



SARAWAK

**PENYATA RASMI PERSIDANGAN
DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI**

DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI OFFICIAL REPORTS

MESYUARAT KEDUA BAGI PENGGAL KEDUA
Second Meeting of the Second Session

8 hingga 17 November 2017

DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK KELAPAN BELAS
EIGHTEENTH SARAWAK STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

RABU

8 NOVEMBER 2017

(19 SAFAR 1439H)

KUCHING

Peringatan untuk Ahli Dewan:

Pembetulan yang dicadangkan oleh Ahli Dewan hendaklah disampaikan secara bertulis kepada Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak tidak lewat daripada **8 Disember 2017**

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DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK YANG KELAPAN BELAS

Penyata Rasmi

MESYUARAT KEDUA BAGI PENGGAL KEDUA

Rabu, 8 November 2017

Dewan bermesyuarat di Petra Jaya, Kuching pada jam 9.15 pagi

HADIR

| Bil. | Nama | Konstituensi |
|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Mohamad Asfia bin Awang Nassar D.A., P.N.B.S., D.S.A.P., D.I.M.P., P.B.K. <i>Speaker Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak</i> | |
| 2. | Yang Berhormat Dato Gerawat Gala P.S.B.S., P.B.K. <i>Timbalan Speaker Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak</i> | <i>N.78 Mulu</i> |
| 3. | Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg D.P. D.A., P.N.B.S., J.B.S. <i>Ketua Menteri</i> <i>Menteri Kewangan dan Perancangan Ekonomi</i> <i>Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli</i> | <i>N.8 Satok</i> |
| 4. | Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas D.A., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K. <i>Timbalan Ketua Menteri</i> <i>Menteri Pemodenan Pertanian, Tanah Adat dan Pembangunan Wilayah</i> | <i>N.37 Bukit Saban</i> |
| 5. | Yang Berhormat Tan Sri Datuk Amar Dr James Jemut Anak Masing D.A., P.S.M., P.N.B.S., P.B.S. <i>Timbalan Ketua Menteri</i> <i>Menteri Pembangunan Infrastruktur dan Pengangkutan</i> | <i>N.64 Baleh</i> |
| 6. | Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Bin Ali Hasan D.A., P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.M.N. <i>Timbalan Ketua Menteri</i> <i>Menteri Pembangunan Perindustrian dan Usahawan</i> <i>Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli II</i> | <i>N.82 Bukit Sari</i> |
| 7. | Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.B.S. <i>Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan</i> <i>Menteri Kewangan II</i> | <i>N.53 Bawang Assan</i> |
| 8. | Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Michael Manyin Anak Jawong P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K., A.M.N., P.P.T., P.P.D. (Emas) <i>Menteri Pendidikan, Sains dan Penyelidikan Teknologi</i> | <i>N.21 Tebedu</i> |

9. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah
P.N.B.S., P.G.B.K.
Menteri Kebajikan, Kesejahteraan Komuniti, Wanita, Keluarga dan Pembangunan Kanak-Kanak N.56 Dalat
10. Yang Berhormat Datuk Prof. Dr Sim Kui Hian
P.J.N.
Menteri Kerajaan Tempatan dan Perumahan N.14 Batu Kawah
11. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi Anak Utom
P.J.N., A.B.S.
Menteri Bekalan Air Luar Bandar dan Elektrik N.69 Kemena
12. Yang Berhormat Datuk Haji Talib Bin Zulpilip
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P.B.S., P.J.N.
Menteri Muda Undang-Undang Adat dan Bumiputera N.60 Kakus
15. Yang Berhormat Datuk Haji Mohd. Narodin Bin Haji Majais
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16. Yang Berhormat Datuk Francis Harden Anak Hollis
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18. Yang Berhormat Datuk Haji Julaihi Bin Haji Narawi
P.G.B.K., P.B.S., K.M.N., P.P.D.
Menteri Muda Jalan Pesisir N.27 Sebuyau
19. Yang Berhormat Datuk Dr Jerip Anak Susil
P.G.B.K., A.M.N.
Menteri Muda Pengangkutan N.19 Mambong
20. Yang Berhormat Datuk Liwan Lagang
P.J.N., P.P.N., K.M.N., J.B.S.
Menteri Muda Bekalan Air N.65 Belaga
21. Yang Berhormat Puan Hajah Rosey Binti Haji Yunus
J.B.K., P.P.B., P.P.S., P.B.E.
Menteri Muda Wanita, Keluarga dan Pembangunan Kanak-kanak N.71 Bekenu
22. Yang Berhormat Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh
D.J.B.S., P.B.K., P.P.B.
Menteri Muda Perancangan Bandar, Pentadbiran Tanah dan Alam Sekitar N.41 Kuala Rajang

23. Yang Berhormat Datuk Roland Sagah Wee Inn
P.G.B.K., J.B.K., P.B.S.
Menteri Muda Pembangunan Adat Tanah N.20 Tarat
24. Yang Berhormat Dr Haji Abdul Rahman Haji Junaidi
J.B.S., A.B.S.
Menteri Muda Elektrik Luar Bandar N.4 Pantai Damai
25. Yang Berhormat Puan Hajah Sharifah Hasidah Binti Sayeed Aman Ghazali
P.T.E.
Menteri Muda Undang-undang, Hubungan Negeri-Persekutuan dan Pemantauan Projek N.7 Samariang
26. Yang Berhormat Encik Malcom Mussen Lamoh
P.B.S., P.T.E.
Menteri Muda Industri dan Pelaburan N.34 Batang Ai
27. Yang Berhormat Dr Haji Abdul Rahman Bin Haji Ismail
A.B.S., P.T.E.
Menteri Muda Pertanian N.79 Bukit Kota
28. Yang Berhormat Dr Haji Annuar Bin Rapae
P.T.E.
Menteri Muda Pendidikan dan Penyelidikan Teknologi
Menteri Muda Perumahan dan Kesihatan Awam N.55 Nangka
29. Yang Berhormat Datu Penguang Manggil
D.J.B.S., K.M.N., P.P.C., P.P.B.
Menteri Muda Kerajaan Tempatan N.76 Marudi
30. Yang Berhormat Encik Abdullah Bin Haji Saidol
P.T.E.
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31. Yang Berhormat Encik Snowdan Lawan
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32. Yang Berhormat Tan Sri William Mawan Anak Ikom
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33. Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Hajah Jamilah Haji Anu
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34. Yang Berhormat Datuk Ambrose Blikau Anak Enturan
P.G.B.K., P.B.S., A.M.N. N.55 Katibas
35. Yang Berhormat Datuk Haji Abdul Wahab Bin Aziz
P.G.B.K., J.B.S., P.P.B., P.P.D. N.38 Kalaka
36. Yang Berhormat Datuk Mong Anak Dagang
P.G.B.K., J.M.N., P.B.S., P.P.D. N.31 Bukit Begunan
37. Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Haji Mohammad Ali Mahmud
P.N.B.S., D.S.A.P., S.I.M.P., P.P.D. N.17 Stakan
38. Yang Berhormat Dato Ranum Anak Mina
K.M.N., A.M.N., K.P.K., P.J.M., P.P.S., P.P.A., B.B.S., A.B.S., P.S.B.S. N.1 Opar
39. Yang Berhormat Puan Hajah Simoi Binti Haji Peri
P.T.E. J.B.K. N.28 Lingga
40. Yang Berhormat Encik Paulus Palu Gumbang
A.M.N., P.B.S., J.B.K., P.T.E. N.80 Batu Danau

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| 41. Yang Berhormat Encik Johnichal Rayong Anak Ngipa P.T.E. | <i>N.33 Engkilili</i> |
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| 63. Yang Berhormat Encik Ali Anak Biju | <i>N.39 Krian</i> |
| 64. Yang Berhormat Encik Wong King Wei | <i>N.9 Padungan</i> |
| 65. Yang Berhormat Encik David Wong Kee Woan | <i>N.54 Pelawan</i> |
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| 67. Yang Berhormat Dr Ting Tiong Choon | <i>N.74 Pujut</i> |
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| 70. Yang Berhormat Encik Miro Simuh | <i>N.18 Serembu</i> |
| 71. Yang Berhormat Encik John Anak Ilus A.P.S. | <i>N.23 Bukit Semuja</i> |
| 72. Yang Berhormat Encik Fazzrudin Bin Haji Abdul Rahman | <i>N.6 Tupong</i> |
| 73. Yang Berhormat Encik Awla Bin Dris A.B.S. | <i>N.25 Simunjan</i> |
| 74. Yang Berhormat Encik Jefferson Jamit Anak Unyat B.B.S., P.B.S., K.M.N. | <i>N.63 Bukit Goram</i> |
| 75. Yang Berhormat Encik Gerald Rentap Jabu A.B.S., P.P.N., J.B.K. | <i>N.36 Layar</i> |
| 76. Yang Berhormat Ir Christopher Gira Anak Sambang P.B.K. | <i>N.59 Tamin</i> |
| 77. Yang Berhormat Encik Rolland Duat Anak Jubin | <i>N.48 Meluan</i> |
| 78. Yang Berhormat Encik Abdul Yakub Bin Haji Arbi | <i>N.58 Balingian</i> |
| 79. Yang Berhormat Encik Safiee Bin Haji Ahmad | <i>N.43 Daro</i> |
| 80. Yang Berhormat Encik Chukpai Ugon P.P.N., A.B.S. | <i>N.66 Murum</i> |
| 81. Yang Berhormat Encik Allan Siden Gramong | <i>N.50 Machan</i> |
| 82. Yang Berhormat Encik Majang Anak Renggi | <i>N.70 Samalaju</i> |
| 83. Yang Berhormat Encik Mohd. Chee Bin Kadir A.B.S., P.B.S., P.J.P.N., J.B.S. | <i>N.40 Kabong</i> |

TURUT HADIR

1. Encik Semawi Bin Mohamad
Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak
2. Cik Sharifah Shazzea Binti Wan Akil
Timbalan Setiausaha Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak
3. Inspektor Johari bin Mudin
Bentara Mesyuarat
4. Inspektor Mohamad Fareed bin Ghazali
Bentara Mesyuarat
5. Inspektor Eden Anak Derben
Bentara Mesyuarat

PETUGAS PERSIDANGAN

PEGAWAI UNDANG-UNDANG

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Cik Azreen Fasya binti Mohamad Abu Bakar | <i>Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 2. Cik Emma Kati anak Pandang | <i>Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 3. Encik Hrrison anak Aris | <i>Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak</i> |

JURUTRENGKAS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Puan Sharlina binti Mushar | <i>Pejabat Setiausaha Kewangan Negeri</i> |
| 2. Puan Beatrice Dinus | <i>Jabatan Imigresen Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 3. Puan Bernadette Willon | <i>Jabatan Kastam DiRaja Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 4. Puan Dayang Duraiza binti Haji Awang Jangka | <i>Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar</i> |

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| 5. | Puan Dzuridah binti Haji Sariee | <i>Kementerian Pembangunan Perindustrian dan Usahawan</i> |
| 6. | Puan Leidiana Azahari | <i>Kementerian Utiliti Sarawak</i> |
| 7. | Puan Lilian Bian | <i>Jabatan Penerbangan Awam</i> |
| 8. | Puan Maria Jamali | <i>Dewan Bandaraya Kuching Utara</i> |
| 9. | Puan Noorina Hamdan | <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak</i> |
| 10. | Puan Nur Ashikin Ahmad | <i>Pustaka Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 11. | Puan Nur Izzatul Fatimah Abdullah | <i>Jabatan Kerja Raya</i> |
| 12. | Puan Valarie Jane | <i>Kementerian Pembangunan Persekutuan</i> |
| 13. | Puan Rosemary Langub | <i>Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak</i> |
| 14. | Puan Rosline Dominic Maon | <i>Jabatan Peguam Besar Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 15. | Puan Winnie Anak Anselm Grem | <i>Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 16. | Puan Meri Sabas | <i>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak</i> |
| 17. | Puan Tamenthi Komarusamy | <i>Unit Perancang Negeri</i> |
| 18. | Puan Valerie Sudan | <i>Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 19. | Puan Khadijah Khaider | <i>Jabatan Akauntan Negeri Sarawak</i> |
| 20. | Puan Nur Xyalihin Jamel | <i>Pustaka Negeri Sarawak</i> |

RAKAMAN PROSIDING

- | | | |
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| 1. | Encik Marzuki bin Abdul Hamid | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran</i> |
| 2. | Encik Liong Hai Toon | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran</i> |
| 3. | Encik Hussien Haji Shuni | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran</i> |
| 4. | Encik Edwin Jambol anak Radin | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran</i> |
| 5. | Encik Syed Faizal bin Wan Dahlan | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran</i> |
| 6. | Cik Nordiana binti Rabaee | <i>Jabatan Penyiaran</i> |

JURUCETAK

- | | | |
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| 1. | Encik Awang Faidzul bin Awang Aboone | <i>Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad</i> |
| 2. | Encik Mohd. Nor Majidi bin Marekan | <i>Percetakan Nasional Malaysia Berhad</i> |

PEMBACA PRUF

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| 1. | Puan Dayang Norazan Kartini binti Dato Pengiran Haji Zain | <i>Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka</i> |
| 2. | Encik Abdul Rashid bin Subet | <i>Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka</i> |

JURUTEKNIK IT

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|
| 1. | Encik Abdul Rahman Belimi | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 2. | Encik Hibatullah Malek | <i>SAINS</i> |
| 3. | Encik Arqam bin Nasir | <i>Unit Pemantauan Pelaksanaan Negeri</i> |

MESSENGER

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | Encik Junaidi bin Samsudin | <i>Kementerian Kerajaan Tempatan dan Perumahan</i> |
| 2. | Encik Christopher Nyenggang | <i>Jabatan Muzium Sarawak</i> |
| 3. | Encik Ideris bin Lamit | <i>Jabatan Pertanian</i> |
| 4. | Encik Herman bin Siss | <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i> |
| 5. | Encik Mohamed Nazeerudin bin Gulam Mohamed | <i>Kementerian Permodenan Pertanian dan Tanah Adat dan Pembangunan Wilayah</i> |
| 6. | Encik Moksen bin Sion | <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i> |
| 7. | Encik Abang Safry bin Abang Bohari | <i>Jabatan Agama Islam Sarawak</i> |

ANGGOTA STAF DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI SARAWAK

1. Puan Magdalen anak Nangkai
2. Cik Noria binti Suut
3. Cik Nur Azira binti Abdul Kadir
4. Puan Siti Norhiza binti Mohd. Yusri
5. Puan Hanisah Abdullah
6. Cik Nur Shalazia binti Morshidi @ Ramzi
7. Cik Ily Lyana binti Rosli
8. Encik Rasdi bin Ahmad @ Tarence Bobby Johnny
9. Puan Mary Kueh Woon Sim
10. Puan Norziana binti Haji Ahmad
11. Encik Harry Harold Daud
12. Puan Katheline Killah
13. Puan Nur Eliana Abdullah
14. Puan Nazmah binti Darham
15. Puan Tracy Liana anak Bana
16. Encik Razali bin Awi
17. Encik Lukas Jammany Anak Kated
18. Encik Zahari bin Bolhi
19. Encik Mohamad Zailani bin Junaidi
20. Encik Hazrin Syah bin Hamzah
21. Encik Alwie bin Haji Ali
22. Cik Hawa binti Morsad
23. Puan Suraya binti Hamden
24. Puan Noraisah binti Ahmad
25. Cik Siti Zalilah binti Samsawi

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 9.15 pagi)

(Tuan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat)

DOA

PERMASYHURAN DARIPADA TUAN SPEAKER

Tuan Speaker: Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim. Assalamualaikum Warahmatullailahi Wabarakatuh. Selamat pagi dan salam sejahtera.

Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, bersyukur kita ke hadrat Illahi kerana dengan limpah kurnia-Nya maka kita dapat berkumpul sekali lagi di Mesyuarat Kedua bagi Penggal Kedua Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak Kelapan Belas atau lebih dikenali sebagai Persidangan Belanjawan.

Saya mengucapkan selamat datang dan terima kasih di atas kehadiran Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat ke persidangan ini. Persidangan kita akan berlangsung selama lapan hari mulai hari ini 8 hingga 17 November 2017 kecuali hari Sabtu, 11 November 2017 dan Ahad, 12 November 2017.

Semoga kita dapat bersidang dalam suasana yang muhibah dan penuh bertatertib.

Bagi pihak Dewan yang mulia ini, saya juga mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi tahniah kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Ketua Menteri Sarawak dan Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi N.8 Satok atas pengurniaan darjah utama Yang Amat Mulia Bintang Kenyalang Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Bintang Kenyalang (D.P) yang membawa gelaran Datuk Patinggi sempena sambutan perayaan harijadi ke-81 Tuan Yang Terutama Yang Dipertuan Negeri pada 9 September 2017 yang lepas.

Setinggi-tinggi tahniah juga diucapkan kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri atas pasmasyhuran sebagai Pro Canselor University Malaysia Sarawak UNIMAS sempena konvokesyen UNIMAS ke-21 pada 6 November 2017. Pasmasyhuran sebagai Pro Canselor Swinburne Sarawak sempena konvensyen Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus pada 24 Oktober 2017.

Dan penganugerahan Honorary Doctorate Degree in Business and Management daripada University College Technology Sibu pada 7 Oktober 2017.

Dewan yang mulia ini juga mengucapkan tahniah kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat berikut yang telah dikurniakan dengan Darjah-darjah Kebesaran Negeri sempena sambutan perayaan harijadi ke-81 Tuan Yang Terutama Yang Dipertua Negeri Sarawak pada 9 September 2017 yang lepas.

- (a) Yang Berhormat Dato Sri Hajah Fatimah Abdullah, Menteri Kebajikan Kesejahteraan, Komuniti, Wanita, Keluarga dan Pembangunan Kanak-kanak dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N56, Dalat yang dikurniakan Panglima Negara Bintang Sarawak (P.N.B.S) yang membawa gelaran Datuk Sri.
- (b) Yang Berhormat Datuk Snowdan Lawan, Menteri Belia dan Sukan dan Ahli Dewan Negeri N30 Balai Ringin yang dikurniakan Panglima Gemilang Bintang Kenyalang (P.G.B.K) yang membawa gelaran Datuk.

- (c) Yang Berhormat Ripin Bin Lamat, Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N72 Lambir yang dikurniakan pingat Johan Bintang Kenyalang (J.B.K) dan
- (d) Yang Berhormat Encik Alan Siden Gramong, Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N50 Machan yang dikurniakan pingat Ahli Bintang Sarawak (A.B.S)

Bagi pihak Dewan Yang Mulia ini juga saya mengucapkan kepada Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat berikut yang telah dikurniakan dengan darjah-darjah kebesaran Persekutuan sempena harijadi Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Dipertuan Agung pada 9 September 2017 yang lepas.

- (a) Yang Berhormat Datuk Liwan Lagang, Menteri Muda Bekalan Air dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N65 Belaga dan
- (b) Yang Berhormat Datuk Sebastian Ting Choo Yu Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N73 Piasau yang dikurniakan Darjah Panglima Jasa Negara (P.J.N) yang membawa gelaran Datuk dan
- (c) Yang Berhormat Encik Ripin Bin Lamat, Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri N71 Lambir yang dikurniakan Bintang Kesatria Mangku Negara (K.M.N)

Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, bagi pihak Dewan yang mulia ini, saya mengucapkan takziah kepada keluarga Allahyarham Datuk Ir. Haji Daud bin Abdul Rahman yang telah meninggal dunia pada 2 Julai 2017 yang lepas. Allahyarham adalah merupakan bekas Menteri Muda dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak bagi kawasan Tupong.

