stamp Vending Machines. At the present moment, I understand stamp vending machines are only installed in big posts offices in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, and other big towns. However, I would suggest to the Honourable Minister concerned that with the sum allocated here, smaller post offices will also have stamp-vending machines installed. As we know, Malaysia is an independent country now, and it has in fact attracted a lot of tourists; therefore, it will be very convenient if tourists or travellers can find stamping machines to purchase stamps from almost every post office that they go to. I would also like to suggest that the Ministry concerned will also think of a way to allow big hotels, or big business firms or clubs, to rent stamp-vending machines, as this will help the customers of these places to purchase stamps instead of having to go through a queue at the General Post Office, Kuala Lumpur. If this is done, I am sure we can have extra revenue through the purchase of stamps. This would also help in the problem of staffing, as the number of staff who sell stamps could then be reduced.

On Head S. 75, page 603 Sub-head 28, I note that this item "Losses arising out of Stamp Vending Machines" asks for an allocation of \$50 but I do not see how there should be any loss in stamp-vending machines. So, I would like to seek clarification from the Minister concerned why this should be provided for. Thank you.

Sitting suspended at 11.35 a.m.

Sitting resumed at 12.00 noon.

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

House immediately resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

Mr Chairman: Saya suka hendak memberi tahu kepada Ahli² Yang Berhormat, kita bersidang hari ini hingga pukul 1.00 sahaja, tetapi usul itu akan di-bawa kemudian daripada Menteri menjawab. Jadi dengan kerana tujuan itu maka hendak-lah kita memendekkan perbahathan kerana hendak memberi peluang Menteri menjawab—barangkali Menteri berkehendakkan 20 minit atau lebih sa-tengah jam. Jadi kita atorkan masa kita bagitu-lah. Sekarang saya jemput-lah sa-siapa hendak berchakap, pendek² sahaja.

Enche' Abdul Karim bin Abu Melaka Selatan): Dato' Pengerusi dalam menyokong perbelanjaan yang di-minta ini, saya suka-lah hendak berchakap bagi pehak kami di-negeri Melaka juga memberikan tahniah dan terima kaseh kepada Kementerian Kerja Raya, Pos dan Talikom, kerana Kementerian ini berkhidmat lebih lagi, agak saya daripada Kementerian yang lain, dengan tidak mengira panas dan hujan. Di-Melaka, ada satu cerita, ada pelawat datang daripada luar negeri hendak di-bawa melawat di-kawasan Kemendor. Di-dalam motokar, driver bagi pehak Kerajaan telah berkata, "Jaga baik tuan, kerana jalan ka-Kemendor ini kurang baik." Sampai di-Kemendor dia bertanya, "Mana jalan yang tidak baik itu?" Driver ini berkata, "Sudah lepas." "Jadi aku pun tidak terasa", kata pelawat itu.

Dato' Pengerusi, tujuan kata saya ini ia-lah menunjukkan bagaimana chekap-nya pekerja² Kementerian Kerja Raya ini menjalankan tugas-nya dan khidmat-nya kepada tanah ayer kita. Ini patut-lah di-beri pujian.

Saya hanya hendak berchakap—muka surat 600 S. 75—Kerani² Pos. Saya dapat bayangan ada kerani² pos ini sudah meminta kerja lain kerana gaji-nya ada-lah sangat rendah. Umpama daripada jawatan kerani ini dia hendak pergi ka-jawatan guru. Jadi saya harap pada pehak Kementerian menimbangkan gaji Kerani² Pos ini supaya layak dengan jawatan-nya itu.

Kapada muka surat 602 S. 75 Pechahan-kepala 14, Elaun Wakil Pos. Pada tahun 1965 di-untokkan

\$215,000 tetapi pada tahun 1966 peruntukan ini tinggal \$200,000 sahaja. Dato' Pengerusi, saya tidak tahu-lah sama ada Wakil Pos ini makin berkurangan di-tanah ayer kita tetapi kerja² yang di-buat dan di-jalankan oleh Wakil² Pos ini sa-rupa dengan Pos² Kerajaan. Masa-nya dia bekerja itu dan elaun yang di-berikan kepada dia saya berani berkata—tidak berapa menasabah. Jadi ini-lah harap mendapat pertimbangan daripada Menteri yang berkenaan.

Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad: Yang Berhormat Dato' Pengerusi, saya juga bangun menyokong Anggaran Perbelanjaan Kementerian ini. Sa-lain daripada itu saya menguchapkan tahniah atas kerja² yang telah di-jalankan oleh Kementerian ini dan Kementerian inilah satu Kementerian yang mendidik ra'ayat di-luar bandar berjimat-chermat dengan menyimpan wang di-Pejabat Pos.

Dato' Pengerusi saya hanya hendak berchakap S. 75—Perkhidmatan Pos—Pechahan-kepala 14, Elaun Wakil Pos. Bagaimana yang telah di-chakapkan oleh sahabat saya tadi, saya chuma hendak menarek perhatian dalam bahagian ini. Wakil² Pos ini menjalankan kerja-nya dengan baik, kekurangan perbelanjaan ini, saya fikir, sebab banyak Pejabat² Pos telah di-buka di-luar bandar. Apa yang saya harapkan kepada Wakil² Pos yang telah bekerja dengan baik ini sa-kira-nya Pejabat Pos di-buka di-satu² kawasan itu dan Wakil² Pos ini ada mempunyai kelayakan, dengan umur-nya sa-kali, saya harap Jabatan ini mempertimbangkan supaya dapat dia di-terima bekerja di-Pejabat Pos, sa-kurang²-nya dalam jawatan yang rendah seperti postman.

Yang kedua, Dato' Pengerusi, saya gemar membangkitkan perkhidmatan ini berhubung dengan pengirim wang dengan chara register. Ini telah berlaku khas-nya di-luar² bandar kebanyakan ra'ayat di-luar bandar mengirinkan wang kepada mereka yang berkenaan selalu kehilangan wang itu. Jadi kita tidak tahu-lah kejadian ini oleh sebab pada masa sekarang surat² bila dihantar oleh pejabat pos hendak disampaikan kepada pehak yang ber-

kenaan surat yang ada mempunyai wang itu berbau wang. Dengan sebab itu berlaku selalu kehilangan. Saya harap Kementerian ini dapat mengkaji balek berhubung dengan khidmatan ini kalau boleh di-berhentikan mengirinkan wang chara register. Ini tidak menyusahkan ra'ayat dan tidak merugikan Kerajaan. Sebab, saya tengok dalam Pechahan-kepala ini ada menunjukkan kehilangan surat² dan membayar barang² sa-banyak \$56,000. Jadi saya minta-lah Kementerian ini dapat memikirkan pandangan saya ini.

Dato' Pengerusi, dalam Jabatan Talikom, kita juga memang berasa berbesar hati Kerajaan ini telah membuat satu gerakan chara besaran² membekalkan pondok² talipon di-seluruh kampung di-luar² bandar. Tetapi ada satu perkara yang berlaku dengan sebab kenaikan bayaran talipon ini menjadikan satu kerunsingan kepada ra'ayat di-kampung² khas-nya manakala mendengar penerangan daripada parti² Pembangkang berhubung dengan kenaikan ini. Saya memberikan satu pandangan dalam perkara pondok² talipon yang telah di-buat oleh Kerajaan di-kawasan² luar bandar ini pada masa akan datang kalau boleh projek² ini di-buka hendak-lah di-rasmikan sa-kurang²-nya oleh Pengerusi Pembangunan Luar Bandar daerah itu atau pun pehak yang berkenaan. Bila di-rasmikan pondok² talipon ini Jabatan Talikom atau pegawai² Kerajaan itu dapat memberikan satu pandangan kepada ra'ayat tentang kegunaan pondok talipon ini, tentang chara membaiki tentang apa khidmat yang hendak di-buat oleh pondok² talipon pada penduduk² di-luar bandar.

Akhir-nya, Dato' Pengerusi, saya berchakap dalam S. 74 ia-itu Penyenggaraan Jalan² Raya dan Jambatan. Ini sangat di-puji oleh ra'ayat sebab peruntukan-nya banyak lebih daripada \$14 million pada tahun ini telah di-untukkan dalam Kepala ini. Tetapi ada satu perkara yang saya fikir patut ditimbangkan oleh Kementerian ini berhubung dengan jalan raya dan jambatan yang masuk ka-sekolah². Jalan ini tidak panjang. Dato' Pengerusi, hanya sa-tengah batu kurang daripada sa-tengah batu atau satu batu.