Bagi menghormati Allahyarham, marilah kita sama-sama berdiri bertafakur selama seminit dan membaca Al-Fatihah. (*Bertafakur* seminit) Terima kasih.

Honourable Members, under Standing Order 12(1) and (2) Government business shall take precedence over Private Members business and Government business shall be set down in such manner as the Government thinks fit and communicate to the Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak's Secretary.

Four days, that is, Thursday, Friday, Monday and Tuesday next week are set aside for daily one hour question time. This Friday, Monday and Tuesday shall be devoted to debate on the Budget. The Ministerial replies shall take the remaining three days on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week of this meeting.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Tuan Speaker, I rise on Standing Order. Last sitting we disqualified, this House disqualified a Member, Member for Pujut from his Adunship. I believe in the Speaker's Pemasphyuran, it is only fit that the Speaker should inform this House that the resolution passed on that day to disqualify Member for Pujut has been set aside by the High Court although it is now pending for Appeal. But this House has to be informed and put on record that as of today Honourable Member for Pujut is still a valid member of this House. I believe Tuan Speaker might have overlooked this matter in your announcement this morning. But we have to put on record. Otherwise, for the record of this Dewan, he will still be deemed to have been suspended. The history, the record must be set right.

Tuan Speaker: I shall deal with it after the Government business is over.

**RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN –
BACAAN KALI YANG PERTAMA**

SUPPLY (2018) BILL, 2017

Ketua Menteri, Menteri Kewangan dan Perancangan Ekonomi dan Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (Y.A.B. Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Abang Haji Openg): Tuan Speaker, I beg to introduce a Bill intituled an Ordinance to supply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund for the service of the year 2018 be read the first time.

Bill read a first time

SUPPLY (2018) BILL, 2017

Ketua Menteri, Menteri Kewangan dan Perancangan Ekonomi dan Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (Y.A.B. Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg): I wish to give notice that this Bill would be read a second time today.

**RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN –
BACAAN KALI PERTAMA**

SARAWAK MULTIMEDIA AUTHORITY BILL, 2017

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, I beg to introduce the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 and let this Bill be read a first time.

Bill read a first time

SARAWAK MULTIMEDIA AUTHORITY BILL, 2017

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, I wish to give notice that this Bill be read a second time today.

**RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN –
BACAAN KALI PERTAMA**

SARAWAK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BILL, 2017

Menteri Pendidikan, Sains dan Penyelidikan Teknologi (Y.B. Dato Sri Michael Manyin Anak Jawing): Tuan Speaker, I beg to introduce the Sarawak Research and Development Council Bill, 2017 to be read a first time.

Bill read a first time

SARAWAK RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BILL, 2017

Menteri Pendidikan, Sains dan Penyelidikan Teknologi (Y.B Dato Sri Michael Manyin Anak Jawing): Tuan Speaker, I wish to give notice that this Bill will be read a second time on 9th November 2017.

**RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN –
BACAAN KALI PERTAMA**

REGIONAL CORRIDORS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017

Timbalan Ketua Menteri, Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli II dan Menteri Pembangunan Perindustrian dan Usahawan: (Y.B Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Bin Ali Hasan): Tuan Speaker, I beg to introduce the Regional Corridors Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2017 to be read for a first time.

Bill read a first time

REGIONAL CORRIDORS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2017

Timbalan Ketua Menteri, Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli II dan Menteri Pembangunan Perindustrian dan Usahawan: (Y.B Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Bin Ali Hasan): I wish to give notice that this Bill would be read a second time on 9th November 2017.

**RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN –
BACAAN KALI KEDUA**

SUPPLY (2018) BILL, 2017

Ketua Menteri, Menteri Kewangan dan Perancangan Ekonomi dan Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (Y.A.B Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg): Tuan Speaker, saya mohon untuk mencadangkan suatu Rang Undang-Undang bertajuk “Suatu Ordinan bagi menggunakan sejumlah wang daripada Kumpulan Wang Disatukan untuk perkhidmatan bagi tahun 2018 dan bagi memperuntukkan wang itu untuk perkhidmatan tahun itu” dibacakan bagi kali yang kedua.

Alhamdulillah saya panjatkan kesyukuran ke hadrat Allah s.w.t kerana izinNya saya buat julung kali dapat membentangkan Bajet Negeri Sarawak Tahun 2018 dalam Dewan yang mulia ini, dan berdoa agar ianya dapat mencapai tujuan seperti yang dihasratkan.

Tuan Speaker, first of all, I would like to reiterate that the State Government is determined to continue with the legacy of our former Ketua Menteri, the late Allahyarham Pehin Sri Haji Adenan Satem, popularly known as Tok Nan. We will continue to undertake the initiatives that had been outlined for implementation for the benefits of Sarawak and its rakyat during his tenure particularly on Devolution of Power and Rural Transformation.

Overcoming Challenges

Tuan Speaker, we are constantly challenged by a global eco-system operating in an increasingly and volatile economic environment. At the same time, global market is characterized by dramatic transformation as a result of rapid technological advancement and the fast emergence of digital economy. These forces will inevitably reshape the global economic outlook and drive the way we do business. We shall no longer be able to carry on with business as usual. In this context, special emphasis has been placed on transforming Sarawak into a digital economy, as the digital revolution is becoming an unstoppable force. The convergence of advance communication technology is driving change in all spheres, particularly in the way that we conduct our businesses.

We have to embrace digital transformation or face the risk of being left behind. At the same time, we ought to be mindful of the global economic scenario, the performance and overall outlook.

Tuan Speaker, allow me to share with this august House on the latest overall economic performance of 2017 and the outlook for 2018.

GLOBAL ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE 2017 AND OUTLOOK 2018

Global Economy

After a lackluster output in 2016, economic activity experienced some upbeat momentum in 2017, which is reflected by the acceleration of economic activity in both advanced economies and emerging and developing economies. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its World Economic Outlook July 2017, projected that the world economy to grow at 3.6 percent this year and anticipated to firm up at 3.7 percent in 2018.

Growth in world trade has picked up and is expected to grow by 4.2 percent in 2017 while inflation in advanced economies and several emerging economies such as Brazil, India and Russia remain subdued.

Advanced Economies

Tuan Speaker, growth in major advanced economies is projected to grow by 2.2 percent in 2017 and is estimated to slow to 2.0 percent in 2018. Growth in the four biggest euro area countries namely Germany, France, Italy and Spain is anticipated to be stronger while growth projections for United States and United Kingdom, however, are lower than earlier anticipated. US fiscal policy is expected to be less expansionary, thus growth forecast for US for 2017 is 2.2 percent. For the same year, the growth forecast for UK is at 1.7 percent as the impact of Brexit remains unclear. On the other hand, Japan economy is expected to strengthen, driven by higher domestic consumption.

Emerging and Developing Economies

Tuan Speaker, emerging and developing economies are projected to see a sustained pickup in activities with growth forecast to expand from 4.6 percent in 2017 to 4.9 percent in 2018, reflecting a recovery in commodity-exporting countries. China is expected to see a strong growth, underpinned by the continued support in policy for strong credit growth and public investment. Whilst in India, a pickup is anticipated due to strong Government spending and recovery in private investment. At the same time, the Brazilian and Russian economies are expected to be on a gradual recovery.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE IN 2017 AND OUTLOOK FOR 2018

Tuan Speaker, Malaysia is expecting a stronger GDP growth for 2017, reflected through its performance in the first half of the year, which expanded by 5.7 percent supported by stronger domestic demand, particularly from the private sector expenditure, coupled with improvement in export demand. The National economy is anticipated to achieve a higher growth between 5.2 percent to 5.7 percent as compared to the projected growth between 4.3 percent to 4.8 percent for 2017. World Bank had also revised Malaysia economic growth upward from 4.9 percent to 5.2 percent for this year.

Private investment grew by 10.2 percent in the first half of 2017 following continued capital spending in the services and manufacturing sectors. Private consumption registered a growth of 6.9 percent contributed by the expansion in employment and wage growth. The implementation of Government measures, including Bantuan Rakyat 1Malaysia and continued improvement in consumer sentiments provided further impetus to household spending.

On the supply side, growth continued to expand in the first half of 2017 and was largely supported by the higher contribution from the services and manufacturing sectors. The services sector registered higher growth of 6.1 percent, supported by higher household spending whilst higher demand in the semi-conductors supported the strong performance of the manufacturing sector. Hence, the manufacturing sector is expected to achieve 5.8 percent growth during the period under review.

For 2018, Malaysia economic growth is forecasted to strengthen from 4.7 percent to a range between 5.0 percent to 5.5 percent driven by demand from both domestic and external sectors.

STATE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE 2017 AND PROSPECTS FOR 2018

Tuan Speaker, for the first half of this year, the State economy performed favourably supported by a strong growth in both domestic and external demand driven by recovery in the world economy. Hence, the projected economic growth of the State for the year is between 3.5 percent to 4.0 percent.

Supply Side

On the supply side, growth is expected to be broad based supported by the services, manufacturing and construction sectors.

The services sector is expected to grow by 6.4 percent in 2017. The accommodation and restaurants and wholesale and retail subsectors are expected to grow favorably at 4.9 percent this year, attributable to the growth in tourism-related activities. For the first nine months of 2017, the State registered 5.4 million visitors arrivals which is 12.7 percent higher as compared to the corresponding period in 2016.

Growth in the manufacturing sector is expected at 4.8 percent this year, driven by the higher production of export-oriented industries, particularly from LNG and petroleum products. Further growth expansion is anticipated in 2018 in line with global economic recovery.

For the agriculture sector, production of the main agriculture products has shown significant improvement in the first half of 2017. A double-digit production growth of crude palm oil at 20.8 percent and palm kernel at 21.0 percent were registered in the first half of 2017.

This will enable the State to achieve the estimated growth of 1.9 percent for 2017. A further upward trend is projected for 2018 to be supported by the expansion in output and a more encouraging price of palm oil.

As crude oil production is expected to decrease, growth in the mining sector is anticipated to be low at 0.6 percent in 2017. The cut in output of crude oil is anticipated to flow into the first quarter of 2018.

The construction sector is expected to grow at 12.0 percent in 2017 with implementation of Eleventh Malaysia Plan and other physical projects continue to gain momentum. The implementation of Pan Borneo Highway, Batang Lupar Bridge, rural Transformation Projects and construction activities by the private sector in both the residential and non-residential subsectors will also contribute to the robust growth in the construction sector. Higher construction activities are expected for 2018 as the State continues to push for more infrastructure projects to speed up its development.

Demand Side

Tuan Speaker, on the demand front, the total export receipts expanded by 32.8 percent in the first eight months of 2017 led by manufactured goods, vegetable oils and LNG, while total imports increased marginally by 0.2 percent, resulting in trade surplus of RM36.5 Billion, an increase of 74.2 percent as compared to same period last year.

Domestic demand from both consumption and investment is expected to grow encouragingly this year. Public consumption is expected to grow moderately by 1.4 percent for 2017.

Private consumption is expected to expand by 6.6 percent in 2017 with various Government measures continue to provide impetus to consumption activities.

Private investment is expected to grow at 4.1 percent in 2017 supported by favorable business climate and continuous pro-business initiatives by the Government. For the first half of 2017, a total of RM7.8 Billion worth of investment in Sarawak has been approved. Growth is expected to be continued next year, supported by the on-going investment projects as well as investment in export-oriented industries on the account of improvement in global demand.

Public investment is envisaged to grow at 6.8 percent in 2017 mainly due to higher development expenditure as the State speeds up its implementation momentum on infrastructure projects to ensure more development are put in place for the rakyat. This will definitely continue to be the emphasis in 2018 in tandem with the roll out of the State digital economy initiatives, increase road network and utilities coverage as well as providing more quality of life related projects such as public education and healthcare in the State under the Socio-Economic Transformation Plan.

Labour Market

Tuan Speaker, our labour market condition remained stable in the first half of 2017. During the period, the number of job vacancies reported was 40,915, mainly in the agriculture, construction and manufacturing sectors. With the anticipated expansion in all economic sectors, labour market conditions are expected to remain favorable for 2018.

Inflation

The inflation rate averaged at 3.1 percent in the first nine months of 2017, mainly attributed to higher domestic fuel prices which impacted the transport segment. The inflation rate for 2017 is anticipated to remain manageable.

Given the current encouraging improvement in the global economy which has created a positive impact on the State economy as a whole, the growth prospects for 2018 are anticipated to be more favorable at 4.0 percent to 4.5 percent. Growth will be broad based across the industries and higher external demand is projected to further boost the State economy.

The Digital Economy

Tuan Speaker, in the light of the challenges and the global economic scenario as highlighted earlier, the State ought to strengthen and reshape its development approach and strategies to further accelerate its economic growth. This is imperative particularly with the emergence of digital economy driven by the rapid explosion of technological advancement and the pervasive force of digital revolution.

Digitalization is impacting economic development, our social life as well as the way we do business. Hence, the State has to embrace the new era of digitalization and embark on digital economy in order to stay ahead, to thrive and to prosper.

Digitalization causes constant disruptions and is a potential threat as well as an opportunity. We take this as a tremendous opportunity for the State to shift, accelerate and facilitate economic transformation. We are already into formulating our digital strategies and action plans to seek and secure new opportunities that would bring greater innovations, creating values and prosperity to all and Tuan Speaker, please allow me to share in this august House on Estonia's e-initiatives. Estonia, which is a very small country of size 45,336 sq km and with a population of only 1.3 million is now becoming the leading force of digitization in the World. It started its digital journey on the right framework, strong legislature, and good infrastructure as well as the culture and trust of its citizen.

Estonia is a good digital model which could offer a workable solution for Sarawak to provide fast internet connectivity and penetration crucial for the development of a digital economy. As a matter of fact, the world is also acknowledging Estonia as an incredible digitalization success story, grown out of a partnership between a forward-thinking Government, a proactive ICT sector and a 'switched-on, tech-savvy' society. Dubbed "e-Estonia", it is one of the most advanced e-societies in the world.

Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, I would like to share with you on a few notable statistics:

- 100 percent of Estonia schools and Government organisations are connected to the Internet.
- 99 percent of banking transactions are conducted through the internet.
- 99 percent medical prescriptions are issued electronically.
- 98 percent of under 35s are frequent Internet users.
- 98 percent of Estonian residents have digital ID-cards.

Every Estonian is provided with mandatory national ID-card, a digital identity and access card. It is a secure way of authentication in its electronic environment and provides ease and convenience for e-transactions including signing of legal documents. Each digital signature has saved an Estonian at least 5 business day each year. Estonia has by far the most highly-developed and advanced national ID-card system in the world.

Estonian is able to enjoy such a remarkable e-society mainly attributed to its exceptionally high penetration of digital infrastructure. Fibre optic cables cover the entire country, while direct undersea connections to its neighbouring countries enable it to provide high standard communications. Hence, Estonian households, businesses and institutions in the cities can connect to a 100-Mbps fibre optic network. The same opportunity is expected to reach rural areas by this year.

It was reported that all larger initiatives and most of the e-Government development in Estonia have been undertaken in close cooperation with the private sector or the relevant NGOs. Today, Estonia is preparing to make all public data machine-readable and widely available in order to encourage the development of new e-services jointly with the private sectors.

Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat, Estonia today has reaped tremendous benefits both socially and economically from its 15 years of investment and concerted effort in its digital journey towards e-Estonia. Estonia, by IMF definition, is now an advanced economy and has enjoyed admirable GDP growth for the past 15 years.

It has been known to be among the few countries in the EU with the fastest growing real GDP with the improvement in living standard, growth in income and a leading Eastern European country in foreign direct investment particularly in the sectors of telecommunication and banking. Its Science Park in Tallinn has more than 200 technology based companies contributing to its GDP, as well as innovation that drive value creation. Information technology and communication accounted for 7 percent of its GDP and is one of the fields that recorded the fastest growth in the last 10 to 15 years supporting its economic progress and prosperity.

In terms of job creation, the service sector which includes the ICT sector employs more than 60 percent of workforce. Estonia is also seen as a remarkable success story in the context of its e-Government which has contributed to higher efficiency, transparency, productivity and creating a positive impact to boost its overall economy. Its economy is anticipated to catch up with the other more developed Scandinavian countries like Sweden, Finland, Norway and Denmark.

Tuan Speaker, we can draw many good learning points from the experience and success of Estonia. We must move swiftly to embrace the digital revolution and implement strategies and initiatives in tandem with technological advancement together with the other parts of the world. Only in this way, the State can be globally competitive and sustain its economic growth.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE STATE, ENDING THIRD QUARTER 2017

Tuan Speaker, before I present the proposed 2018 Budget, I would like to update this august House on the State financial performance ending third quarter of 2017.

Revenue, Third Quarter 2017-11-08

The total revenue of the State is anticipated to surpass the original estimates of RM5.321 Billion. Based on the current revenue collection thus far, the estimated revenue for the current year is revised to RM6.100 Billion which is RM779 million or 15 percent higher than the original estimates. The expected higher revenue is mainly attributed to higher dividend income, State sales tax and hill timber premium.

Expenditures Ending Third Quarter 2017
Ordinary Expenditure

For the period ending third quarter of 2017, a total of RM4.180 Billion of Ordinary Expenditure or 73 percent of the approved annual allocations of RM5.706 Billion had been expended. Out of the total amount of Ordinary Expenditure expended during the period, RM1.55 Billion was for operating expenditure while the balance of RM2.625 Billion was appropriated to the Development Fund Account.

With the increase in the revised revenue by RM779 million and no revision in Ordinary Expenditure, the 2017 revised budget is expected to register a surplus of RM394 million against the original estimated deficit of RM385 million. That shows the prudent and good management of the State Barisan Nasional.

Development Expenditure

As for development expenditure, for the period ending third quarter of 2017, RM1.863 Billion had been expended. Expenditure is expected to increase as activities continue to pick up during the last quarter of the year.

In this regards, every implementing agency must continue to monitor projects closely to ensure that all projects under the State Eleventh Malaysia Plan, Rural Transformation Initiatives, the Federal Rolling Plan and the Pan Borneo Highway Project are being implemented efficiently as planned and within the budget. All programmes and projects especially those in the rural areas and that are of high impact, and which have greater spill-over effects to the *rakyat* must be expeditiously to further spur economic growth and the development of the State.

STATE BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR 2018

Tuan Speaker, I would now like to present to this august House, the State Budget Proposal for 2018.

Having taken into consideration and cognizance of the various challenges that we are facing from both, the domestic and external fronts, as well as the anticipated possible outcomes and impact of the digitalization on the State economy, we will focus on the following key strategies in the 2018 State Budget Proposal.

Key Strategies of State Budget Proposal, 2018

Tuan Speaker, these strategies are aimed to achieve a greater and more balanced economic development and to support a desired level of economic growth, as well as to give priority to digital economy.

Development Biased Budget

Sarawak, being a developing State has to continue with a development biased and rural focused budget to stimulate a desirable level of economic activities and sustain economic growth during the year. In this regards, under the 2018 Budget proposal, a sum of RM5.745 Billion or about 70 percent of the total budget is proposed for development while an amount of RM2.481 Billion, or 30 percent is proposed for operating expenditure. Perhaps this is the only State that give emphasis on development 70 percent of the budget.

The State Government is committed to intensify implementation of programmes and projects in the rural areas to further accelerate State development. One of the total development budget, 53 percent allocation will be provided for rural areas in 2018 amounting to RM3.062 Billion. This provision is higher as compared to RM2.65 Billion in 2016 and RM2.982 Billion in 2017. Our continual effort in rural development is vital towards achieving our development objective in opening up greater opportunities in the rural and remote areas for the economic prosperity of our rural community.