Bangunan sekolah itu boleh kita buat tetapi jalan yang hendak masuk ka-sekolah itu bila di-tanya kata dia di-bawah jagaan Kementerian Pelajaran. Bila di-tanya Jabatan Pelajaran Negeri dia kata di-bawah Jabatan Kerja Raya. Jadi saya harap daripada dua Kementerian ini memberikan kerjasama, jalan yang masuk ka-sekolah itu juga patut jabatan ini mengatorkan dan membaiki di-bawah jagaan J.K.R. Ini menjadi satu kesulitan khas-nya kepada sekolah yang baharu kita buka, bangunan-nya baik sa-bagaimana saya chakapkan tadi tetapi jalan-nya mendukachitakan.

Satu perkara lagi yang saya hendak bangkitkan berhubung dengan jalan raya ini, Dato' Pengerusi, ia-itu telah di-chakapkan oleh sahabat² saya berhubung dengan kerosakan jalan² raya dan Kerajaan telah mengeluarkan wang banyak kerana penyelenggaraan jalan raya ini, tetapi satu perkara yang saya fikir patut di-timbangkan untuk mendapatkan hasil daripada jalan raya ini ia-itu kenderaan motor kar, lori² daripada sa-buah negeri yang lain masuk ka-dalam negeri kita ini patut kita kenakan chukai jalan raya seperti lori², motokar² yang masuk daripada Singapura—di-sebelah selatan atau pun lori² atau bus² yang masuk daripada utara—daripada negeri Siam masuk ka-tanah ayer kita ini, kita kenakan chukai jalan raya kepada kenderaan² ini. Maka dapat menambahkan hasil negara kita malahan kenderaan daripada luar negeri masuk dalam negeri kita ini dengan banyak dan kenderaan ini boleh merosakkan jalan raya yang kita bena itu pada hal mereka tidak satu pun di-kenakan chukai kenderaan. Itu sahaja, Dato' Pengerusi.

Enche' Soh Ah Teck (Batu Pahat):

Mr Chairman, Sir, last year, during the Budget debate, I did bring to the attention of the Honourable Minister the matter of an outmoded and obsolete ruling, existing in the Telecommunications Department about the delivery of telegrams. Sir, I pointed out that telegrams were only delivered within a two-mile radius of post offices notwithstanding that towns have outgrown the two-mile radius, and those living just outside the two-mile radius

shall have to get the telegrams delivered through the post. Well, the Honourable Minister then assured me that this situation would be put right and that the Telecommunications Department had bought motor-cycles to ensure speedy delivery of such telegrams. Unfortunately, Sir, here is a written petition addressed to the Honourable Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications from one Enche' Aziz bin Haji Abdullah of Jalan Kluang, Batu Pahat. This gentleman's brother-in-law, who stayed in Muar, went to the Muar Telegraph Office to despatch a telegram to the former informing him of the death of his mother-in-law at 8.05 a.m. on the 15th November this year, and the message was received at the Batu Pahat office at 9.00 o'clock in the morning, i.e., about half an hour later. But, unfortunately, Sir, the telegram was delivered not on the same day but the day after, that is to say, at 3.30 p.m. on the 16th, i.e., thirty hours after it had been received at the Batu Pahat office. Well, Sir, this poor fellow had to rush over to Muar and then found that he and his wife were twenty hours late to see his late mother-in-law who was already six-foot underground! Well, I am not trying to be unpleasant, Sir, but certainly I do hope that situations of this nature could be put right and services could be more efficient. Thank you, Sir.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub:

Mr Chairman, Sir, first of all, I wish to thank all Honourable Members who have complimented the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications, the Ministry and the Department officials for the good work that they have done in the past year. As I have said in my speech, I am sure that all of them will continue to give their utmost to the country.

Now, Mr Chairman, Sir, the Honourable Member for Tanjong has raised the question of this tariff increase in telephone taxes. The only answer I can give here is that this has been stated very clearly by the Minister of Finance, and I have nothing more to add to what has already been stated publicly by the Honourable Minister.