As for the urban areas, I would like our young people to be able to enjoy good facilities and amenities for the development of their talent and to promote greater innovation and entrepreneurship particularly the many digital savvy youths in our State.

Digital Economy as the Key Pillar of Economic Transformation

Digital economy will become the key thrust of our future economy and is now included as a new economic strategy in the State Budget Proposal, 2018. The digital economy is a forward looking strategy and the technologies that underpin it will be fundamental for our success and prosperity. Therefore, the Budget Proposal 2018 will support the State's vision to maximise the potential of digital technology and digitalization to bring Sarawak to the global digital playing field. It is my dream that Sarawak will one day be known as "S-Sarawak" where "S" stands for Smart Sarawak.

In this connection, the State Government is committed to provide RM1 Billion for Sarawak digital infrastructure and programmes under Sarawak Digital Economy initiatives, to achieve the following key objectives:

- i. Accelerate and advance the State economic growth;
- ii. Reduce socio-economic divide;
- iii. Generate employment and business opportunities through e-commerce;
- iv. Harness talent and create value through innovations and entrepreneurships; and
- v. Achieve e-Government for efficiency, transparency, trust and confidence.

In addition, the State will establish Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) to be the highest governing body on the development of Digital Economy in the State; and Sarawak Digital Economy Corporation to drive the digital initiatives and ensuring cyber security.

The Agenda of Sarawak Transformation

The State will continue with its agenda of Sarawak Transformation in the areas of social economic transformation, rural transformation and performance and service delivery transformation. For 2018, allocation will be provided to ensure the continual implementation of the various Key Result Areas (KRA) under the transformation initiatives.

Investment Driven Economic Growth

The State will continue to accelerate its economic development through further broadening investment that will create sustainable long-term economic growth. Greater investment focus on key and targeted investment that will directly contribute to the economic growth of industries and business sectors particularly ICT and basic infrastructure, manufacturing, energy, oil and gas, technologies based including digital and other service sectors which would in the longer term:

- i. Generate income and revenue stream;
- ii. Develop talent and skill;
- iii. Promote innovations and entrepreneurial ship;
- iv. Create the much-needed job opportunities for our youth; and
- v. Spin-off in various sub-sectors benefitting our SMEs.

In this regards, the State continues to place greater effort and will allocate a bigger share of its allocation for the purpose. We view such investment as productive investment for the future and is the cornerstone in building a resilient and sustained economic growth that would create long lasting prosperity benefitting our society. Concerted effort and action plan will be put in place to implement all strategic projects and initiatives, such as:

- i. Setting up of DBOS and PETROS (Petroleum Sarawak);
- ii. Implementation of key projects including LRT and Methanol Plant;
- iii. Building more telecommunication towers; and
- iv. Infrastructure and renewable energy projects.

The State Government's priority on such investment is pivotal in providing strong foundation for the necessary infrastructure as well as incentive so as to trigger collaboration with strategic partners to implement key strategic projects that would deliver both social and economic benefits and returns in the years to come.

Private Sectors as the main Engine of Economic Growth

Tuan Speaker, the private sector has been the driving force and the back bone of sustainable economic growth. Measures must be put in place to ensure that the business environment is conducive and friendly for the private sector, particularly the SME to thrive and at the same time enticing higher participation by the private sector in the State development agenda. In this connection, the State Government will continue to support in the:

- i. provision of the necessary basic infrastructure, enhance connectivity and availability of utilities;
- ii. provision of training institutions, incubation centres to step up skill training and capacity building;
- iii. provision of industrial eStates and innovation centres; and
- iv. provision of e-Government service delivery.

These are essential elements to foster closer collaboration with deeper public-private partnership. For the statutory bodies and GLCs, I would also strongly urge you to further shape-up and drive yourself as a true business and private sector with a stronger commercial approach so that you can stand firmly on your own feet and be able to sustain financially without having to depend on the State Government for financial support. Only in this way, you will remain relevant and continue as an engine of economic growth in contributing to the State development agenda.

Effectiveness of Service Delivery System

The 2018 Budget proposal will continue to give strong focus on enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and productivity of the State Government service delivery system. Adequate funding will be provided in 2018 to support the service delivery. However, continuous efforts must be made to:

- i. Manage and control operating expenditure to avoid suffering from a "Runaway Operating Budget";
- ii. Strengthen financial management to optimize the use of available resources and minimize wastage; and
- iii. To step up implementation of e-Government to enhance Government service delivery such as providing seamless and cashless payment gateway and more open data policy for value-added transactions.

Revenue Estimates for 2018

Tuan Speaker, for 2018, the State revenue is estimated at RM5.525 Billion made up of:

- (a) Tax Revenue is expected to be at RM1.470 Billion comprising the following:
 - i. RM641 million from forest royalty and premium.
 - ii. RM530 million from sales tax.
 - iii. RM299 million from raw water and mining royalties, land rents and others.
- (b) Non-Tax Revenue is estimated at RM3.893 Billion derived from the following major components:
 - i. RM1.577 Billion from cash compensation in lieu of oil and gas rights.
 - ii. Rm1.008 Billion from interest income.
 - iii. RM755 million from dividend income.
 - iv. RM300 million from land premium.
 - v. RM120 million from cash compensation in lieu of import and excise duties on petroleum products; and
 - vi. RM133 million from others, including licences, service fees, permits and rentals.
- (c) Non-Revenue Receipt is expected to be at RM12 million, mainly from forest liquidated damages and disposal of assets; and
- (d) Federal Grants and Reimbursements is expected to be at RM150million.

Ordinary Expenditure Estimates For 2018

Tuan Speaker, a sum of RM5.781 Billion is proposed for Ordinary Expenditure for 2018. Out of this total allocation, RM2.481 Billion is for operating expenditure and a sum of RM3.3 Billion is proposed to be appropriated to the Statutory Funds, to finance development programmes and projects.

The proposed allocation of RM2.481 Billion for operating expenditure next year is an increase of RM275 million or 12 percent over the approved expenditure of RM2.206 Billion for this year. Out of the amount proposed for operating expenditure in 2018, RM722 million or 31 percent for personnel emoluments, RM860 million or 35 percent for supplies and services, RM802 million or 32 percent for grants and fixed payments including operating grants to Statutory Bodies and local authorities, servicing of public debts and payments of gratuities, pensions and scholarships, RM37 million for the procurement of assets and RM10 million for other operating expenses.

The proposed 2018 Budget is estimated to register a Budget Deficit of RM256 million. This budget deficit for the year is on the basis of an expected total revenue of RM5.525 Billion against a total Ordinary expenditure estimates of RM5.781 Billion.

State revenue has been on a declining trend since 2015, significantly impacted by the falling of oil and gas prices and reducing receipts from forestry and dividend income while expenditure is on a rising trend.

Against this background, the Government will intensify research and development activities with a view of sourcing new revenue stream to the State such as cess and levy on valuable commodities as well as royalties from patents.

Development Expenditure Estimates 2018

Tuan Speaker, now I would like to deliberate on the proposed Development Expenditure Estimates for 2018. The estimates have taken into consideration among others, priority projects, digital economy initiatives and commitment to complete the implementation of the on-going projects as well as the capacity to implement projects during the year. 2018 Budget proposed a sum of RM5.745 Billion to finance various programmes and projects under the Eleventh Malaysia Plan of the State including the State Transformation Initiatives and Digital Economy.

Of the total provision for development expenditure, RM5.451 Billion will be funded by the State While RM294 million will be financed by the Federal Government through reimbursable loans and grants.

Distribution of Development Expenditure Estimates 2018

Tuan Speaker, I shall now highlight on the distribution of the Development Budget Proposal for the year 2018. The proposed Budget for the year is fairly distributed to ensure a sustainable and balanced development throughout the State particularly between the urban and the rural areas. The Government will continue to undertake proactive measures to develop the rural areas especially those that can be harnessed for their economic potential to contribute significantly to the State economy as well as benefiting the well-being of our *rakyat*. This would enable the rural areas to catch up its development with the urban areas.

The 2018 Budget will continue to give greater emphasis in developing the necessary infrastructure and amenities such as roads, drainage, telecommunication, electricity and water supplies aim at improving the quality of life of our *rakyat* and at the same time attracting higher investment.

The proposed Development Expenditure of RM5.745 Billion for 2018 is for the implementation of various major programmes and projects as follows:

- (a) Driving The Digital Economy

A new economic sector called Digital Economy initiative will be created to drive and progress the State Digital Economy Agenda which among others include the following six areas:

- i. Digital infrastructure;
- ii. Digital Government;
- iii. Digital Talent Development;
- iv. Research and Development;
- v. Smart City, Agricultures, Tourisms and Manufacturing sectors; and
- vi. Digital Entrepreneur.

As I mention earlier, total allocation of about RM1.0 Billion is proposed for the implementation of the following key projects:

- i. Creating a new backbone from Kuching to Miri/Brunei leveraging on Sarawak Energy fibre asset to raise bandwidth and to gain access to international connection;
- ii. Improve 3G and 4G performance i.e. backhaul transmission within cities so as to fix up areas of poor transmission and to be “Smart City” ready;
- iii. Leverage on MCMC’s fibre lines to expand 3G and 4G to rural areas to provide wireless coverage to strategic rural areas;
- iv. To establish direct link with our neighbouring countries such as Kalimantan, Indonesia, Singapore and Brunei so that we can connect to international gateway. This will help to enhance volume and achieve lower cost of communications;
- v. Increase access to fixed line broadband (100mbps) for business in cities to enable pioneering of digital initiatives in business;
- vi. Kick start Internet of Thing (IoT) application by setting up Low Power Wide Area Network (LP WAN) in cities to support smart cities, power IoT and sensor networks;
- vii. Collaborate with MCMC and Telco service providers to construct 150 new fiberized towers with minimum 3G technology to expand high speed mobile services to urban and sub-urban areas;
- viii. And which one is very important, Ready Big Data Portal applications, analytic tools and Application Programming Interface (APIs) to promote sharing and utilization of data for value-added transactions for the benefit of our economy and to enhance the quality of life of our citizens;
- ix. Provide physical infrastructure and upskilling for community and the education system to improve the number and quality of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TET) students;

- x Collaborate with world class technology experts to build world recognized digital training facilities to create local talent pool to drive digital economy in the State; and
- xi Finally, establish a digital village to provide facilities services, incentives and programme to accelerate the development of techno-preneurs and encourage start ups and innovations.

(b) Improving the Connectivity of the State

To further improve the connectivity of the State, more roads, bridges and jetties would be built. For this purpose, RM409 million is proposed for the implementation and completion of various projects, amongst others:-

- Sg. Limbang Bridge, Sg. Bunut No.2 Bridge and connecting roads, Limbang;
- Batang Lupar Bridge, Samarahan/Betong;
- Long Lama Bridge, Batang Baram, Miri;
- Proposed bridges over Batang Kemena at Jepak and Sebauh, Bintulu Division;
- Marudi Bridge over Batang Baram Miri;
- Road Leading to Tapak Kaul, Mukah;
- Jalan Ijok/Teguyo/Lempaong/Batu Pesok/Rantau Layang, Betong;
- Sg. Bako Bridge to Kpg Bako, Kuching;
- Datuk Temenggong Abang Kipali bin Abang Akip Interchange via Shallow Underpass, Kuching;
- R.C Riverwall at Kapit;
- Riverwall at Sg. Kanowit, Sibul; and
- Riverwall and Other Associated Works at Fort Hose, Marudi, Miri.

(c) Expanding Coverage of Clean Treated Water Supply throughout the State

The State Government wil continue to extend coverage of water supply especially to the rural population. A sum of RM343 million is proposed for the implementation of various water supplies projects such as:

- Pipeline form Assyakirin Reservoir to Nyabau Water Treatment Plant Intake;
- Miri Water Supply Source Development;
- Kolam takungan Bukit Selatan dan Kerja-kerja berkaitan;
- Bekalan Air Semariang;
- Kemena Reservoir;

- Bau/Lundu/Sematan Regional Water Supply;
- Upgrading of Berawan Water Treatment Plant;
- Relocation of Kuching / Serian Road Pipeline; and
- Saluran Paip dari Loji Nyabau ke Taman Perindustrian Kidurong, Bintulu.

(d) Strengthening Agriculture Development

In our continual effort to assist smallholders and farmers in the rural areas, a sum of RM223 million is proposed in 2018. The major projects for implementation, among others are:

- Crop Industry Development programmes which include sago, rubber, paddy, coconut, fruits and herbs;
- Inland fishery, aquaculture and livestock related projects;
- Agriculture education and promotion; and
- Mechanization and agricultural infrastructure.

(e) Accelerating Development in the Rural Areas

To further intensify development in the rural areas, a sum of RM430 million is proposed in the 2018 Budget, of which:-

- RM230 million will be allocated under the Rural Transformation Programmes; and
- RM200 million under Minor Rural Projects.

These allocations are in addition to those Rural Transformation Initiatives that I have highlighted earlier and are meant for the implementation of various smaller projects throughout the State bringing benefits to the rakyat directly.

(f) Further Development of Industrial EStates

In line with the State industrialization strategy especially to benefit the small and medium industries, a sum of RM103 million is proposed for the implementation and completion of projects, among others:-

- Demak Laut Industrial Park;
- Lundu Industrial EStates;
- Betong Industrial EStates;
- Marudi Industrial EStates; and
- Upgrading of Rantau Panjang Industrial EStates.

(g) Providing Affordable Housing for the rakyat

In our continual effort to care for the wellbeing of our people, the State will undertake various housing projects targeting at the lower income group. For 2018, a sum of RM232 million is proposed for the building of Rumah Mampu Milik and Rumah Mesra Rakyat. The State also proposed to allocate a sum of RM102.5 million to undertake the following projects:-

- Darul Hana Redevelopment Project;
- Projek Penempatan Kampung Sungai Bedaun, Kuching;
- Redevelopment of Traditional Village in Sibul; and
- Kampung Kapit baru Redevelopment Project, Kapit.

A further sum of RM26.2 million is also proposed for the implementation of 16 kampung extension schemes throughout the State. This effort is aimed at raising the living standard of our rural community.

(h) Enhancing Human Capital Development and Government Service Delivery

The State Government is stepping up on its human capital development and capacity building with priority in technical and vocational education as well as intensifying its high performance programmes for the civil service to enhance competency, hence service delivery. For this, a sum of RM45 million is proposed to implement projects as follows:-

- (i) Centres of Technical Excellence (CENTEX) in Kuching and Lundu;
and
- (ii) A new Leadership Institute for Sarawak Civil Service at Petra Jaya.

In addition, a sum of RM56 million is proposed to build new and to replace:-

- Government administrative centres and offices including the building of new administrative centre in Jepak;
- New administrative office in Sebauh sub-district; and
- Quarters in the State.

This is in line with our effort to enhance Government Service Delivery and at the same time taking care of the wellbeing of our civil servants especially those serving in the remote areas.

The development allocation as proposed in our 2018 State Budget shows only a partial picture of the overall public sector expenditure in the State as programmes and projects funded directly by the Federal Government are not reflected in the State Budget proposal as highlighted.

FEDERAL FUNDING

Tuan Speaker, Yang Amat Berhormat Prime Minister has just tabled on 27th October, 2017 the National Budget 2018 with the theme “Prospering An Inclusive Economy, Balancing Between Worldly and Hereafter, for the Wellbeing of Rakyat, Towards the TN50 Aspiration”. The State welcomes the Budget 2018 tabled by our Prime Minister as it does meet the aspirations of the people of Sarawak providing allocations for infrastructure for schools, water supplies, village roads as well as broadband and telecommunication service improvements. I would like to thank the Federal Government for the allocation announced for the key projects in the State:-

- RM2 Billion for construction of Pan-Borneo Highway;
- RM1 Billion for upgrading, refurbishing and repair works of dilapidated schools;
- Construction of New Mukah Airport;
- Surveying and mapping of Native customary land amounting RM30 million; and
- Access road to Balleh Dam.

Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, as Sarawak is still lagging far behind Peninsular Malaysia in economic terms, and taking into account of the State vast geographical area and in the light of the State significant contribution to the national coffers, the State ought to be given special consideration for more Federal fund allocation. The 2018 allocation under the National Budget to the State of course is not adequate in assisting us to catch up our development status with that of Peninsular Malaysia.

Therefore, I must reiterate that it is critically important that the Federal Government continues to provide additional funding to the State to finance the much needed infrastructural projects such as roads, bridges, wharves and jetties, drainage, utilities, basic rural facilities and amenities, medical facilities and services, schools, especially in rebuilding our dilapidated schools. Allocation must also be given for programme and schemes to assist our farmers, livestock breeders and fishermen in the rural areas.

Tuan Speaker, it is the obligations and responsibilities of the Federal Government to provide adequate funding for public facilities and infrastructures in the State to be at par with that of Peninsular Malaysia. This will also help to close the development gap between the urban and the rural areas. Sarawak should not be left behind and our people must enjoy the same facilities as enjoyed by those in Peninsular Malaysia.

Ensuring Sustainable Economic Growth

Tuan Speaker, in light of the increasing challenging global economic environment arising from various uncertainties, it is imperative that the State continues to have an expansionary fiscal policy. This is also to ensure a continual development momentum in the State to support the State much needed economic and rural development as well as to sustain a desired level of economic growth.

Tuan Speaker, in our effort towards digital economy, we would have to overcome several constraints and limitations. We acknowledge that we ought to address the big gap in ICT infrastructure and accessibility, our skill sets, our community attitude towards technology and the financial resources. The State Government will not be able to undertake its digital economy initiatives alone. We must provide the much needed impetus and infrastructure and we ought to forge strong partnership and collaboration with the Federal Government and the private sector particularly those with expertise, strategic

capacity and capability to actively participate in this venture. In doing all these, the State Government will engage with all stakeholders particularly our community which is an important integral part of the State digital economy. We have to move forward together and inclusively in this journey in driving and realising the benefits of the Digital Economy.

CONCLUSION

I would like to emphasize that the global economic environment would continue to be very challenging in 2018. Therefore, we must steadfastly drive our development strategy particularly digital economy, rural transformation, private sector as engine of growth as well as facilitating investment for the future. This requires collective effort of all stakeholders, both the public and private sector in this journey together to realize our vision to make Sarawak a high income State by 2030. Importantly, we ought to continue to adopt prudent financial management so as to weather through any unpredictable economic turmoil and at the same time conserving sufficient reserves for our future generation.

Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, the State will continue to pursue with the Federal Government on matters relating to Devolution of Power and continue our efforts to seek for more financial allocation for development purposes.

Ketua Menteri dan Menteri Kewangan (Y.A.B Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abg Haji Openg): I would like to assure this august House that the State Government will continue to put in place strategic measures aimed at strengthening the financial discipline and management at all levels. We will continue to manage our financial resources in a prudent manner and to strengthen our culture of financial discipline for long term financial sustainability and financial autonomy. It is imperative that we remain agile, resilient, productive, efficient and united so as to ride through the challenging environment.

Tuan Speaker, dengan ini saya mohon mencadangkan agar Rang Undang-Undang ini dibacakan untuk kali kedua. Terima kasih.

Tuan Speaker: Minister to second.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri (Y.B. Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas): Tuan Speaker, I second the motion.

USUL UNTUK MERUJUK RESOLUSI ANGGARAN PEMBANGUNAN BAGI PERBELANJAAN, 2018 KEPADA JAWATANKUASA PERBEKALAN

Ketua Menteri dan Menteri Kewangan dan Perancangan Ekonomi dan Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (Y.A.B Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg): Tuan Speaker, I beg to move that the following resolution be referred to the Committee of Supply, that this Dewan resolves to approve the Development Estimates 2018 as contained in Command Paper No. 7 of 2017 laid on the Table on 8th November, 2017.

As presented in Command Paper No. 7 of 2017, the total development expenditure for 2018 amounts to RM5,745 million. Of the total sum of RM5,745 million earmarked for development expenditure, RM5,451 million will be funded by the State while RM294 million will be financed by the Federal Government through reimbursement loans and grants.

The sum of RM5,745 million as proposed, has been allocated on the basis of projected expenditure commitments and requirements for approved development activities during the year. The proposed allocations by sector for major programmes are as follows:

- (a) RM700 million is allocated for digital economy initiatives; the balance of RM300 million is allocated under operating expenditure;
- (b) RM2,168 million is allocated for industrial and commercial programmes including investment in manufacturing, tourism and entrepreneurs development;
- (c) RM223 million is allocated for agricultural programmes such as land development, drainage and irrigation, assistance to farmers, veterinaries, fisheries, agricultural research and forestry;
- (d) RM409 million is allocated for transport and communication including roads, bridges, riverine infrastructure and ports;
- (e) RM1,032 million is allocated for social development and community services including housing and resettlement schemes, sports and recreational facilities;
- (f) RM870 million is allocated for general administration which includes provision for various Government building and Local Authorities;
- (g) RM343 million is allocated for expansion and upgrading of various water supplies mainly in the rural areas including a sum of RM77 million to Kuching Water Board and RM7 million to Sibu Water Board.

Tuan Speaker, I beg to move.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri (Y.B. Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas): Tuan Speaker, I beg to second.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat the Debate of Supply (2018) Bill, 2017 stand adjourned until Friday, 10th November 2017. We go for a short break. We resume at 11:00 a.m.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada jam 10:51 pagi)

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 11:40 pagi)

[Tuan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN – BACAAN KALI KEDUA

SARAWAK MULTIMEDIA AUTHORITY BILL, 2017

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan, Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, I beg to move that the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017 to be read a second time.

Tuan Speaker, we recall that we journeyed into digital economy when we hosted the International ICT Infrastructure and Digital Economy Conference (IDECS) on 3rd and 4th April 2017 at BCCK. From there we have discovered that there are ample unexploited opportunities of using digital means to carry out businesses and improve our daily lives and to stimulate the economic growth of the State. We have seen how today technologies that could be used to even change the ways of life. To a certain extent, it is in fact information technology rather than national resources or material resources that drive economic activities. In this IT age no country can insulate itself or its people from the rest of the world. Every country is linked to the world and other countries through internet propelled by fast moving innovative technologies. Only those nations that can ride on the fast moving waves of information technology can succeed.

During the closing speech at IDECS, our Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister lay out clear directions to make Sarawak a cyber powerhouse. In order to realise the vision and initiatives of Yang Amat Berhormat the Chief Minister a coordinated consorted and synergistic effort from all stakeholders that includes every rakyat, private sector, Government and international community are required and this would be underpinned by a firm and comprehensive Ordinance.

To spearhead the making of Sarawak into a cyber powerhouse, there is therefore a need to establish Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA).

In the last State Legislative Assembly Meeting, Yang Amat Berhormat the Chief Minister also detailed out some of the initiatives to allow the State to leapfrog into successful digital economy implementation and one of the initiatives is the formation of Sarawak Multimedia Authority to lead the development of Sarawak Digital Economy.

Tuan Speaker, the Bill is introduced with the purpose to establish the SMA in pursuant to the power to incorporate authorities and other bodies set up by State Law provided for under Article 95(b) of the Federal Constitution which States that for Sabah and Sarawak item 14 of list II(a) in the Ninth Schedule shall be deemed to form part of the State list. The proposed new law would not contravene any Federal Law regulating telecommunication or multimedia which is a Federal power.

The Bill's primary objective is to establish a body that would enable the Government to achieve its mission of transformation of the State into a digital economy which will spur economic growth by adopting better means of business processes through system such as e-Payment, or through Sarawak pay and e-commerce. Central to the attainment of the objectives this transformation mission enables the nation to ensure that our telecommunication networks system capacity and infrastructure are not only adequate and have a State wide coverage but also the use of advanced technologies in terms of speed, reliability and quality. The new Authority functions are set out in detail in Clause 9 of the Bill. The principal responsibilities include the following:

- a. To advice the State Government on all matters both policy and implementation for the development of a State digital economy including:
 - i. the development of digital infrastructure;
 - ii. cyber security;
 - iii. talent development;
 - iv. e-commerce;
 - v. research and development in digital technology;
 - vi. digital innovation; and
 - vii. digital Government.
- b. To stimulate support, direct and facilitate research and development in communication and multimedia activities in Sarawak;
- c. To promote and facilitate research and improvement in electronic network systems and processes, application and technologies associated therewith;

- d. To assess manpower needs in the fields of communications and multimedia, and engage in the programs for training and developing such human resources;
- e. To facilitate the application and usage of system and technologies for e-commerce by companies and business communities in the conduct of the businesses and promotion of their products in the State; and
- f. To carry out any function as may be prescribed by State laws.

Tuan Speaker, it seems that from the statutory functions of the new Authority its functions do not contravene any Federal Laws and the Authority's major role is to help the State to advance digital economy in the State.

Tuan Speaker, to enable the Authority to discharge its statutory duties, the Authority will have the power set up in clause 10 of the Bill. These include the power conferred by clause 10(2) where to empower authority to regulate the erection of Telecommunication Towers and facilities which have been erected pursuant to any approval granted by the State Planning Authority prior to it coming into force of this new law and the design and the location thereof.

This power would enable the authority to ensure that telecommunication towers and facilities are located in strategic locations to ensure that the extensive coverage of internet throughout the State. No community would experience difficulty in access to internet and to acquire knowledge and communicate effectively with the rest of the world.

The SMA will be chaired by Yang Amat Berhormat The Chief Minister as the Chairman and include three ex-officio members namely the State Secretary, the State Attorney General and the State Financial Secretary and no less than five and not more than seven other members with the right credentials, expertise and experience in the field of information technology. The SMA should also have the following powers:

- a. Appoint committees consisting of persons who may or may not be members of the SMA and assign and delegate to any such committee such function and power as it may determine;
- b. Appoint any person with adequate knowledge, expertise and experience in Communication and multimedia as advisor or consultant for the SMA and form a panel of advisors or consultants to advise and assist the SMA in the discharge of its function;
- c. Incorporate or participate in the incorporation of companies or enter into any joint ventures for the purpose of this Bill;
- d. Approve any application for erection, use, maintenance or operation by any structures communication towers on any land or building and any other incidental works, including laying of cables for purposes of communication and multimedia activities in the State;
- e. Provide guidelines relating to the use of or research or studies carried out on communication and multimedia resources and products in the State;
- f. Provide scholarship, grants, loans or other incentives for training or research related to communication and multimedia;

- g. Publish or sponsor the publication of periodicals books and other materials in relation to communication and multimedia and hold copyright therein;
- h. Provide grants, loans or advances to or subscribe stocks, shares, bonds or debentures of companies or corporation whose principle business is related to communication and multimedia;
- i. Secure hold and be registered as owner or proprietor of any copyrights, patents or intellectual property rights over any communication and multimedia products, written, produced or prepared by the Government or its agencies or any body corporate or the SMA or any committee appointed by the SMA or any of its officers employees or agents.
- j. Lend lease or otherwise permit the use of any of the communication and multimedia resources and products developed or invented by or belonging to SMA upon such terms and conditions as SMA may impose or to determine the rate of fees charges levies, royalties and other dues related thereto;
- k. Hold for on behalf of the Government all rights and properties describe in clause 12 and which accrue to or have been acquired by the Government or upon its direction and to act as a trustee for the Government in relation thereto.
- l. Receive donations or contributions from any source and raise funds by lawful means;
- m. Enter into contracts establish trusts and generally regulate transactions of all businesses involving or connected with SMA;
- n. Issue direction or guidelines on the use of terminologies and the nomenclatures relating to communication and multimedia activities in the State; and
- o. Do anything incidental to or necessary for the discharge for this function under the Bill.

Tuan Speaker, the Bill also provides for among others the appointment of the General Manager who shall also be responsible for the administration and management of SMA and who shall also be the secretary to the SMA. The establishment of Sarawak Multimedia Authority Fund.

Tuan Speaker, the explanatory note or explanatory Statement to the Bill is intended to help all honourable members to understand the meaning and effect of the various clauses in the Bill.

Tuan Speaker, I would like to ask all members of this House to support this Bill. I beg to move.

Menteri Pendidikan, Sains dan Penyelidikan Teknologi (Y.B. Dato Sri Michael Manyin Anak Jawong): I beg to second.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, now I shall call upon the Honourable Members of this august House to debate on the second reading of the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. Any Member who wishes to speak? If that is the case, we have an adjournment to ...oh, we have. Member for Bukit Assek.

Y.B. Puan Irene Mary Chang Oi Ling: Tuan Speaker, I rise to participate in the debate on the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. It is noted that this Bill is much more comprehensive than its predecessor, the Sarawak Information, Technology and Resources Council Ordinance, 1999. This is to be expected, given the vast advancement in the role of multimedia in today's society. Digital technology has made its en-route into almost every sector in the international arena and it is therefore commendable that Sarawak is trying to keep abreast with digital technology to further enhance our commitment and involvement to allow Sarawak to be able to compete in the national as well as in the international platform.

Per se, I support the intention of the Bill. However, I wish to raise the following issues in relation to the Bill:-

(1) *Government Bills*

Tuan Speaker, we always say charity starts in our own home. In everything that we want to do outside our homes, we should make sure that we are already practicing it in our own homes. Similarly, I wish to say that initiatives to make Sarawak a cyber power house should also start in this august House first before we can convince the people of Sarawak to embrace digital technology.

I refer to the Government Bills, the soft copies of which were only extended to some of us, Opposition Members outside Kuching, one day before the sitting in this august House thus. Tuan Speaker, I only received mine yesterday morning when I was in the middle of my preparation to fly to Kuching. And truth be told, Tuan Speaker, this limits the time for us to study the Bill thoroughly and carefully before we can decide whether to support or oppose the Bill with proper grounds.

Tuan Speaker, we owe it to the people of Sarawak. The old Members in this august House should come properly prepared for all matters which are going to be raised in this House and it is indeed a crying shame if we cannot practice what we preach and put into good use the cyber laws that we are seeking to put in place.

(2) *Freedom of Information Bill*

Clause 19 of the Bill enacts something which was not in the predecessor ordinance; that is the right to investment of monies which was not immediately required to be expended in the meeting of any obligations or the discharge of any functions of the authority. It makes good business sense to put unused money to good use, to earn more money for the use of the authority. But the possible loophole in this Bill is that there is nothing in the Bill which provides that the money earned from the investment should go back to the fund established under Clause 17. Furthermore, the Bill says nothing on providing information on the investment made.

Again, with the desire to fully achieve the information era, Government should be open and transparent in their undertakings. And towards that end, I propose that it is time that Sarawak should also embark on, to be the first of the Barisan Nasional Government to enact the Freedom of Information Bill. A Government that has nothing to hide should not be afraid of scrutiny by the public. This should also promote transparency and accountability which will help to minimize the instances of corruption.

(3) *Sarawak Pay*

Tuan Speaker, it cannot be denied that the cashless society is the way of the future. Governments around the world want to desperately latch on to, and realize the benefits with its efficiency and convenient, a cashless society can provide.

The benefits no doubts, are aplenty, especially listening to the success story by Estonia by our Right Honourable Chief Minister in his budget speech. And it is, therefore, good that our Sarawak Government wants to hop onto the wagon.

However, Tuan Speaker, in the interest of the people, I need to express my concern that nothing much has been reviewed about the mechanism of this newest proposed electronic Bill payment engine. We only know that we have the approval of Bank Negara, to go cashless by 2018 and that the digital payment system is a collaboration between our State Government and the Chinese multinational company, Huawei.

And we have been informed that the State Government will gently ease us into the cashless society by using it for payment of all local Government services.

Here are some of the peoples' concerns, Tuan Speaker. The people are anxious to know of the proposed joint venture between the Government and Huawei Company. What is the cost of installing the digital payment system, who bears them? Are these costs allocated on the user pays basis, would the people incur service charge for the use of the system and who will be collecting these service charges, Huawei or our State Government?

Furthermore, in what way is the mechanism for Sarawak Pay different from our current electronic Bill presentment and payment engine in Pay Bills Malaysia and Pay Bills Sarawak, which is already available for online payment, for local Government agencies and participating merchants?

Of paramount importance is the security issue. A Google on the internet will reveal that Huawei's economic expansion into markets in regions of Africa, Asia, Canada and Zealand has already achieved much success.

However, Huawei is also considered a threat to the national cyber security by many foreign Governments which include Singapore, Australia, United States and India.

These countries are still resisting the infiltration of Huawei's technology into the national infrastructure. And what is of a particular concern is speculations that Huawei is owned by the Chinese Government. We don't know if this is true or untrue as we cannot discount the possibility that the speculation might be prompted by international business rivalry.

Be that as it may, Tuan Speaker, our State Government always told the people to walk very cautiously before full commitment. This is especially when we are ahead of the Federal Government and therefore, there might not be a system or application emplaced yet to safeguard the personal data of those who utilized the payment system.

Tuan Speaker, there are too many cyber scam, even with the security safeguard emplaced. What more to say if no security safeguard is emplaced yet, as this will be the first of its kind in Malaysia. We might seem to be compromising on the safety of the personal data of our people or even worse, the data of our Government agencies as we are building our payment infrastructure on the digital system which might be operated by the international foreign country, and of course depending on what arrangement that has been reached between our State Government and Huawei.

And if we proceed with that, there is a need for a special attention to the international speculation concerning Huawei. There is a possibility that one day we might find all our personal data and Government data in the hands of the Chinese Government. I urge the State Government to tread carefully and do a due diligent exercise on Huawei first before a full commitment.

If they desire to keep abreast with the technology world comes with heavy responsibility of safeguarding our Government and people from cyber theft of our Government and personal data. I urge the Government to consider the considerations I put forward here. With that, Tuan Speaker, I conclude. Thank you

Tuan Speaker: Member for Engkilili.

Y.B. Encik Jonichal Rayong Anak Ngipa: Honourable Tuan Speaker, thank you for the honour and opportunity to participate in the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017.

Tuan Speaker, this Bill comes at the right time when we need such authority as needed to regulate communication and multimedia activities and matters connected therewith. All the clauses Stated thereof (Clause 1 to 19 of the ordinance) clearly Stated powers, functions and the authorities the Sarawak Multimedia Authority.

With our development of digital economy in our State, we need fast access to internet. To do so, Sarawak's Internet connectivity needs to be at least 100 to 150 Mbps. Our Internet connectivity at the moment is very slow and even though we may have the tool, we don't have good connectivity infrastructure. For instance, in most of the rural areas, we can't get a proper connection which is ridiculous as with today's modern management. Everything is online. To enable digital economy in the rural areas internet connectivity infrastructure must be there first and we would have to upgrade this in order to obtain the speed we want. I am happy to know that Part VI of the Bill also empowers the minister and authority concerned to deal with offence and penalties under the Clause 26 – 33. Hence, misuses and offenders, especially those who spread lies and false propagandas, can be caught and apprehended.

I wish to express my thanks to the Yang Berhormat International Trade and e-commerce Minister, for introducing this important Bill. Even though this Bill will involve the State Government in extra financial expenditure, nevertheless, it will give us powers to regulate our own multimedia activities in our own State.

Tuan Speaker, I now move for the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 to be approved by the Honourable Members of this august House. Thank you.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Kota Sentosa

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Thank you, Tuan Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to debate on the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017.

Tuan Speaker, a law is as good as the implementer of the law. Just like any machinery, equipment, are as good as the persons who are going to use it. I wish to reiterate what was said by Bukit Assek just now. We were given the Bill, emailed the Bills, the softcopy of the Bill only at the very eleventh hour, the last minute. When the Bukit Assek mentioned this, I saw some smiles appearing on the faces of a few members of the administration, Barisan Nasional ADUN, laughing as if 'ya, ya, ya, you deserve it'. I saw the smile on the face of Batu Kawah. I mean if that is the attitude, if that is the attitude of the administration in Barisan Nasional. It's a cynical smile, it's a cynical smile as if they take great pleasure in depriving the members from the opposition insufficient time to study the Bill and debate in this House. That's why I say, a Bill or any law is just as good as a person who is going to use the law and I note from the email that was emailed to us, it was an email sent to the 10 of the ADUNs of opposition assembly members, 10 of us. When did you guys get the Bill? When did you guys get the Bill? And why was it that the Bill was sent to, why was there discrimination, even in sending out the Bills to the elected members of the House segregating the Barisan Nasional backbenchers from the opposition backbenchers?

Tuan Speaker, I think this mentality ought to change, this mentality ought to change if we are going to move into a new era of internet. Suffice for me to give a preliminary observation of this Bill, the manner in which it was given to us, for us to participate in the debate. I note from the Bill that the chairman will be the Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister but the person who tabled the Bill is the member of Bawang Assan, the Minister for e-commerce.

There is nothing wrong procedurally, procedurally there is nothing wrong. But why is the Minister in-charge of e-commerce not given the job to oversee the development of e-commerce.

Does the Chief Minister have no confidence in the ability of the member for Bawang Assan? That's why the Chief Minister take upon himself to oversee the running and operation and even the formulation of the policy of the authority.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Is it because Member for Bawang Assan is too busy fighting SUPP? Then you don't have time to oversee the running the operation and working and management of the authority. That's why he is only tasked here today to table the Bill but other than that nothing else. Tuan Speaker, I also know to that...*(Interruption)*

Tuan Speaker: Member for Kota Sentosa , you must not impute improper motive.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Not improper motive it is my observation...*(Interruption)*

Tuan Speaker: No, that is improper. I think you should withdraw...*(Interruption)*

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Withdraw which part?

Tuan Speaker: That improper motive and leading to the Chief Minister and the Member for Bawang Assan. It is administrative...*(Interruption)*

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: And so it is improper motif in respect of the Chief Minister whether he has confidence or not? There may be some improper motif to insinuate that Member for Bawang Assan is too busy fighting SUPP. Okay that part I will take it out...*(Interruption)*

Tuan Speaker: It is a serious allegation that the Chief Minister has no confidence in his own Cabinet Minister...*(Interruption)*

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Tuan Speaker, can I not ask such a question? A Minister who is in charge of e-commerce is not in charge of the fundamental authority that oversees the Development e-commerce. That is strange.

Tuan Speaker, if you look at the regulation, the regulation of the Bill, if you look at the regulation of the Bill, Meetings, how many number meeting a year? Two only? A minimum two meetings a year, minimum I know minimum.

Tuan Speaker, if the Industry of Digital Development is so important, why do you set such a low standard?

Tuan Speaker: Minimum.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: That is why I mean such a low standard a minimum, a minimum of two meetings per year. You must be joking. There should be at least one meeting a month. Set it there.

Why set such a low standard? Is the Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister too busy holding other portfolios? It is to be safe he set the number of meetings so low, two meetings a year. What can you do? Maybe next year, today we will come here and see how many meetings you have other than setting up the authority. But if you set it two meetings a year I can't see a lot more meetings than two a year.