He has asked why is there an increase in housing and hotel allowances in the 1966 Estimates. The answer, to that, Mr Chairman, Sir, is that the increase in housing and hotel allowances is due to increase of the approved rates in respect of these allowances, including day and night allowances, recently approved by the Government. With the extension of the Television to the whole of the West Coast, the night allowances have also gone up, because the TV transmitters must be kept in operation late in the night every day of the year. Furthermore, with the proposed extension of the microwave links to the East Coast in the year 1966, additional housing and hotel allowances have to be paid to staff to work in these microwave stations which will be remote from the towns.

The same Honourable Member also asked concerning the decrease of about \$5.9 million in the 1966 Estimates concerning Head S. 77. Mr Chairman, Sir, here I would like to refer the Honourable Member to a part of the speech I made this morning: I said—

“This limitation in expenditure is necessary in order to conserve funds. However, in view of the growing demand for telephones and the need to keep up the existing services functioning, it may be necessary for the Government to come forward some time in 1966 for supplementary funds.”

The economic cuts have been made unavoidable because of the present financial stringency and are not in anyway connected with the introduction of the Telephone Tax which the Honourable Member has raised.

Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Raub telah membangkitkan masalah tentang chara² mengirim Money Order—chara-nya menurut Ahli Yang Berhormat itu patut-lah di-perbaiki. Saya suka-lah menerangkan di-sini ia-itu Jabatan yang berkenaan sentiasa dari satu masa ka-satu masa mengkajikan chara² mengirinkan Money Order dan sa-terus-nya chara² bekerja di-dalam Jabatan itu, di-mana yang patut di-perbaiki mereka akan terus membaiki Jabatan mereka.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga menerangkan ia-itu dia harap supaya

bekalan ayer di-sambong ka-kampong² jikalau boleh. Di-sini saya suka-lah menerangkan bahawa sambongan bekalan ayer ka-kampong² kechil yang jauh² ada-lah perkara dalam kuasa Kerajaan Negeri. Yang sa-benar-nya di-dalam Rancangan Pembangunan Lima Tahun Yang Kedua kita telah menekankan kepentingan menyambongkan bekalan ayer ini ka-dalam kawasan² luar bandar.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga menimbulkan masalah supaya jalan² kechil ka-tempat² pembangunan yang telah di-jalankan oleh Kerajaan di-luar bandar itu patut-lah kita perbaiki supaya tidak ada debu² lagi jikalau kereta berjalan di-tempat itu. Ahli Yang Berhormat itu mahu Jabatan ini memberi batu atau pun mengadakan tar di-jalan² itu. Saya suka-lah menerangkan di-sini peruntukan untuk maksud menyelenggarakan, menjaga, memperbaiki jalan² kechil ini telah pun kita bahagi kepada tiap² district, tiap² daerah. Jadi saya suka-lah memberi jaminan kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat itu ia-itu jikalau Kementerian ini menjalankan pekerjaan seperti biasa untuk memperbaiki tempat² itu memang-lah kita dengan sa-berapa boleh akan memperbaiki jalan² ini—ini ia-lah masalah priority. Di-seluruh Malaya kita ada banyak tempat pembangunan negara dan kita terpaksa-lah mengkajikan di-mana satu tempat yang patut di-dahulukan, bukan-lah ini di-katakan bahawa Kerajaan itu tentu-lah betul, jikalau tidak di-beri kepada kawasan Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, di-beri kepada tempat yang lain, kerja itu 100% betul—tidak juga begitu—kerana kita ini kadang² ada-lah khilaf untuk mengkajikan mana yang dahulu, mana yang kemudian—ini bergantung kepada fahaman masing².

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga telah menimbulkan masalah jalan raya daripada Cameron Highlands ka-Raub kalau saya tidak salah, sampai ka-Kuala Lumpur. Kerajaan sa-benar-nya mengetahui kepentingan-nya perkara ini dan sekarang ini Kerajaan sedang mengkajikan perkara itu dengan sa-dalam²-nya.

Mr Chairman, Sir, may I speak in English again in reply to the Honourable Member, my friend from Penang Utara. He said this among other things:

"Touching on this matter of development, naturally, I have got to think of public funds and the manner how the P.W.D. or the J.K.R. are implementing the policies of the Government and the funds voted to the Ministry. Sir, I understand that the various fields of contracts and tenders the Government contractors, big and small, are finding it difficult to tender or undertake Government contracts due to lack of capital and extra overheads plus financial tie-ups which involve their capital and profits being withheld by the J.K.R. Department."

He further said this:

"I have been informed that malpractices are increasing the incidence of corruption and improper payments between the contractors and the staff of the J.K.R. Department and these will, in the long run have to be borne by the public in general. This is a fact that I would like to ask the Minister of Finance to focus his attentions on, as this will add up to the cost of the various construction works of the Government; and any action taken by him will be on the basis of an austerity drive."

In the course of the debate I have to interrupt him, Mr Chairman, Sir, because an allegation of corruption is a very serious allegation. I asked him to state clearly whether that was an allegation of fact coming from his personal knowledge, and received by him from reliable information. The only answer he could give was that he was conveying a public opinion. Where he got that public opinion from he did not disclose. But, however, he quoted something—a text from the report of the Commission to inquire into matters affecting the integrity of the Public Services in 1955, that is to say, pre-Merdeka Day. Mr Chairman, Sir, again in course of the debate, the Honourable Member says that a good parliamentarian is someone who must always voice public opinion in this House. It seems, therefore, according to his definition, that a good parliamentarian is a parliamentarian who, in his argument, relies on facts which are no longer valid today—in other words, very much out of date. He is quoting the 1955 Report in order to say that

this is the allegation today. I quote what the report says:

"FINANCIAL CONTROL:

A common complaint by contractors is that they are delayed in obtaining payment for works completed."

That is the very substance of the speech used by the Honourable Member just now. They sometimes alleged that the cashiers require a commission either to accelerate payment or to refrain from delaying it. This is in connection with the P.W.D.

Now, Mr Chairman, Sir, this is the 1955 Report and, then, certain suggestions have been agreed to by the Government, and I am sure the Honourable Member knows fully well that in 1955 Malaya was not an independent, sovereign country. Be that as it may, the report also says this:

"The complicated budgeting between the Federal and State Treasuries frequently results in the department being asked to do more work in the latter part of the year than they can effectively supervise, in order to spend money which might not be rewarded."

Now this is important sentence:

"Delays in payments are more frequently due to shortage of imprest than to any other one cause."

which the Honourable Member has not quoted. He only quoted those passages which suit his allegation concerning corruption and malpractice again he is not prepared to substantiate that; he is merely hiding behind the very convenient expression "public opinion".

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, on point of clarification—as I said, I was so harassed that I was not able to complete whatever I have taken note of, and I have quoted the matter under discussion in detail.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: A good parliamentarian is a parliamentarian who always prepares himself to meet any objection that may come up during the course of the debate.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Mr Chairman, Sir, it is a point of opinion. It is a case of the Honourable Minister trying to corner me, or feeling himself being cornered.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: I was not trying anything of that sort, Mr Chairman, Sir.

Mr Chairman: I think a good parliamentarian is also a member who can speak with his tongue in his cheek, which the Member was probably doing. (*Laughter*).

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: I was only trying to emphasize the well-known principle of parliamentary debate, that is to say, if any Honourable Member makes an allegation of fact, he must support that fact. If I say before this House, that I know there is a corruption in a department, I must be prepared to substantiate that, supplying to the Government every piece of evidence. That is the character of a responsible parliamentarian.

Enche' Geh Chong Keat: Sir, on point of clarification—as I have said just now, I am only reflecting public opinion. Therefore, in this House we should not be afraid of public opinion being re-echoed, and I am not making specific allegations.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Public opinion is a very vague expression. We have seen the incident in this House of the Honourable Member from Sarawak. Mr Stephen Yong vis-à-vis ordinary rule of the debate. The Honourable Member who speaks about a fact must be responsible for the accuracy of his statement. If not, then he is not a responsible Member and that is not the character of a responsible parliamentarian. Be that as it may, Sir, I am glad to hear that he has withdrawn. At least, he says that he did not make any allegation. In fact, after reading this report during the recess, I find that what he said this morning was merely a reiteration of what is already contained in this 1955 Report. So, I will not dwell on this any more.

He has asked the Government to look into this question of the salaries of the lower income group. Sir, the question of salaries involves not only this Ministry but it involves the whole policy of the Government, and also it affects other members of the public

services. It must not be looked at in isolation and, therefore, this Ministry cannot really tackle the question of the adequacy or inadequacy of salaries of any department in isolation. It is for this reason that we have set up the Salaries Commissions, which are currently looking into various claims by members of the public services.