Therefore Tuan Speaker, if you want to be serious about development of digital technology, it is something that move very fast like what Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister has said. One day is a long time in the internet world.

A month is a century and if you have one meeting in six months, my God. Whatever you discussed in the meeting absolutely obsolete by the time you sit and chair the meeting. You don't argue with me the Barisan Backbenchers, you don't need to argue with me now. We come back next year, today and see how many meetings that will be held.

Tuan Speaker, just now when the Honorable Minister for the e-commerce Development mentioned when he table the Bill that this Bill is constitutional. I beg to differ.

Tuan Speaker, he List II item 14 of the State List, to give constitutionality to the Bill.

Tuan Speaker, let's have a look at item 14 of List II it is under List 2(a). It says in cooperation of Authorities and other Bodies set up by State law if in cooperated directly by the State and regulation and winding up cooperation so recreated, this clause under the constitution only refers to setting up cooperation. And it does not give power on the areas of operation of the cooperation. But if we look at exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government which is under List I, The Federal List, Item 10; Communications and Transport. It means that all telecommunication are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal List. It is not under the Concurrent List.

Tuan Speaker, you can set up cooperation yes. The constitution gives you the power to set up the any cooperation statutory body, no question about that. But whether your statutory body that set up can undertake matter which for under the exclusive jurisdiction under the Federal Government. That is a big question mark.

We don't want to pass the law here at the end of the day when you try to enforce the law, prosecute someone in court that person raises the constitutionality issue and your whole law was defeated. Have you consulted the AG, the Federal AGs? Or is this so difficult to make an amendment of the Federal Constitution to devolve the power over telecommunication to the State put it under the Concurrent List.

Tuan Speaker, therefore, I beg to defer but Tuan Speaker you can be raise issue here, we support, we support devolution of power. We in the opposition here DAP, PKR we support devolution of power, we support State autonomy. We have to do it right. If the constitution, the federal constitution doesn't allowed it, we will be doing something that is unconstitutional, unconstitutional or was this Bill tabled just to give Sarawakian a fake impression that we have got autonomy already. That is not right. Therefore, I would like a more detail reply by the Minister who table this Bill. How are you going to argue on the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government over telecommunication power?

Tuan Speaker: Are you saying member for Kota Sentosa this Bill try to deceive the people of Sarawak?

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: I'm not saying that, you are saying that.

Tuan Speaker: No, fake, it's not fake.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Tuan Speaker, you are saying that. I'm not saying deceive. I'm not using deceive. I didn't use the word deceive. Don't put word in my mouth. Stop making accusation..

Tuan Speaker: You said this Bill is fake.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: It is a fake impression. A fake impression. It is not deceive.

Tuan Speaker: Just an impression.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Tuan Speaker, Tuan Speaker, don't try to put words in my mouth and try to take whatever action to deprive me from speaking in this House.

Tuan Speaker: You are speaking I'm not depriving.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Okay. Ya, that is number one. Tuan Speaker, on the, on the clause 29 of the Bill. Failure to disclose information, I'm particularly concerned about this clause and I will read it out for the benefit of the members here. 29, quote ". This is the exact wording of the clause here. What are the obligations imposed? If so vague " *Any person who fails to disclose or omits to give any relevant information or evidence or documents that he knows to be relevant or has reason to believe to be relevant, in connection with any matters arising under this Ordinance, commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred thousand ringgit or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to both.*" If solvate that you don't know who to disclose the information to. You don't know when to disclose the information to and you don't know how to disclose the information to.

Tuan Speaker, the information which it says here to be relevant or has reason to believe to be relevant in connection with any matters arising under this ordinance. Any matters arising under this ordinance and matters arising under this ordinance covers all internet, all e-commerce all matters about digital communication. Text messenges, text messenges, I receive from my friend. Are they covered under matters in connection with this ordinance? I have the e-banking account. I have a pin number to operate my bank account, to operate e-commerce. A legal one, legitimate one, perfectly legitimate. Because if you want to do e-commerce, e-transaction normally you need a pin number. Your bank account to operate e-transfer, you need a pin number. These are matters arising from this ordinance. Am I obliged to disclose it, and am I obliged to disclose and to whom am I to disclose it and when shall I disclose it? The clause doesn't say so.

The clause doesn't say so. It is quiet, it is open clause. Just to make you more understand the impact, any person, I quote again "*Any person who fails to disclose or omit to give any relevant information or evidence or documents said he knows to be relevant or has reason to believe to be relevant connection with any matters arising under this ordinance; commit an offence.*" To whom, to whom it should be disclosed?

Tuan Speaker, there are similar of provision under different act which require disclosure. Alright, there is under MCMC Act under, under MCMC Act which provide the impose, which impose obligation to disclose information. Ok, I'll read it out. Section 47 of the MCMC Act. The legal obligation to give information. I quote; "*Subject to such limitation is provided under this act, every person required by an officer of the commission or a police officer to give any information on any subject which is such officer's duty to enquire into this act and which is in that person power to give shall be legally bound to give the information.*" Read the obligation to give information to disclose information arises only when they was an investigation, there is an investigation carry out and the officer in charge of the investigation request the information from you and it must be in the possession then you are obligated to give.

But under this clause 29, so long as I have any information about e-commerce I am obliged to disclose.

Tuan Speaker, we receive text messages. We receive SMS images every day, Whatsapp. Are we obliged to disclose? Should this Bill be passed? I have a photo sent by a friend about Yang Berhormat Bawang Assan having dinner very close to a lady. (*Laughter*) I see the photo I delete it. I delete it. I delete it. These are gossip. These are things not worth the salt. But under the Act, I am supposed to disclose. Am I suppose to disclose to the world? You know, things like that, Tuan Speaker.

Yes, we need a law enforcement. But the wording of the law that empowers the officers is so vague and so open. How are you going to expect people to comply with it? The minute all of us receive any SMS messages, those messages are classified as what, are defined that those messages fall under the definition of communication here, in this Bill, communication means any communication, whether between persons and persons, things and things or persons and things in the form of sound, data, text, visual images, signals or any other form or any combination of those forms. So doesn't SMS text, Whatsapp images, fall under the definition of communication and wouldn't it be classified as matters arising under this Ordinance?

That's why Tuan Speaker before we pass this Bill the administration should table an amendment. An amendment to this clause and Tuan Speaker, there are other federal laws which are, which may contradict the provisions or policy set under this Bill, Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, in particular MCMC Act. In light of the contradiction, which law shall prevail? I am sure, I am sure the federal law will prevail if our federal constitution is interpreted correctly. The federal law will prevail over State law in light of contradiction. And therefore, what are we passing here today? What are we doing here? We have a set of federal law, another set of Sarawak law. And it may complicate matters in terms of development of the whole digital industry. I know, I know Tuan Speaker, Yang Amat Berhormat has a very ambitious goal and today in his budget speech he said a very tall order to achieve 100MB in cities, for businesses in cities. 100MB, Tuan Speaker, how fast is that

Tuan Speaker: That one you can when you participate on the budget speech.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: Tuan Speaker, I have a lot more other things to say in the budget debate.

Tuan Speaker: But not on this.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: But this one, it falls under this Bill isn't it. The goals that are set by Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister. Let's see what are the average internet speed in the cities around the world which has the fastest broadband internet speed. Seoul, the capital of South Korea, in 2016 it has an average of 26.1MB internet speed; Hong Kong 21.9MB; Singapore 20.2MB, its a city State. All these are the average broadband internet speed for a city, not a country. A country because of the vastness of the area, it is a lot lower. Tokyo, number fourth fastest internet speed, metropolitan city, 19.6MB; Taiwan, leading Intel parts manufacturing industry, 15.6MB.

When all these cities who are way more ahead of us have only average less than 30MB for their cities, we are setting a target, a goal of 100MB for Kuching. Are we not being unrealistic? Are we not being unrealistic? Alright, since members from Barisan Nasional are so confident that we can get 100MB for Kuching, may I know what is the time frame. When will we achieve that. Don't tell me 10 years, 20 years time.

Another thing that is of more concern to the people and the consumer is, what are the prices, what are the prices? And mind you, Tuan Speaker, Batu Kawa, let me enlighten this House. The shophouses next to Jalan Batu Kawa, after the Batu Kawa bridge, those shophouses beside the main road do not even have fixed line connected to them. They don't even have fixed line broadband service and you are talking about one hundred megabytes for Kuching city and I think before we learn to, before we try to fly, let us learn to walk. When are we going to make the whole of Kuching have broadband service? And there are a lot of areas where they use to have fixed line broadband services but because of cable theft issue that cannot be resolved by the Government, at the end of the day, those residence, they are asked to subscribe handphone, mobile phone in place for the fixed line service. So how are we going to address those issues first? How do we provide fixed line to the whole of Kuching City? The other thing that concerns the consumers are the prices. What will be the price structure? Malaysia has boasted to be one of the most expensive internet rate charged by the Telco companies. So, is Sarawak Multimedia Authority going to regulate on the pricing or do they have power to regulate on the pricing? That is even questionable.

Therefore Tuan Speaker, much as I would like to support the development of digital technology, the development of e-commerce and even the passing of this Bill, setting up of the Sarawak Multimedia Authority but there are so many questions that linger in my mind. Therefore, I was just, before I finish there is another one.

Tuan Speaker, MCMC has a levy of six percent on all Telco companies. They call it the Universal Services Provision Fund. Right these are what the Telco companies have to pay MCMC and the fund will be used to develop internet connection infrastructure for the rural areas. So with that charge already levied on the Telco companies now, that we have another Sarawak Multimedia Authority set up, are we going to charge them? Are we going to charge the Telco again or are we going to just take some of the fund from the MCMC, Universal Services Provision Fund? Use it for the development of internet connectivity in the rural area. If the Sarawak Multimedia Authority is going to levy another charge on top of the six percent levy charged by MCMC, that, at the end of the day will add up to the cost of operation of the Telco companies and that will further hamper Yang Amat Berhormat's intention to provide more internet services, broadband services to the rural areas. Therefore, before I knock off, I will just put in a nutshell the few questions that I have asked:-

1. How to reconcile the Bill with the Federal Constitution, which provides specifically that telecommunication, is within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government?
2. How to reconcile Clause 29 of the Bill with the secrecy provision of Section 97 of the Banking and Financial Institution Act?
3. How to reconcile Clause 29 of the Bill with Section 65 Protection of Informers and Information under the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act?
4. In light of the MCMC Act, which is the Federal Law in the event of contradiction between the provision of the Bill and the provision of the MCMC Act, which shall prevail?;
5. What is the projected time for the implementation of the tall order of Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister to increase access to fixed line broadband one hundred megabytes for businesses in cities?
6. What is the pricing structure to be charged on the consumer? Will it be cheaper or more expensive?

7. Is there any intention to implement the Universal Services Provision Fund a similar USP Fund which are charged by MCMC on all the Telco company by the Sarawak Multimedia Authority? And I hope the Minister can give us a satisfactory answer. Thank you, Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, we go for a short break, lunch break. Sitting resumes at 2.30 p.m.

(Mesyuarat ditangguh pada jam 12:44 tengah hari)

(Mesyuarat dimulakan pada jam 2:45 petang)

[Tuan Speaker mempengerusikan Mesyuarat]

Tuan Speaker: Any Honourable Members who wish to speak? Honourable Member for Batu Lintang.

Y.B Encik See Chee How: Tuan Speaker, I agree with our fellow Honourable Members that the vision of the State for digital economy is to be lauded. However, I too share the concerns whether this SMA Bill 2017 is appropriate and sufficient to accord constitutionality and legality of the establishment of the SMA to carry out the activities and to achieve the objectives enumerated in the SMA Bill.

The Honourable Minister had referred to Article 95B and the Ninth Schedule Legislative Lists List IIA the Supplementary to State List for States of Sabah and Sarawak at Item 14 with regards to the incorporation of authorities and other bodies set up by the State law, pointing out therefore that we are clothed with the power and authorities.

It is clear that we are at liberty to set up State authorities and bodies, but we must be cautious that this Bill is about the establishment of the SMA as an entity to be the authority in the State for communication and multimedia activities and for matters connected therewith.

I share the view of Honourable Member for Kota Sentosa that we have to look at the Federal Constitution, the Ninth Schedule Legislative Lists List I – Federal List Item 10: Communications and transportation, which includes, amongst others – (g) Posts and Telecommunications; and (h) Wireless, Broadcasting and Television. The jurisdiction over these sub-items are given to the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)

The MCMC's authority to regulate the converging communications and multimedia industries and for incidental matters, under the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 or Act 588 and its numerous subsidiary legislations are applicable both within and outside Malaysia, Under section 4 of Act 588, described as "territorial and extraterritorial application".

Our Bill which proposes to establish the SMA as an entity to be the authority in the State for communication and multimedia activities and for matters connected therewith, is clearly heading into the collision course with Act 588 and its subsidiary.

However, this Bill can still be proposed and passed if we are given the authority by the Parliament to enact this SMA Ordinance under Article 76A of the Federal Constitution.

Tuan Speaker, indeed, we have the grounds for demanding the authority to legislate this State Ordinance. Containing in Chapter 3 of, and Annexure A to the Inter-Governmental Committee Report 1962, there were assurance that the following powers are reserved for Sarawak and Sabah, with regards to those Items and Sub-Items listed in Legislative List I the Federal List.

For Item (g) Posts and Telecommunications, it was specified:-

- (i) There should be one Borneo Region for the purposes of Posts and Telecommunications and the Federal Estimates should provide for a Regional Director with Headquarters in either Kuching or Jesselton and a Deputy Director in the State Capital where the Headquarters are not situated;
- (ii) The Regional Director should be granted direct access, through the Permanent Secretary, to the Federation Minister for Posts and Telecommunications until otherwise agreed. He should have administrative responsibilities, subject to overriding Ministerial responsibility, in those matters delegated to him, and in the execution of day to day affairs; and
- (iii) The Regional Director, or his representative, should sit on any existing or new Malaysian co-ordinating bodies whose work affects the Region, with such other Regional Directors and representatives of other telecommunications interests as the Minister deems appropriate.

For Item (h) Wireless, Broadcasting and Television, the following were specified:-

- (i) There should be a delegation of executive functions in each case on a State basis; and
- (ii) The broadcasting service within the State should remain its local identity.

We should therefore base on these assurances and act under Article VIII of the Malaysia Agreement 1963 requiring that these assurances be implemented.

Until that authority is obtained, I am afraid that the good intention and labour in the enactment of this SMA Ordinance is an exercise in futility.

I therefore humbly ask for the Honourable Minister to refer this SMA Bill to the State AG's Chambers for necessary amendments. Thank you, Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Honourable Member for Bukit Gorum.

Y.B. Encik Jefferson Jamit Anak Unyat: Terima kasih Tuan Speaker kerana memberi peluang kepada saya untuk mengambil bahagian dalam Perbahasan Rang Undang-undang Kerajaan Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017 yang dibentangkan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Dagang dan Menteri Kewangan Ke II pada pagi ini.

Tuan Speaker, the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017 which has been tabled by Minister of International Trade and E-Commerce and Minister of Finance II deserves our support to enable the propose Bill to carry out its task effectively in the coming years. It is our hope that this Bill shall help to further enhance Sarawak economics development especially the digital economy in the coming years.

This Ordinance is very important for our State as its aim to regulates the development Information and Communication Technology (ICT Infrastructure) and Digital Economy Authorization whereby our vast rural areas are still not yet covered

I strongly support State Government effort to further develop ICT infrastructure for speed of connectivity and to promote Sarawak express to host data centres promote E-learning among youth and service youth villagers and E-Commerce Transformation Plan 2030. As high speed broadband and high connectivity is the foundation of digital economy and it is the very interest to the Sarawak government and to provide high speed broadband connection to further improve the level of economic development in the lives of our people.

Tuan Speaker, we in Sarawak like those in Sabah and Semenanjung Malaysia and the rest of are now living in 21st century whereby our life has changed tremendously over the past years. Our people especially those living in the towns and cities are talking about the world of information and communication technology.

People are communicating through various forms of social media having access to smart phone, internet, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp etc. In fact people with easy accessibility especially those living in urban areas using modern ICT gadget not only for communication but also for important purposes such as for educations, healthcare, banking or business transactions. For those who are living in rural areas with modern infrastructure facilities like electricity, internet facilities are very much lagging. Connection for social media is common so in our urban areas where communication facilities are already properly in place people are enjoying various benefits of using modern facilities of information communication technology.

People in town and urban areas are able to use various forms of internet facilities to do business, carrying out the banking transactions, healthcare and various and other activities or continuously updating the standard of living.

Tuan Speaker, in support of Bill on Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 which has just has been tabled in this august House, my interest is always; can our rural areas benefit from Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill in the coming years? Undeniably, our rural areas are undergoing social economic progress especially in term of infrastructure development since the past years and today more and more of our rural areas are connected with good roads enabling some people to have easier access to town centre, increasing number of rural communities and also having access to electricity and clear water supply. However, I feel more needs to be done to include road connectivity to some part of rural areas. Certainly more needs to be done to make our rural areas to be accessible with telecommunication facilities like those available in the town areas.

In view of this, our focus should include the accelerated effort to bring future development to certain part of our rural areas which are still not able to enjoy modern telecommunication facilities that were introduced. The Bill tabled by the Minister of International Trade and E-Commerce and Minister of Finance II for the establishment of Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 is not only timely for the enhancement of economic development at all stage but more so such Bill will surely enable our rural communities to progress further in term of having greater data access to better educational facilities through better accessibility of ICT facilities and faster and easier way in communicating with the outside world.

Tuan Speaker, a proper and appropriate steps should be taken to enable rural communities to benefit from accessibility to ICT facilities so that they can communicate easily and conveniently with other people in urban or in other parts of Sarawak as well as outside Sarawak.

With the establishment of Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017, it is therefore a hope that the development of our State rural areas could be further accelerate in the coming years.

While talking in support of this Bill, I feel that we have to ensure that our rural areas such as we in the Upper Rajang River basin which are still underserved shall have proper access to information communication technology in the near future, our challenge now is to provide rural areas with ICT services in application at an affordable rate to further boost the penetraton level and bridge the actual divide between the rural and urban areas.

I am of the opinion that a common characteristic to start community is to use the information and communication technology as a tool to build the community and serve community problem of which all of us are fully aware of, that is lacking in high income economy. One of the ways was to achieve this is through the digital empowerment. In my opinion, digital empowerment entails, reaching out to empower our rural communities especially amongst the younger group of our people to become effective digital citizens and increasing their participation in the social and economic skills.

There are many advantages of having internet access in the rural areas now. As you can see in the remote long houses, long house residents especially the educated groups are eager to have access to information and this is useful as some of them who are educated and engaged in small businesses can have easy contacts with those in town areas. In my opinion, they would be progressive to have as many possible members of the rural communities to be ICT literate.

Tuan Speaker, in order for our rural communities to benefit more from the establishment of the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. I propose that we build more Pusat Internet 1Malaysia to be set up in rural areas. It is important to set up the internet centre that can manage and serve as information, training and learning hubs for those who want to learn about ICT. This facility shall enable the rural communities to set up online business, communicating on Facebook or surfing on Wikipedia for general information. In fact, information and communication technology is no longer an intimidating terms to those who are ICT illiterate. Today, everyone regardless of age, realise that possessing ICT skills is an advantage. It is a vital tool to develop business. The life of the rural communities, long house business may be simple but it is useful for them if they can keep abreast with the present day technology advancement which can be brought about through the availability of internet services.