The Honourable Member raised a few other minor points. For example, he wants this Ministry and the Ministry of Finance to work out a system to accelerate payment to contractors for works undertaken by them. Mr Chairman, Sir, work is only initiated when financial provision has been received by the department concerned. To comply with the F.G.Os tenders are called for the implementation of projects. Progress payments are made in accordance with the condition of contract between the governments and the contractor concerned. This involves measurement or assessment of work done and then a progress payment certificate is put up by the engineer or quantity surveyor concerned. Preparation of voucher follows to enable payment to be made; the voucher on being certified by respective senior officer is passed to the Treasury accounting section for issue of cheques to complete payment.

On this question of rented telephone call-boxes in coffee shops making \$300 a month, as reported in the newspaper, according to the Honourable Member for Penang Utara, my answer to that, Mr Chairman, Sir, is that the Honourable Member should not believe everything that the newspapers print—newspapers are not infallible. Some reports are inaccurate. Statistics taken by the Telecommunications Department show that these rented call-boxes in coffee shops do not bring in the figure \$300 a month, as quoted by the Honourable Member, to the coffee shop owner. Telephone rentals, including rent for these call boxes in coffee shops, are always under review, and new type call boxes using a different system of rental have been under consideration for sometime now, but action is being withheld pending the introduction of

the local call charges. With the introduction of local call charging, there will also be a change in the policy of renting call boxes to coffee shops.

Tuan Pengerusi, Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Hilir Perak telah membangkitkan masalah talipon² yang ada dekat² jalan raya dan di-tempat² yang lain yang telah di-rosakkan oleh orang² yang nakal atau pun penjahat². Saya suka-lah menerangkan di-sini, ia-itu Kerajaan tidak-lah dapat mengadakan tukang² jaga untuk menjaga tiap² telephone booth itu. Bagaimana pun, seperti yang telah di-chadangkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, banyak talipon² booth yang telah rosak—di-rosakkan oleh budak² nakal dan penjahat², telah kita tarek balek atau pun kita pindahkan ka-tempat yang lain di-mana orang² ramai menghendaki talipon itu. Saya suka-lah memberi jaminan kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, ia-itu jabatan yang berkenaan akan berusaha dengan sa-berapa daya upaya untuk memberi kemudahan² talipon kepada ra'ayat² sakalian sa-takat yang kita boleh buat.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga telah menimbulkan masalah banyak lubang² besar di-jalan raya yang patut di-perbaiki dengan sa-berapa segera. Memang-lah menjadi policy Kerajaan, dengan sa-berapa boleh-nya untuk memperbaiki lubang² di-atas jalan² raya, bukan sahaja menunggu sa-hingga lubang² itu telah besar, bahkan ketika lubang itu maseh kecil. Kerana kalau kita tutup lubang² yang kecil itu kita akan berekonomi lagi. Jika kita menunggu sa-hingga lubang itu besar baharu kita hendak memperbaiki-nya, maka belanja yang besar akan terpaksa kita gunakan.

Mengenai chadangan Ahli Yang Berhormat itu supaya kerja² memperbaiki jalan² raya di-Kuala Lumpur ini jangan di-jalankan ketika siang hari tetapi hendak-lah di-buat ketika malam, Tuan Pengerusi, dengan sa-berapa boleh-nya jabatan yang berkenaan menjalankan tugas mereka dengan tidak memberi kesusahan kepada orang² ramai. Ada juga kerja² memang di-jalankan pada malam hari dan tidak di-jalankan pada siang hari.

Tetapi, sa-bagaimana kita ketahui bersama², bahawa jika bekerja ketika tengah malam sahaja hendak menutup lubang yang besar, maka lambat-lah kerja itu. Jadi bagaimana pun banyak yang bekerja itu susah-lah kita hendak suroh bekerja tiap² malam.

Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Kota Star Selatan telah meminta Kerajaan memikirkan masalah menghantar telegram atau pun cable ka-luar negeri. Masa ini kita berharap kepada Singapura, kata Ahli Yang Berhormat itu. Perkara ini menerima perhatian daripada Kerajaan, dan sa-benar-nya maseh lagi di-dalam timbangan apa yang patut kita buat untuk memperbaiki lagi sistem ini.