Tuan Speaker, the establishment of the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 as proposed by the Minister of Internal Trade and E-Commerce and Minister of Finance II, shall bring more economic development to Sarawak. The commitment of the government under the leadership of Yang Amat Berhormat Datu Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Chief Minister, to further develop ICT infrastructure for speed connectivity, promote e-Learning among youths and establishing the digital villages in E-Commerce transformation plan to 2030 augurs well over all the development of Sarawak especially the rural areas. As such, we have full confidence in our Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister to bring continuous progress to the State of Sarawak in the coming years.

Tuan Speaker, with this I fully support the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. Thank you.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli bagi Simunjan.

Y.B. Encik Fazzrudin bin Haji Abdul Rahman: Bukan saya, tekan sebelah.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Tupong.

Y.B. Encik Fazzrudin bin Haji Abdul Rahman: Thank you Tuan Speaker for giving me the opportunity to debate on the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. First of all, I would like to congratulate the Chief Minister, YAB Datuk Patinggi Dr Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Tun Abang Haji Openg for introducing and championing the initiative in leapfrogging Sarawak towards a better position not only within Malaysia but this region through digital economy.

This is important for us because it gives us the added advantages we need in order to compete with the rest of the world. Competing in terms of businesses, education as well as socio economy. All of us agree the competitive edge technologies brings into our life. If we don't evolve to these changes, we will be left out from the rest of the world.

The terms Digital Economy was first introduced in 1995 but merely it was focusing on the use of internet in businesses and since then a lot of technologies were developed, went obsolete, redeveloped and invented. All of these technologies had one purpose, which is to enhance and improve our daily lives, regardless in what we do.

We have listened to success stories of people gaining success through digital economy. Industries such as the transportation, trading, medical, education and even laws are evolving with the digital economy or digital technologies. If we remember the first Smartphone were introduced in 1992 by IBM but it was not widely used not until apple introduced the Iphone in 2007 which then it was only widely used only a couple of years later in Malaysia. Imagine the changes of technologies which have happened in a mere 10 years.

The world is adapting to these changes, and we especially the youth are grateful that we have a Chief Minister who has the vision to provide a platform for our future generation. Our aspiration is we would like to see that Sarawak would have smart cities years to come.

Since spearheading the State, our Chief Minister has announced his intention to spearhead the digital economy initiative, starting with the digitalization of the Civil Service which I have noticed during the past few sessions. I have seen the exhibition that has been done by the State Civil Service introducing us the digital technology that they have introduced in the State Civil Service. Early this year we had IDECS or the International Infrastructure and Digital Economy Conference where all the brilliant minds involved in digital economy were gathered in the City of Unity, Kuching. They have shared their experience and challenges with the State Government and also the industries.

This has skipped many processes in developing digital economy if we were to start up afresh. After that, our Chief Minister announced a fund to fund the development of digital village and straight after that he announced RM1 Billion for the digital infrastructure, and I've seen in the table budget it also mentioned on the RM1 Billion as well. The setting up of a Ministry mainly to oversee this is also the action and commitment by the government.

Now we are in the midst of setting up the Sarawak Multimedia Authority which will be headed by our YAB Chief Minister. From the chronology that I have shared just now, the chronology of events, this shows that the Government does not only "*cakap cakap kosong*" but actually is implementing it piece by piece. I would like to share with the Yang Berhormat Kota Sentosa that the BN Government is committed to see through all the initiatives that is promised and since this digital economy initiatives is the brainchild of our YAB Ketua Menteri, we, the people, want to see YAB Ketua Menteri leads this Sarawak Multi-Media Authority. Kota Sentosa *ini suka mau cucuk-cucuk batu api* between the

Minister and the Chief Minister. I have to commend Yang Berhormat Kota Sentosa for having a skill of ahli nujum, he can interpret just the way by seeing the way people senyum he can interpret a lot of things so I need to learn from you Kota Sentosa.

Okay to further strengthen my points in supporting this SMA, I would like to share a study conducted by MCMC which have shown more or less 77% of Malaysian are internet users, and more or less 77% of Sarawakians are internet users. In comparison, the data from International Communication Union says that, in developed nations, 81% of their population are internet users. So this data shows that we are not that far away in terms of internet users.

Despite that fact it is only a fraction of 35% percent of these user, uses the internet for finance and trading purposes for example online banking and online trading.

In Europe, as reported by European Commission, 75% of their people use the internet for finance and commerce activities.

I would assume the fact shown is a trend of evolving world towards digital economy. That is why it is important to have this initiative to ensure that Sarawakians will be able to be at par and even more successful not only in this region but in this world. Our youth have a very high aspiration and expectation, and we need these initiatives to achieve it.

As we all know, every great opportunity brings along challenges and I would like to share some points to be taken into consideration:-

- (a) As we are quite new to these digital economies, not because we just learned about it, but its due to the ever changing and evolution of technologies, I would hope that the government will look seriously into the awareness of what digital economy is all about and how does it affect us, the training that we need from it and we should inculcate the digital economy culture right from the school or even kindergarten level. If we have great infrastructure without great people to utilize and benefit from it I think it will be a waste of our financial resources.
- (b) Speed of adaptability: we realize that it is a big challenge for us to adapt to changes especially in the digital economy. Adapting to changes swiftly would determine our success in whatever industries we are in. Other industries may have the luxury of time to adapt to changes, to come out with new strategies in order to survive or strive but I think in the digital economy, we must be able to adapt very very fast and come up with a fast decision and actions. The SMA should be able to assist to cut through the bureaucracies when needed to be.
- (c) Changing of Job Scopes: The government should also be able to identify the changes in the industries and prepare for it, and most importantly train and create awareness to our people about it. The classic example is the hailing services which UBER and Grab are providing which affects the taxi operators and we would like the government to seriously look into it to prepare our people for the years to come.
- (d) Issues of trust: As we are excited to be part of and involve in the success driven by the digital economy, some irresponsible people would take advantage of it and as we heard there are some reported cases on scams in the internet. As per reported in the newspaper, our Ministers even had talks with Bank Negara to iron out issues pertaining to finance and the facts needed for the finance transactions. It is not the system that I am worried about, it is the lack of knowledge of our people that sometimes landed them into difficult situations. That is why I am stressing it is very important for us to have training and to create awareness for

our people so that we can be with them and we can bring them together to have success driven by this digital economy.

With these points to be taken into consideration I end my speech. Saya mohon menyokong Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Lingga.

YB Puan Hajah Simoi Binti Haji Peri: Tuan Speaker, assalamualaikum dan salam sejahtera...(Interruption)

Tuan Speaker: Waalaikumussalam.

YB Puan Hajah Simoi Binti Haji Peri: Terima kasih Tuan Speaker kerana memberi peluang kepada saya untuk turut serta membahaskan *Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017*. Tuan Speaker, hari ini merupakan hari yang bersejarah kepada kita di negeri Sarawak kerana perkara yang disebut-sebut dan dicanangkan oleh Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri kita akhirnya menjadi realiti apabila Rang Undang-Undang Sarawak Multimedia Authority akan diluluskan kelak di Dewan yang mulia ini.

Kerajaan negeri Sarawak di bawah pimpinan Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri adalah kerajaan yang bertanggungjawab bercakap serupa bikin bukan hanya tin kosong; bunyi sahaja bisung tetapi tiada apa-apa. Kerajaan negeri adalah kerajaan yang mampu membawa perubahan dan menepati janji yang di utarakan.

Setahun yang lepas, Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri telah menggariskan polisi beliau untuk mengangkat *Digital Economy* sebagai wakalah dan *catalyse* utama beliau untuk membawa Sarawak sebagai peneraju di dalam *Digital Economy* dan sebagai pemangkin pertumbuhan ekonomi negeri Sarawak. Bermula daripada persidangan *Digital Economy* iaitu *IDECS* pada bulan April yang lepas dan baru-baru ini lawatan Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri ke Estonia untuk meninjau sendiri E-Estonia menunjukkan kesungguhan dan semangat beliau untuk mempelajari seterusnya mengimplikasikan *Digital Economy* di negeri Sarawak. Syabas Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri !

Tuan Speaker, sesungguhnya manifestasi daripada kesungguhan dan pandangan jauh Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri dan sokongan daripada semua pihak termasuk Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat sekalian, *Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017* ini diangkat di Dewan yang mulia ini untuk perbahasan dan seterusnya untuk kelulusan. Kesungguhan kerajaan negeri Sarawak untuk mempromosikan *Digital Economy* ini telah menjadi satu desakan dan idea kepada kerajaan Persekutuan untuk menyediakan kerangka dasar *Digital Malaysia (Malaysia Digital Policy)* dengan mengambilkira perkembangan dinamik industri 4.0 di mana pembentangan *Budget 2018* ini adalah pengiktirafan kepada polisi dan hasrat kerajaan negeri Sarawak.

Tuan Speaker, menurut laporan laman sesawang www.mdec.my *Digital Economy* bakal menjadi pemangkin utama pertumbuhan ekonomi negara. Pada tahun ini *Digital Economy* ini bakal menyumbang kepada 18.2 peratus berbanding 17.8 peratus pada tahun 2016 kepada KDNK negara dan jumlah ini akan dijangka mencapai 20 peratus menjelang tahun 2020.

Tuan Speaker, *Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017* wajar diluluskan dalam Dewan yang mulia ini memandangkan kita amat mengharapkan menjelang tahun 2020 kita akan merencanakan Sarawak sebagai sebuah negeri yang maju dan dalam masa yang sama *Digital Economy* akan menyumbang secara signifikan kepada KDNK negeri.

Dengan strategi dan pelaksanaan yang berhemah *Digital Economy* bakal menyumbang kepada pertumbuhan ekonomi negeri, menyumbang kepada produktiviti dan inovasi dan membawa kemajuan kepada sosio-ekonomi negeri dan negara Malaysia amnya.

Tuan Speaker, di antara cabaran dalam melaksanakan *Digital Economy* adalah daripada segi pembangunan sumber insan.

Y.B. Puan Hajah Simoi Binti Haji Peri: Kekurangan sumber tenaga yang mahir dalam bidang IT dan yang berkaitan boleh membantut usaha melaksanakan *Digital Economy*. Di samping itu, kekurangan daripada segi infrastruktur IT berteknologi tinggi juga perlu ditangani.

Bagi usahawan *start up* yang bergiat dalam *Digital Economy* kekangan daripada segi pembiaya boleh merencat seluruh rencana usahawan *start up*. Daripada segi pembiayaan kepada usahawan IT dan *start up*, Kerajaan Negeri telah mengambil tindakan yang tepat dan bijaksana dengan penubuhan Development Banks of Sarawak iaitu DBOS. DBOS ini dijangka boleh mengatasi masalah pembiayaan usahawan digital. Suka saya mencadangkan DBOS melihat usahawan digital ekonomi ini secara *total* dan *comprehensive*.

DBOS hendaklah menilai usahawan *Digital Economy* dari *prospective partner* (rakan kongsi) bukan sebagai penghutang dimana penilaian risiko adalah begitu ketat dan tinggi dan akhirnya idea dan inovasi usahawan digital ekonomi hanya tinggal cadangan dan tidak dapat dikomersialkan. Justeru dalam kita melaksanakan *Digital Economy* adalah penting untuk kita melaksanakannya secara komprehensif dan *inclusive* jurang kecelikan IT di antara bandar dan luar bandar hendaklah dirapatkan. Saya mencadangkan diwujudkan semula kempen budaya celik IT dengan menamakan kempen ini sebagai Kempen Celik Digital dilaksanakan di peringkat seluruh Sarawak dengan memberi penekanan kepada pendedahan ilmu digital dan menekankan kepada kepentingan penglibatan kepada semua lapisan masyarakat dalam digital ekonomi serta mengwar-warkan peluang yang dicipta oleh *Digital Economy*.

Ini boleh dimulakan di peringkat sekolah rendah dan menengah seterusnya di peringkat JKK daerah dan bandar-bandar. Penglibatan *inclusive* semua pihak tanpa mengira demografi adalah penting untuk menjayakan *Digital Economy* itu. Disamping itu juga, Kerajaan Negeri perlu menyediakan ekosistem yang kondusif bagi meraih manfaat inovasi demi merencanakan lagi kegiatan *Digital Economy*. Dengan adanya Sarawak *Multimedia Authority*, tugas untuk membangun dan mengawal selia *Digital Economy* akan lebih terfokus dengan mengambil kira kepentingan semua *stack holder* dan pemain utama industri. Tidak terkecuali sokongan juga harus diberi kepada usahawan *start up* dan perusahaan kecil dan sederhana. Oleh yang demikian adalah juga wajar diwujudkan Sarawak *Multimedia Super Corridor* (Sarawak MSC) diperingkat negeri dibawah kelolaan Sarawak *Multimedia Authority*.

Pada masa ini, Tuan Speaker, negara kita mempunyai MSC di Kuala Lumpur, Selangor dan Johor sebab itu dirasakan perlu juga untuk kita mewujudkan MSC di Sarawak. Buat permulaan MSC ini boleh merangkumi kawasan sejauh UiTM, Kota Samarahan, Unimas dan meliputi Universiti Swinburne sehingga ke Damai di Santubong. Inisiatif pelaburan seperti kadar cukai setara kemudahan pembiayaan dan inisiatif *greenland* boleh diadakan dengan adanya MSC Sarawak ini. Saya percaya kita dapat merealisasikan aspirasi Yang Amat Berhormat Ketua Menteri bukan sahaja dari segi *disability digital economy* tetapi dapat menarik pelaburan domestik dan *Foreign Direct Investment* atau FBI. Ini akan memberi kesan limpahan ekonomi yang berganda kepada negeri Sarawak.

Dalam bajet 2018 yang dibentangkan oleh Yang Amat Berhormat Perdana Menteri, peruntukan sebanyak RM1 Billion diberi kepada Sabah dan Sarawak untuk membangunkan infrastruktur komunikasi dan kemudahan jalur lebar di bawah Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia.

Saya mencadangkan peruntukan tersebut disalurkan terus kepada Sarawak Multimedia Authority untuk menjamin keberkesanan pelaksanaan dan implementasi projek. Kita tidak mahu lagi terjadi projek-projek terbengkalai yang akhirnya merugikan rakyat dan akibatnya kerajaan terpaksa menanggung implikasi akauntabiliti kepada rakyat di kawasan masing-masing.

Tuan Speaker, saya menyokong penuh hasrat kerajaan negeri untuk membangunkan aplikasi *e-wallet* yang akan dikenali sebagai *Sarawak Pay* bagi mentransformasikan sistem kewangan negeri. Ini boleh dimulakan dengan pembayaran bil-bil air dan elektrik dan diperluaskan kepada sektor perniagaan atas talian iaitu *online business*. Apabila *Sarawak Pay* ini menjadi kenyataan. Saya percaya negeri Sarawak adalah negeri yang pertama seumpamanya yang melaksanakan aplikasi *e-wallet* ini di Malaysia.

Sebagai kesimpulannya, saya percaya ekonomi digital adalah salah satu daripada penciptaan kekayaan baharu dan bakal menjadi salah satu *revenue stream* baru kepada kerajaan negeri dan juga penduduk Sarawak. Kita tidak boleh lagi bergantung kepada ekonomi tradisional kita yang bersandarkan kepada komuniti seperti minyak, gas dan pembalakan. Anjakan ekonomi mesti berlaku demi memastikan kelestarian sumber hasil negeri dan kesejahteraan rakyat Sarawak. Kerajaan Barisan Nasional bukan saja kerajaan yang bertanggungjawab untuk hari ini tetapi juga untuk esok dan masa akan datang. Dengan ini Tuan Speaker, saya mohon menyokong Rang Undang-Undang Sarawak Multimedia Authority 2017. Sekian, terima kasih.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Batu Kitang.

Y.B. Ir Lo Khare Chiang: Thank you Tuan Speaker, thank you for giving me the honour and the opportunity to debate the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill. I support the Bill. In fact, I am impressed with the speech by the Member for Bukit Assek where he raised concerned about adequate laws to ensure that vital information does not leak and fall into wrong hands in China. Let us not be worried about China because China is doing good these days, all over the world. Honestly I am very disappointed with Member for Kota Sentosa for worrying about strict laws proposed to allow information to be disclosed if and when necessary. While we promote freedom of transfer of information, we do not want the internet to be used for unlawful and negative dissemination of information.

Member for Kota Sentosa appear to be contradicting the goods intention of Member for Bukit Assek. Think big, that's what leaders are supposed to do and to encourage the maces to follow. It is disappointing to hear Member for Kota Sentosa trying ways and means to ridicule the positive efforts of the Bill being tabled today, instead of encouraging and supporting the Bill.

I was about to stand and ask Honorable Member for Kota Sentosa whether he supports the Bill when all of the sudden he gracefully admitted that he supports the Bill. Member for Kota Sentosa is also concerned about the achievable speed. Let me finish please. Let me finish.

Tuan Speaker: Let him finish.

Y.B. Ir Lo Khere Chiang: Member for Kota Sentosa, you are also concerned about the unachievable speed of the internet. I say, continue to think big, Honorable Chief Minister of Sarawak, if we want to progress that's the way to go. China is so powerful today because the leaders think big and encourage the citizens to do the same. Our Chief Minister is a man with unquestionable integrity; he is young, healthy and many years to go. Our Chief Minister has good business acumen too.

A leader with impeccable integrity and business acumen who will bring Sarawak to the forefront of social and economic prosperity. This House will not be perturbed by the Member for Kota Sentosa's ridicule criticisms. We shall do even better under the leadership of our Chief Minister to prove that the Honorable Member for Kota Sentosa is wrong. I fully support the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, for the betterment of Sarawak. Thank you Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Honorable Member for Padungan.

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: Thank you Tuan Speaker, I would like to join my colleague from DAP to raise the concern on the delivery of the Bill to the opposition Members. I thought a lesson has been learnt that natural justice requires not only the right to be heard but also sufficient opportunity to prepare for the case. This is a lesson that should be learnt from the grounds of High Court Judges, judge from the Pujut case. I would like to point out the issue... (*Interruption*)

Tuan Speaker: What about the Pujut case? You better be careful, it's a sub-judice.

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: It's a decision. I am only saying the decision.

Tuan Speaker: You can move, it's sub-judice.

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: I am not commenting on the case.

Tuan Speaker: I will penalize you.

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: I am not commenting on the case. Sub-judice is when there is commenting on the case that will affect the decision of the court which is undergoing.

Tuan Speaker, on the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017, a question to be asked, what is the real purpose of setting up this Sarawak Multimedia Authority? Looks like the whole Bill is drafted in a way that the function and the powers and the offense in the Bill is not complementing each other or is conflicting. When we look at the functions of the authority, the main function of the authority is on the advisory or implementing, implementation of the policies of the government.

The relevant section is at Section 9 which are entitled "Functions of the Authority".

- Section 9 (A) to advise the government on the matters concerning so on and so forth;
- (B) to implement and enforce the provision of the State law relating to any communications;
- (C) to consider and recommend, in some sort of advisory purpose or function, recommend reforms to the State laws relating to any communications and multimedia activities, so on and so forth, and it goes on. When it comes to the power of the authority at Section 10, it does not seem to like give the effect to the functions which has been stipulated previously in Section 9.

In Section 10, it is spelled out by the mover of this Bill, either Honorable Minister for International Trade and e-commerce that "*Section 10(1)(1C) – to incorporate or participate in corporation of companies or to enter into any joint ventures for the purpose of this Ordinance.*"

To enter and joint venture with the private sector, it is not advisory in nature or implementation of facilitating the private sector as in e-commerce. It is something against or incompatible with the functions spell out in Section 9. The Government seems to like want to set up an agency to compete with the private sector to do the e-Commerce, and this shouldn't be done. As a government agency, SMA should have the function to facilitate the development of the multimedia or e-Commerce and facilitate the private sector to be successful in e-commerce, rather than compete with the private sector.

If we continue to look at Section 19, SMA even have a power to invest in any bank or financial institution, the investment power has come in. So it is going against or it is not compatible with the previous function as advisory to the government as to the policy or implementing the policy which has been lay down by the government. So, SMA has been given power to even invest. Bare in mind, if the government is serious about developing e-Commerce, SMA should not be profit orientated. It should be a fasilitator or advisor to the government and Section 10 (1)(l) SMA apart from investing apart from entering join venture agreement, he is even empowered to receive donations and contribution from any source and raise funds by all of full beings. In Malaysia, the definition of donation and corruption has a thin line. We have to bear in mind on that what is the purpose of asking and empowering SMA to receive donation and contribution? So therefore my first question is what is the real purpose of setting up SMA? It seems like setting up for hidden agenda or another purpose. Receiving donation? Why? Why should the statutory body, bear in mind this should be taken as constitution of this statutory or body. So, they will do the job according to this act, according to this ordinance.

The second issue that I would like to raise is about the composition. Composition of the members of the authorities. It is stated in Section 4(1), the Chief Minister as Chairman which had been highlighted by Kota Sentosa. Chief Minister as Chairman, Chief Minister is not the expert, he is the policy maker, but we need an expert in this authority. It is a statutory body doing advisory role, conducting advisory role and you ask the Head of Government to advice himself for the policy. It is something ridiculous and not making sense at all. And State Secretary, I'm not sure whether State Secretary is good in e-Commerce. State Attorney General, State Finance Secretary and knowledge than five and not more than seven other members with appropriate experience knowledge and experty in communication and multimedia, but they are the members. They are not the person acting as a important role in this authority. Yes, please.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: I would just like to, I'm attracted to the point raised by Padungan on the point of the Chief Minister role as the Head of Advisory Body in the name of Sarawak Multimedia Authority, advising the Government, the Cabinet whom he is also the Head. Yeah. How do you reconcile such a contradiction. I advised myself, you know, the same person advising himself. A situation like that. Can you explain further on that?

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: I have to apologise to Kota Sentosa because I do not know the answer. I have to seek the answer from the mover of this Bill. I think he know best. I think that is the purpose why he has been left out in the members. I think he should know best why is Chief Minister have to advice himself.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Padungan, you have been dwelling on this for a long time.

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: No, I haven't, I haven't come to the.

Tuan Speaker: Now you show me the law, which disallow Chief Minister to hold this post. Show me the law, which law?

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: That's why I say whether it is logical or whether it's making sense.

Tuan Speaker: No, I'm not talking about logic.

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: A law making body, we have to make sensible law.

Tuan Speaker: Show me which part of the State Constitution and which law forbids the Chief Minister from holding the post?

Y.B. Encik Wong King Wei: Tuan Speaker, I will come to the juicy part of it later. Tuan Speaker, if I can bother the House to refer to Section 4(2), the Members refer to in this session for (1) shall be appointed by the Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri, so the cabinet has the power to appoint the five to seven Members of the authority. Alright then, we move on to Section 10 (b), alright. The authority has the power in Section 10 (1)(b) to appoint any person with the requisite knowledge expertise and experience in communication and multimedia as Advisor of Consultant for the authority and may from the panel of Advisor of or Consultant to advise or assist the authority in the discharge of each function. Look at this, even the SMA need to set up an Advisory Report to advice the SMA so that the SMA can advice the Government accordingly. Why do we need this? We can straight away appoint the expert to chair SMA to do the advisory role to the Government. Do we have to appoint Chief Minister to sit there and Chief Minister appoint another advisory panel to advise himself as the Chairman of the SMA, for him to advise the cabinet, the Government. I think this is not making sense. We are talking about logic. Tuan Speaker, so, now, it is not logical... (*Laughter*)

I know why you all laugh, because it is not logical at all isn't it? So, are we serious about e-commerce? Are we serious about e-commerce? It seems like we are having a joke for this Bill to be passed. It will be a mockery. To be serious, it will be a mockery to the system that the government is going to implement.

So, are we serious about the multimedia, e-commerce? If so, get the expert, and don't pretend to be expert. In Hokien we have a saying "*Kiang tyuho, mai ke kiang*". It means don't pretend to be expert. It is for the expert to advise the government accordingly. It is not for the politician or policy maker to make a stunt or make show to the public saying that okay, we are serious about e-commerce after setting this up twice a year, twice a year the meeting and then we do not have any result of it. So, please be serious on this and I propose that the Bill to be amended and the composition of the SMA should be rectified and should be amended. With that I conclude.

Tuan Speaker: Any other Member who wishes to speak? Member for Pending.

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Tuan Speaker, Thank you for allowing me to participate in the debate of the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017.

It is clear that the intention of passing of this Bill and by setting up Sarawak Multimedia Authority is to get the State moving towards fully digitalized whereby the gap between the rural and urban can be closed up through digital living.

Therefore, I hope that this proposed new law will benefit the State and its people and not to be used as a smokescreen to enrich the cronies like what had happened in the past decades. I can give an example immediately, as you all know, SACOFA is one of them.

Initially SACOFA, being Sarawak State controlled telecommunications infrastructure arm, was painted in such a way that it is crucial for the company to be set up by the Sarawak Government for the purpose of providing telecommunication infrastructures and services for Sarawakians.

But, see what has happened now. It was set up using government funds and then, it was privatized with 50% of shares sold to CMS below the fair price to benefit that family. And you that know that family who it is and no one dares to make any noise.

With the State gearing up towards digital development, it is crucial for the Government to inform the people about how the state through the setting up of Sarawak Multimedia Authority or Sarawak Digital Economic Corporation can generate revenue or income? How could this piece of new law bring betterment to the people at large out from this digital pushed by the State Government? How dramatically can our state to transform into digital entities in order to cut budgets and streamline services? How much can this digital technology contribute to our state GDP growth? It is also important for the State Government to come up with a clear guideline and policy in terms of governing the development and management of the state digital economy.

It will be a waste of the State resources if the Government keeps pumping in money to SMA or SDEC but at the end of the day, it is the cronies who benefit out of it but not the people. We do not want another SACOFA at play. What the people, what the Rakyat is concerned about is enjoying affordable uninterrupted fast speed broadband services and digital infrastructure including communication and multimedia activities.

What we can see from SACOFA who has been granted a 20-year exclusive right to build, manage, lease and maintain telecommunication towers in the state, have all these years on many occasions angered the local residents due to their arrogant business practices particularly with intention to ignore the wishes and views of the feedback of the affected residents when it comes to construct the telecommunication towers. In most cases, SACOFA just bulldoze over their projects by constructing the telecommunication towers so near to residential houses, or build it on lands which are meant for recreational purposes or public parks and worst still on school compounds. Of course, SACOFA always claim that they had obtained all the necessary approval from the state for the construction of the tower and keep emphasizing there is no requirement for them to seek residents' view before the construction of the tele-communication tower. The sites where the local residents objected strongly to the construction of the telco towers include SJK Bintawa, Jalan Nyatoh of Taman Supreme,

Tuan Speaker: Member for Padungan.

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Pending.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Pending, you can express your fears of the parallelism, but this is not a debate of SACOFA, this is a Bill on multimedia. So, back to the main track.

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Yes. This is the Bill to regulate SACOFA. SACOFA is not very happy about this Bill. I know. From the the information I received, they are not happy.

Tuan Speaker: What is your evidence?

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Because they are going to listen to what the authority got to say where to build the tower.

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: So I am now trying to help the State to improve the policy because we do not want this SACOFA to keep bullying the resident or our Sarawakian. So I have to be specific. I will bring in the real example how SACOFA bullies the people.

Tuan Speaker: Are you taking clarification from Ahli Yang Berhormat Batu Kitang? Are you taking?

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: *Can lah.*

Y.B. Ir Lo Khare Chiang: Thank you Tuan Speaker, thank you Honourable Member for Pending. I must apologize Honourable Member for Kota Sentosa just now because the last time I asked to clarify, he refused, so this time I also refused. Next question, I will allow you. Honourable Member for Pending, I have this question for you. Do you mean that you don't want SACOFA and you want companies from Semenanjung Malaysia to come and do the job of SACOFA? Do you not want Sarawakian companies to do it? Do you know that there are so many companies, listed companies in Sarawak belonging to Sarawak unlike Sabah now, can ... *(Interruption)*

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Tuan Speaker, I think this Honourable Member for Batu Kitang is out of frequency. We cannot afford to waste more time... *(Interruption)*

Y.B. Ir Lo Khare Chiang: One more question. Do you realize that... *(Interruption)*

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Because when SACOFA was incorporated, he was not even the Y.B and he did not study the background of SACOFA... *(Interruption)*

Y.B. Ir Lo Khare Chiang: How do you have communication without towers?

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: It is already out of frequency.

Y.B. Ir Lo Khare Chiang: Now I ask you, cannot put up towers here, cannot put up towers there, how are you going to set up your communication? Communication with towers to shoot one another, thank you.

Y.B. Puan Violet Yong Wui Wui: Out of tune, out of track. Tuan Speaker, I just have to continue the side which SACOFA has angered the local residents. Lorong Uni-Central 13, Taman Penrissen Heights, Batu 12 Kuching Serian Road, Lorong 10 of Stampin Tengah, Jalan Kampung Haji Baki of Batu Kitang, Taman Uni Garden and Taman Samarindah both of Kota Samarahan. I would like to take this opportunity to raise the yet to be solved telco tower problem at SJK Bintawa. Since March this year, the residents in Bintawa had requested SACOFA to shift away the telco towers built at SJK Bintawa to a more suitable site for the reason that the present site of the telco tower is too near to their houses and worry about health hazard resulting from long term exposure to the radio-frequency emissions from the equipment affixed to the telco-towers.

Unfortunately, until now, there was nothing done to rectify the matter. The tower is still standing tall at the present site. This issue has also been brought to the attention of Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment as well as State Planning Authority and of course SACOFA. I have met with the relevant officers and you know yourselves, that I have met you and I don't have to mention here whom I have met and you know that this is a problem that has not been solved. Yes, Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment.

Kenapa? Somebody is there and you know who. You ask your officer who had met me, okay? Unfortunately till now there was nothing done to rectify the matter. May I ask, why is there no action taken to solve this issue?

The present 15m setback requirement between residential building and the tower is too close and the distance should be extended to a longer distance.

The Bintawa residents had voiced out their strong objections against the telco tower being built. So when it comes to dealing with SACOFA's problem, I cannot comprehend why the State government seems so powerless when it comes to dealing with SACOFA problem. SUPP also *takut* to touch on SACOFA issue, keeping a deafening silence on the issue. SUPP is only good at frightening the public saying that without the telco towers, there will be weak signal or reception of their mobile phones line. Nobody will buy that argument as the people are intelligent enough to see through the stupidity of SUPP. Everyone except SUPP knows that the tele-communications equipment is not necessarily has to be affixed to telco-towers to send or receive signal. It can be mounted at any tall structure, buildings or roof top or giant advertisement signboard. Not necessary to build that tower, the ugly tower. SUPP shouts and criticize the loudest when it comes to attack DAP and Penang government but when there is clear wrongdoings from the state BN and PBB, they are like the three monkeys, see nothing, hear nothing and say nothing. Like our late Tok Nan had said, *ada mata buta, ada telinga bengal, ada mulut bisu*. This is SUPP.

On SJK Bintawa telco tower, I request this matter to be solved immediately. It will be very irresponsible for the Government to turn a blind eye on it. All of you who are sitting on the other side of the bench always boast of how good the BN government is but apparently this simple matter cannot be solved. How could you consider yourself to be fit to govern the State? One may ask why SACOFA towers create so many problems. This is mainly due to their lopsided setback guidelines which are currently used by SPA. As I understand, one of the guidelines, that is the Self Regulator Telecommunication Structure, 30m and Below, issued on 28th October 2016 was prepared and issued solely by SACOFA. This guideline came from SACOFA and just adopted blindly by SPA. Why do you allow SACOFA to set their own rules? You created all these problems. They simply just built the tower at the places where they wish and angered a lot of local residents. So I believe it's a high time for our State Government to review all these guidelines that are now in placed, and get rid of all the outdated guidelines and there should be a clause or guideline to request or to compel the telco company or the company that constructs the tower to take into consideration of the residents feels and feedback before any telco tower is to be built. So I believe it is time, that the Ministry and our Yang Amat Berhormat's team in the Ministry to do necessary changes and get rid of all the outdated policies. It is a clear sign that our Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister has grouped his ally in that Ministry and I hope that the people will do good for what they are being entrusted for the people of Sarawak. In my view, it is also pertinent for the Government to ensure that SACOFA does not continue to monopolize the teleco-infrastructure business.

Tuan Speaker, this piece of new Bill has clauses to give power of enforcement and investigation. Very often when it comes to enforcing the law, it is very lacking and weak. It is useless to have all the beautiful laws with high penalty like Section 26(2) which is a million ringgit fine and imprisonment if there is no stringent enforcement being carried out to uphold the law. We have seen all these years, there was hardly any enforcement action taken against the offence committed in relation to construction of telco towers. I give an example, it's still SACOFA.

SACOFA had in many instances built their telco towers on land meant for children playground, land gazetted for children playground or recreational parks like the one at Stampin Tengah and Taman Penrissen Heights, obviously contravening the title conditions under the Land Code but Land and Survey Department Sarawak dare not to take action or object against SACOFA for violating the law. So this is a classic case of having the law but no one is willing to enforce it. I hope after the passing of this Bill, the Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) will ensure that SACOFA and all the relevant players do not construct their telco towers at their own whims and fancy.

Tuan Speaker, in Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister's budget speech, he talked at length about the experience and success of Estonia digital journey. Let me point out in this august House, the Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister only talked about the success story of Estonia and missed out on the high risk factor of going fully digitalized. We must look at both sunny side up and sunny side down. I have read the news that few days ago, Estonia freezes its resident ID card for voting, filing taxes and encrypting sensitive documents due to digital security flaw and has blocked most of its residents from accessing all its online services for a weekend so that it can go in and fix the vulnerability. Hence, this is the other aspect which we must be cautioned of i.e. the cyber security factor. So far, I notice that there is nothing, not a single word from the State Government or the Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister on cyber security. The piece of Bill has missed out this chunk of it.

In my view, this very aspect should not be overlooked. The cyber security strategy and action plan must be in place simultaneously to combat cyber crime. We cannot afford to let our digital data and information being hacked and misused by irresponsible quarters or any cyber attack. The State must have cyber security strategy which focuses on ensuring the provision of vital services, raising the efficiency of combating cyber crimes and prevent threat to our State security when Sarawak moving towards the digital economic era. We must also make sure we have availability of experts and solutions for cyber security. I hope that the relevant Minister can address this particular aspect of it during his winding up speech on this Bill. The above is my observation on the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill and with that I conclude. Thank you, Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker : Ahli Yang Berhormat bagi Balingan.

Y.B. Encik Abdul Yakub Bin Haji Arbi : Thank you Tuan Speaker. I would like to thank Tuan Speaker for giving me a chance to debate on the Rang Undang-Undang Kerajaan Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017. I would also like to congratulate Yang Berhormat Menteri Perniagaan Antarabangsa dan E-Dagang dan Menteri Kewangan Kedua for tabling this Bill.

Digital Economy

Tuan Speaker, I wish to congratulate Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister for the new initiatives relating to ICT and direction into the Digital Economy. At the outset, we have to acknowledge that we are already left behind, trailing the developed countries a distance away or even Peninsular Malaysia. At the Federal level the Multimedia Super Corridor Project has now been launched more than two decades, however, too little of its success has reached the shores of Sarawak. In terms of funds disbursement, the spillover is not heard of. Embarking on the digital economy will keep the State abreast with the developed countries. This way, the State will no longer be trailing as we were in the medieval and industrial age. This is by no means just an ordinary challenge for the State leadership and the people of Sarawak. There has to be affirmative actions in all aspect of ICT and facets of the digital economy.

Firstly, we do not have what is supposed to be a given. After more than 60 years of independence and more than 20 years of the launch of the national Multimedia Super Corridor Project, our infrastructure is just not available for a viable digital economy. The only solution is massive upgrading to existing digital infrastructure and creation of new network topology. Bandwidth which is in fact a prerequisite, is still very backward and its reach is just bad. I do not believe the claim by some quarters that we have 10 megabytes per second of line speed, perhaps in very isolated pockets in Kuching City. Even 100mbps as you may know is not anywhere near sufficient.

For digital economy to work we need a much higher bandwidth and network stability is an essence. It is very important to note that digitalization will drive the economy whereas bandwidth is crucial prerequisite to invest decisions by investors. Of late, we even have operations relocation due to persistent buffering and unstable line conditions. Not to mention business decisions or prioritising site operations that offer based on bandwidth. It's no more the days of physical infra like electricity, water road, rails port and the like. It's *"No Bandwith No Go"...*PERIOD. This is the new reality.

The other underlying yet equally critical is the State database or the creation of data big data or specific data upon which the systems or the application will depend on to properly operate. This is another huge task of constructing a reliable data centre and recovery centre, assembling and collecting existing data, extracting and conversation of none digital data. All these can't wait. All forms of data need to be in place for e-commerce to be viable.

At the engine room of the digital economy are the array of applications that would drive all aspects of functionalities of the economy. At the lowest level, the challenge is to re-engineer how things are presently done, then digitizing the processes. Its a lot more challenging at the next phase where the challenge is creating new applications that can reach the whole world, thus competing in the world arena. Kudos to the incubator initiated by the Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister earlier this year. Applications are key as nothing moves without the application. Even at the Federal level which has embarked on the knowledge or digital economy for more than two decades now, application are still lacking and we are still very dependent on foreign application that we subscribe and are using on a daily basis. As such, lots of emphasis should be on creation application, demanding a lot of creativity and knowledge at a new level, that is, the digital level.

We cannot wait but churn out applications on an urgent and steady basis. While we are still very far behind on the creativity at the new level, we can shorten the learning curve and catch up with the front runners. The way out is to engage them, employ them and let them invest here in Sarawak. I believe we have all the environmental setting to attract e-commerce investors the moment our digital infrastructure and gateway to the internet world are already in place. There is nothing to be shy or sentimental or emotional or possessive about engaging foreign expertise in e-commerce or the digital world. Remember its a borderless world. Whatever conceived is for global intent, thus global participation in terms of brains and financial investment should be sought and encouraged, or given tax or fiscal incentives. Don't forget that competition is global, not just with Sarawakian or Malaysian companies. Thus, an application has to be world class. It is interesting to note that even the Silicon Valley are housing thousands of Indian nationals.

I also wish to highlight about ICT e-Commerce implementation a crucial issue that is always forgotten by ICT developers. Implementation programmes such as mind conditioning, hands holding, mind sharing, reach out and is critical that is detrimental to the success of a project. There has to be a buy in right from project initiation till post implementation review. Otherwise, projects can be seen as a threat to current players etc.

Tuan Speaker, like all sectors or industries, the digital economy initiative must be supported by the proper governance, regulations and requisite legislation, as well as a sound banking and financial system. Thus, lots of hard work. The tabling of the SMA is very important to see that all these would come in place other than putting in place a viable platform for development and implementation of the digital economy. Otherwise the hard work on the infrastructure and applications will stand in silos on its own and not implementable. As such I would like to support the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017. Thank you.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Repok.