Tentang satu perkara yang di-bangkitkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, ia-itu satu retaining wall dekat Alor Star Kedah—kenyataan² yang lanjut tidak di-beri oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu untuk menerangkan sama ada projek ini projek Kerajaan Negeri atau pun projek Kerajaan Pusat. Jadi, pegawai yang berkenaan akan berhubung dengan Ahli Yang Berhormat itu untuk mendapatkan penjelasan yang lebeh lanjut lagi supaya tindakan yang sesuai yang sa-wajar-nya boleh kita ambil dalam perkara ini.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga men-chadangkan supaya kerja² memperbaiki jalan² raya di-jalankan oleh Jabatan Kerja Raya dan bukan di-beri kepada kontrek². Memang-lah menjadi polisi Kerajaan dengan sa-berapa boleh-nya surfacing of roads itu di-jalankan oleh Jabatan Kerja Raya itu sendiri. Tetapi sa-benar-nya jikalau Jabatan ini tidak dapat oleh sebab kekurangan orang, orang itu banyak kerja yang lain dan urusan kerja yang patut kita buat itu menghendaki di-siap dengan sa-berapa chepat-nya, maka terkadang² perlu-lah kita memberi kerja itu kepada kontrek² juga.

The Honourable Member, Enche' Chia Chin Shin from Sarawak, has raised the question of poor trunk call service in Sarawak. I, myself, am personally aware of this problem, having experienced several times in Sarawak itself the difficulties of trying to get a call from Miri either to Sibü or to

Kuching. Mr Chairman, Sir, the Federal Government is also aware of this and, in fact, in the First Malaysia Five-Year Plan every effort will be made to improve the service, subject of course to the usual limitation, that is to say, funds being available. I must, however, point out to the Honourable Member that it takes time to develop a good trunk telephone system, especially as there is in Sarawak a shortage of roads, and also skilled staff.

Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Sabak Bernam telah meminta Kerajaan supaya Jambatan Kota daripada Klang pergi ka-Port Swettenham diperbesarkan lagi. Kementerian ini akan mengkajikan masaalah ini sungoh pun di-ketika ini besar-nya Jambatan itu di-anggap ada-lah menchukupi untuk kereta² ada pada masa ini. Bagaimana pun, kita akan mengkajikan perkara ini. Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga minta supaya Kerajaan menimbangkan membuat Jambatan untuk menggantikan "ferry service" di-Kuala Selangor dan Sabak Bernam. Saya suka-lah menerangkan kapada Ahli Yang Berhormat itu dan dia tentu-lah akan sangat suka mendengarnya perkara ini ada-lah satu daripada projek yang telah di-approved atau pun telah di-persetujui di-bawah Malaysia Plan yang Pertama. Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga berkata ia-itu jikalau sa-orang itu hendak talipon daripada Sabak Bernam pergi ka-Kuala Lumpur terpaksa-lah dia menerusi Teluk Anson atau pun Ipoh Exchange. Dia menchadangkan supaya satu sistem yang lebih mudah, lebih dekat lagi dapat di-timbangkan oleh Kerajaan. Prinsep yang kita ikut dalam masaalah ini, Tuan Pengerusi, ia-lah kita memikirkan apa satu sistem yang sangat elok sa-kali daripada segi kita hendak mendengar daripada satu hujung kapada hujung lain dan juga mana satu chara yang lebih ekonomi. Terkadang² kita dapati susah akan dapat panggilan talipon daripada satu tempat kapada satu tempat di-dalam "trunk call" ini, tetapi ini boleh jadi di-sebabkan oleh kerana di-satu masa yang tertentu itu talipon itu rosak atau pun oleh sebab perkara² yang lain. Jadi oleh kerana ada kekurangan

wang sa-bagaimana telah saya sebutkan tadi, terkadang² kita tidak-lah dapat untuk memberi segala² yang dikehendaki oleh ra'ayat sakalian. Untuk mengubahkan line itu tadi daripada menerusi Telok Anson dan Ipoh kapada line yang lain, ini tidak-lah dapat kita buat kechuali kita yakin daripada kajian engineer² yang berkenaan ini akan mendapat kebagusan di-dalam chara² kita memberikan service itu dan juga lebih murah daripada yang kita jalankan pada masa ini.

The Honourable Member for Tanjong Malim has asked why financial provision is made for losses arising out of the stamp-vending machines. I would like to state here that the mechanism of stamp-vending machines may sometimes become faulty, and more than one stamp may be ejected on the insertion of one coin—in this event a loss may be sustained. The financial provision is provided to meet this loss.

Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Melaka Selatan telah menceritakan kapada Dewan ini bagaimana hal sa-orang yang datang di-negeri ini dibawa oleh sa-buah teksi berjalan dan dalam perjalanan itu telah di-beri tahu kita baharu sahaja lepas melalui satu jalan yang rosak yang tidak bagitu baik dan orang itu berkata dia telah tidak merasa. Ini membuktikan, kata Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, bahawa Pegawai² Jabatan Kerja Raya telah menjalankan tugas mereka dengan bagitu baik menjaga jalan² raya kita di-Malaya ini—satu cherita yang bagini sangat²-lah menyenangkan hati Kerajaan. Dan dalam masaalah gaji Kerani² Post Office ini, gaji mereka sangat rendah sa-hingga ada mereka itu berchadang hendak minta kerja lain. Saya telah beri jawab pada awal tadi ia-itu masaalah gaji ini terpaksa-lah kita kaji dengan seluroh Jabatan² Kerajaan yang dalam negara kita dan oleh sebab itu-lah Kerajaan telah menubuhkan sa-buah "salary commission". Berhubung dengan masaalah wakil Pos Ahli Yang Berhormat itu berkata peruntukan bagi tahun 1966 nampak-nya kurang, dia sangat-lah berdukachita sa-bagaimana yang telah saya katakan tadi. Walau pun kita,

Kementerian yang berkenaan, suka hendak mendapatkan peruntukan yang lebih besar, lebih banyak lagi, tetapi keadaan wang kita memaksa kita ber-jimat chermat.

Ahli daripada Muar Utara juga menimbulkan masalah elauⁿ wakil Pos. Dia menchadangkan supaya mereka ini di-terima sa-bagai Postmen biasa. Di-sini tidak-lah dapat saya menjawab dengan tepat-nya; masalaah ini bergantung sama ada jawatan kosong, sama ada mereka ini mempunyai kelayakan yang di-kehendaki daripada mereka untuk menyandang jawatan sa-bagai Postmen.

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu juga menimbulkan masalah pengiriman wang dengan register. Kata Ahli Yang Berhormat itu selalu hilang, perkara ini patut di-kaji sa-mula. Dia berchadang supaya ini di-berhentikan jikalau boleh. Jadi ini tidak-lah sunyi berlaku, Tuan Pengerusi, di-mana² tempat pun bukan sahaja di-Malaysia ini bahkan di-negara² yang telah maju memang ada kadang²-nya register itu hilang sama ada dalam perjalanan, terkena churi atau pun yang lain². Jadi sama ada kemudahan ini patut kita berhenti atau pun tidak, saya rasa tidak-lah dapat kita bersetuju kechuali kita tidak dapat berharap langsung lagi kepada perkhidmatan ini. Jikalau mithal-nya perkhidmatan ini dapat memberi kebajikan kepada kira² 50% atau pun 60% kepada ra'ayat tidak-lah boleh kita hendak putuskan oleh sebab ada empat, lima, enam perkara, atau pun sa-puluh atau dua belas cases yang menunjokkan banyak pengiriman wang menerusi pos ini telah hilang.

Masa'alah bayaran kenaikan Telephone tadi telah saya sebutkan ketika

saya berbahath dalam bahasa Inggeris ya'ani jawapan-nya telah pun di-sebutkan oleh Menteri Kewangan. Ahli Yang Berhormat daripada Batu Pahat, I think he has raised the question of delivery of telegrams. As in any other services, sometimes we find something has gone wrong somewhere and where a fault or defect has been spotted we will try our very best to improve the deficiency. I cannot guarantee that the Ministry concerned will be able to give 100% efficiency in its work. I do not think there is any country in the world which will be able to do that, as usual, the assurance that we can give is that we will endeavour our best to improve our present system.

Question put and agreed to.

The sums of \$9,998,140 for Head S. 73, \$29,349,428 for Head S. 74, \$21,976,069 for Head S. 75, \$8,346,685 for Head S. 76 and \$37,893,074 for Head S. 77 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

House resumes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

That notwithstanding the provision of Standing Order 12 (1), further consideration of the business before the House be deferred to the next sitting day and that the House do now adjourn.

Question put and agreed to.

Adjourned at one o'clock p.m.