Y.B. Dato' Sri Huang Tiong Sii: Tuan Speaker, saya bangun untuk menyertai Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat dalam Dewan yang mulia ini untuk mengambil bahagian dalam perbahasan rang undang-undang bertajuk Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. Ini salah satu Rang Undang-Undang yang sangat penting dalam pembangunan ekonomi digital Negeri Sarawak.

Tuan Speaker, memang adalah masa tepatnya Rang Undang-Undang ini diadakan dan diluluskan oleh Dewan yang mulia ini untuk menghadapi cabaran di dalam era *Digital Economy* dan pembangunan infrastruktur *ICT*, Rang Undang-Undang *Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017* adalah tepat sekali untuk menyelia dan mengkoordinasikan semua inisiatif *Digital Economy* termasuk infrastruktur digital, *e-Government*, *e-Commerce*, *e-Pendidikan*, *e-Kewangan*, *e-Bayaran* seperti *Sarawak Pay*. Penyeliaan ini akan membolehkan inisiatif *Digital Economy* dilaksanakan dengan lebih berkesan dan berjaya. Yang penting kita mahu Sarawak mencapai multi digital bertaraf antarabangsa supaya boleh menarik pelabur-pelabur dan pakar-pakar asing *ICT* ke Sarawak. Satu lagi aspek yang perlu diberi perhatian berat adalah keselamatan siber atau *cyber security*. Sepertimana kita sedia maklum, kes-kes jenayah siber semakin hari semakin bertambah. Negeri kita perlu ada pakar-pakar keselamatan siber.

Tuan Speaker, saya berharap apabila Rang Undang-Undang tersebut dilaksanakan, Negeri Sarawak akan membangun lebih maju dan secara sistematik terutamanya melalui pembinaan *communication towers* dan *fiber optic cable* yang akan meningkatkan *connectivity* di Sarawak dan tidak ketinggalan di kawasan saya.

Saya turut berharap semua pihak yang terlibat secara langsung atau tidak langsung akan bekerjasama dalam memastikan keberkesanan pelaksanaan rang undang-undang ini nanti setelah ia diluluskan.

Tuan Speaker, kita amat memahami bahawa hasrat murni daripada *Bill* ini boleh dilaksana dengan baik dengan adanya perancangan dan pelaksanaan yang teliti serta telus daripada pihak Kerajaan. Dengan pandangan-pandangan yang telah saya huraikan di sini, saya dengan ini menyokong Rang Undang-Undang Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) Bill, 2017. Sekian, terima kasih.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Kidurong. Oh sorry, Member for Tanjung Batu.

Y.B. Encik Chiew Chiu Sing: Tuan Speaker, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to participate in the debate of the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. Tuan Speaker, one thing which I am very concerned about us embarking on our e-commerces that's before we jump on the bandwagon we must be sure that we have a very strong base in our IT infrastructure.

Tuan Speaker, I know presently, we have 3G, 4G, wifi, hotspot and smartphones and later our super fast internet speed and others. I also many of our residential areas rightly my colleague from Kota Sentosa talked about shophouses in Kuching. In residential areas including housing estates that have been being built in a long time ago up to this stage, the people do not have access to telephone line, without which, how to have a wifi or unifi? There are many housing estates all over Sarawak no telephone line. So to have e-commerce without getting the very basic of internet connection, does not sense indeed.

So when can these residential estates, shops and others have the internet connection? Don't say that this is Telekom's job because it has been like that for a long time and Telekom had not done it. If Telekom cannot do it, then get someone who can do it. After all, we are not getting it for free.

Tuan Speaker, another big problem faced by the people in the e-commerce business is the mailing or the sending of products. How do we get the rural folks to get an order online be delivered to them? Post office or courier service are so far away and it is very expensive for them to go to town. Even if you are in town, the cost of sending the product is very high. Sometimes the delivery charge is higher than the product itself.

For example Pos Laju is charging RM9.60 for every 500 gram. Making our products very expensive and not compatible. To make our products competitive and our e-commerce flourish we must have a good and cheaper way to send our products. We cannot rely on the privately owned profit-orientated post company to do our delivery services. What we need is delivery service which is aimed to help our e-commerce industry for it to be successful and our e-commerce traders make money. In many other countries, this is done by the Government.

Tuan Speaker, we need our own post Sarawak so that it can provide better services, cheaper price, and exists for the people instead of trying to make money from them. Postal service is a strategic function of our government and the success and failure of our government initiatives depend very much on it. We cannot let it get into the profit oriented private enterprise hand.

Tuan Speaker, another thing is on our communication tower built in our town like what the Honourable Member for Pending has mentioned. People are very unhappy about the transmitting tower built in the middle of a town or in residential estates, built on parking lot, or close proximity to the people's home in other parts of Sarawak. All these are giving stress to those living around the towers and though it has said many times that the transmission is safe, the people are not believing it. In fact the more that is said the more stressful becomes for them. The issue is not so much about safety but other concern and values or something else.

Tuan Speaker, we should respect the feeling of this people. We just cannot ignore them like that and let them be stressed day after day and become a problem later on. I am sure there are alternatives for the waves to be transmitted. We can use other types of ways to transmit the waves instead.

I hope that the Ministry will look into this seriously to come out with alternative ways to solve this problem. Thank you very much Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Member for Piasau.

Y.B.Dato' Sabastian Ting Chiew Yew: Thank you very much Tuan Speaker for giving me the opportunity to speak and participate in the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017. The Supply Bill this morning as was presented by Honourable Chief Minister has mentioned clearly the way forward to have digital economy for Sarawak and in this Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) now we look at the composition that is the membership of the Authority. The Authority we have in our Chief Minister himself plus the top three administrators in Sarawak as ex officio, the State Secretary himself, the State Authority General, the State Financial Secretary. This shows the importance of the Act, that's why the top most, the Chief Minister plus the three officio as ex officio. And the section 4(1)C mention about not less than five and not more than seven other members with knowledge and expertise that shows expertise and knowledge and that would be appointed. That becomes a membership of the authority.

Now if we refer to section seven of the appointment of General Manager and other employees, these would be the people I believe to do the day to day running and management of the authority. Now function of the authority, where we look at Section 9, this is very clear, 9(a) to advise the Government of matters regarding 1 development of digital infrastructure cyber security as mentioned. That's a big concern. But we have it here, talent development, e-commerce, research and the others. Now we go back to powers of the authority 10(b)1 and (b) appoint any person with requisite knowledge, expertise and experience in communication and multimedia is advisor or consultant. These are the things people who are very good in this area government will think that to appoint someone. For example Mister Jack Ma, to be there may form a panel of advisor in other people who are expert in this knowledge in this day economy and this probably would be the people that would be appointed. That would be in my mind. That would be my thought. I particularly like think 1F to provide scholarships, grants and loans and other incentives for training and research related to communication and multimedia.

Now since the launching of the conference in April aided by our Chief Minister, people of Sarawak especially the youth are very excited. There are waiting how to move forward, how the present government will come up, what are the areas they are participate and our Chief Minister has not stopped and has gone on to visit Estonia as we have heard this morning and what he has said. Very important of course, with this Sarawak Multimedia Authority that shows that our Chief Minister is forward looking and it serious. Is not No Action Talk Only (NATO). Talk, some people may say hot air lah. Nothing been done. But we have this Sarawak Multimedia Authority in front of us. This is an excellent Bill. This is why we should support and I will support. Looking at China for example since people talk about China. First time were in 1990's. Probably you bring cash, they say no credit card. They would not want any credit card. Ten year later, the year 2000 plus you go there they don't accept credit card as well. Malaysia credit cards go there they say no. Singapore credit card, you go there also cannot be used. They have flip flop that. No longer. We are now un-prepay. All these because of technology.

In Sarawak is blessed that we have our Chief Minister like this to go forward. We look at other states, none. And compare Sarawak, we are moving ahead, our youth. Outsiders are eager waiting how do they come in and participate. We had heard about digital. We had heard about incubators. We are talking about village. All these the youth are waiting how to move forward. The start up and we moving forward indeed. Of course we are looking all these.

I also share the penalty Section 26, 1. It says no person shall erect, use or maintain or operate any structure for purposes of communication and multimedia activities including communication tower on any land and building in the state unless the erection use and the maintenance of the operation of structure have been approved by the authority. 26(b) that's what I am concerned. Any person contravening the provision on subsection 1 shall be guilty of offence and upon the conviction shall be punished with the fine not exceeding 1 million or imprisonment term not exceeding 10 years or both. This is very high penalty, very severe. But luckily it is only confined to construction, erect, maintenance and operate any structures.

Now of course if we look at Section 23, there's power to compile. That itself probably would help in the implementation or enforcement of this Act. Going back to what Honourable Member for Tumpong have said, I fully agree to what he has said, appears to be in this, our Chief Minister mentioned about S Sarawak, Smart Sarawak and this the way forward. I cannot help to mention, have to mention, Honourable Member for BatuKawa, I think he has two trademark. One, his yellow t-shirt, yellow shirt, the colour yellow. Most of the time he work, when he is around he would be in yellow, his trademark. So anyone can get a yellow shirt and follow lah if he wants or if she wants to. But the only thing is his teeth, he start trademark nobody can lah. No matter how you that one but you cannot. The way he smile, people also will have issue. Very important I think, he must be doing well lah in BatuKawa. That's why some people maybe envious, maybe lah, jealous lah to the extent.

Now when I have occasion in West Malaysia, my friends in KL, those of former colleagues of mine, they always mention about Sarawak, you are very blessed. I say why? Number one he said, your late Chief Minister DatukPatinggi Tan Sri AdenanSatim, he was the first one who spoke out what we wish, what we have, we are entitled to under MA 63, unfortunately the good Lord love him and had taken him away. But now we have another Chief Minister looking forward with this digital economy and he is the one West Malaysia are talking about, excited the economy itself, how it would benefit Sarawak, how the Sarawak people will prosper because of this digital economy.

With this few words, Tuan Speaker, I would like to support the Bill, Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill 2017. Thank you.

Tuan Speaker: Any other Honourable Member who wishes to speak? If not I shall call upon the Honourable Minister for International Trade and e-Commerce and Second Minister for Finance to wind up.

Minister for International Trade and E-Commerce and Second Minister for Finance (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Thank you Tuan Speaker. I would like to thank altogether, there are 14 Ahli Yang Berhormat who have participated in the debate of this Bill: Bukit Assek, Engkilili, Kota Sentosa, BatuLintang, Bukit Koram, Tumpong, Lingga, Padungan, Pending, Balingian, Repok, TanjungBatu and Piasau.

There are so many issues that are being raised by Ahli - Ahli Yang Berhormat. I think it is difficult to react or to respond to all issue raised. However I will address some of the pertinent issues.

1. As to why the Chief Minister is to be Chairman of Authority. Let me point out to Yang Berhormat Kota Sentosa and also Padungan that this establishment of the Authority is just not confined to e-Commerce alone. It has very wide ranging objectives. It has all encompassing, in fact this includes the development of the entire digital economy.

We should be grateful that Chief Minister, who is the Chief Executive of the Government is going to head this Authority. AhliBerhormat Kota Sentosa is obviously very ignorant of the Ministerial portfolios of our State Cabinet.

It is in fact a public knowledge that our Chief Minister also holds the portfolio of the Digital Economy and Telecommunication. This is gazette on 22 May 2017. So it is one of the big portfolio held by our Chief Minister for the State of Sarawak. So it is only right that he be appointed the Chairman. And I think AhliBerhormat for Kota Sentosa did impute improper motives on the Chief Minister and also on me. But this is of course that is not important. Contravening standing order, but you know very well that you have committed that offence, but I hope you don't do so next time.

Member for Padungan, says that why the Chief Executive, Chief Minister has to head this SMA. At the same time, the Bill also says that the Bill also appoint. This is 10.1.B appoint any person with the resituate knowledge, expertise and experience in communication and multimedia as advisor or consultant of the Authority and may form a panel group of advisors and consultant to advise and assist the Authority in the discharge of its functions.

Tuan Speaker, what Ahli Yang Berhormat for Padungan said, we can leave it to the experts, the advisors, to those experts and so on. Mind you, ours is the elected government. Our Chief Minister is popularly elected to govern the State of Sarawak. *(Applause)* He has to be fully responsible for what this Government is doing, being the Chief Executive. How can you just leave it to the executive advisors to do what they want? He has to be in-charge and let the advisors, let the experts advising what to do. This is the proper way of doing things. This is also based on the Westminster model. Ya...*(Interruption)*

Y.B. Encik Wong Kin Wei: Thank you, Tuan Speaker. Thank you, Honourable Minister. There is a difference between advisory role and the policy maker. The government is the policy make and Sarawak Multimedia Authority (SMA) has been set up in Section 9 to do advisory role and to implement the policy made by the government. So why do you have to duplicate the function of the Honourable Chief Minister, being the Chairman of SMA and as the head of the government at the same time. That should not be done. Let the experts do the giving of advice to the government. That will solve the problem.

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): I have answered your question anyway. *(Laughter)* Now, I move on, perhaps to the issues raised by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bukit Assek. I thank her for pointing out the vulnerability of our digital payment, about our personal data and data of our departments and agencies. I also like to thank her for showing the concern about the way Sarawak Pay is going to function and so on.

For the information of Ahli Yang Behormat for Bukit Assek, perhaps it is premature to comment on the security of data but rest assured that the State Government will ensure that the data of its people will be well protected in accordance with the law of the country.

You see, talking about working with Huawei and so on, Tuan Speaker, let me stress the importance of 3Cs, Concept, Competence and Connection. In any of our human endeavor, we must have Concept, that is the idea, the knowledge, the skill. We have to have the latest knowledge, latest skill, to enable us to do the second C, meaning Competence. That is why you can see our Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister has travelled the world looking for the latest knowledge, ideas and skills to equip himself, to enable him to run the State of Sarawak. Connection, in any of our human endeavor, we must connect ourselves with the best people, with the best organizations.

I am not saying that Huawei is the best organization but I like to thank Ahli Yang Berhormat for Bukit Assek for suggesting that we have to worry, we have to be careful when working with somebody or someone who comes from the foreign country. But that is the way things have to be done.

We like to connect ourselves with people, with the best knowledge, with the best skill, in order for us to do things in a competent manner. And so, not to worry, it is premature to comment on all these. In fact, our Chief Minister will sign a MOU perhaps on the 10th November with Huawei for doing personnel training in the areas of information technology and so on. So let us not jump into conclusion.

Now, move on to, again Members for Kota Sentosa and also Batu Lintang, about whether or not SMA will contravene the Federal Law, would be in conflict with what MCMC is doing and so on. Let me say this. For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa, as clearly stated in the long title to the Bill, the purpose of this Bill is to establish an authority for communication and multimedia activities. It is not to regulate telecommunication which is clearly a Federal function. With the establishment of this authority, the State now has a focal point in which to develop its multimedia strategy in the State. In fact, Tuan Speaker, during our engagement with MCMC recently, it was made known to them that we are going to set up this SMA. In fact MCMC made it very clear to us...*sit down, I think I'll finish mine first. No, no, sit down, let me explain, I am still in the process of explaining. Yes, I'll come to that.*

During our recent engagement with MCMC, it was made clear to us that they were very happy for us to have an authority, to have this Sarawak Multimedia Authority. They were saying that when this Authority was set up, then they can work with us, liaise directly with us on matters relating to communications. In other words, we complement each other in what we are doing.

For the information of Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa, the establishment of another authority under Item 14 List 2a of the Federal Constitution over the matter under Federal List is in fact nothing new. This is the power specifically assigned to the State of Sabah and Sarawak under Federal List. In fact, as I said, this is nothing new.

In 1994, when The Sarawak Tourism Board was established, this was established despite the fact that tourism was already inserted as a Federal matter. If Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa were to read properly Clause 9, you will notice that none of the functions provided therein encroach upon the power of the Federal Government. For example, Clause A is to provide that the authority is to advise government on all matters concerning State policies to develop the State digital economy. In Clause B, the authority is to implement and enforce the provision of State Laws related to communication and multimedia activities. For example, it is entrenched in our Land Code that any person who wishes to erect structures for purposes of communications, is required to seek approval and obtain a permit from the State. The authority is empowered to ensure the provision is complied with. Clause C gives the authority the power to recommend reforms to relevant State Laws. They are just some of the examples the function of the authority as correctly pointed out by so many Ahli-ahli Yang Berhormat is advisory in nature and whenever there are powers of regulatory nature, it is confined to State Law.

Issue on Clause 29, Ahli Yang Berhormat for .Kota Sentosa was concerned about the banking information being subject to disclosure. You want to raise something about constitution?

Y.B. Chong Chieng Jen: Thank you, Tuan Speaker. Thank you, Yang Berhormat Menteri. Just now you were saying that by virtue of the long title of the Bill which states that it is the entity that is for communication and multimedia activities and it doesn't deal with any regulatory matters as such it does not infringe the provision of the constitution which provides that telecommunication is the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal List. However, under the offence and penalty parts, these are clearly regulatory. All the matters that you have mentioned, you provide some enforcement power, even power to jail to fine, aren't they regulatory in nature, aren't they about law enforcement and that is the part that will encroach into the areas of Federal List.

Y.B. Encik Chong Chieng Jen: You are saying that or because it's nothing about regulatory. Therefore, it does not fall under the Federal List. But what you have here under part six of the Bill is clearly about offences and penalties. There are regulatory initials.

Tuan Speaker: I have seen the Honorable Minister the situation is quite simple. If the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Ordinance violates the Federal Constitution to the document of MCMC it is for MCMC to raise it either in parliament or in court, I think it is clear. It is for MCMC to raise it. Ya, proceed, proceed.

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, Sarawak Multimedia Authority in fact can be regarded as a one stop centre for communication and multimedia activities in the State. In this ordinance and other related State Law. For example SMA will play the role of SPA in so far as the structure, communication tower or any land or building and any other incidental works including laying of cables for purposes of communication and multimedia activities in the State. (See: Clause 10 (d).

MCMC on the other hand is still the Authority in so far as licensing and regulating communication and multimedia industry in Malaysia pursuant to List I, Item 10 (g) and (h) of Tenth Schedule of the Federal Constitution.

SMA is established in fact it is established pursuant to the power to cooperate Authorities another bodies set up by the State Law provided under Article under 95D of the Federal Constitution which state for Sabah and Sarawak. Item 14 of List 2A in the 9 schedule shall be deemed part of the State List.

Tuan Speaker, clearly Sarawak Multimedia Authority does not encroach on the jurisdiction of MCMC but it complements MCMC. The SMA regulators power or regulatory powers are divvied from the existing State Law as well as Future Law to be enacted in accordance with the constitutional provisions, I have no time. I want to carry on. I have explained, I have explained, clearly I have explained. Now, I will do that, I will do that.

Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa was concerned about his banking information being subject to disclosure under this Bill. Let me ensure Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa that this Government is well aware that regulatory power relating to banking is clearly Federal matter. And therefore, it is not intended to be regulated by this Bill. What the clause intends is for disclosure information relating to relevant matter such as information given on required or information given or required when making application for erection of telecommunication towers applications for grants or matters which is relating to this ordinance.

Telco Fund

Now Telco Fund, let me explain. USB Fund, never mind let me explain, never mind, never mind, I have explained, I have, I have.

Tuan Speaker: Honorable Member for Kota Sentosa, please sit down... (*Interruption*)

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker ... (*Interruption*)

Tuan Speaker: I am asking you to sit down. Member for Kota Sentosa I am asking you to sit down.

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, I am very disappointed with the Honorable Minister of Kota Sentosa. To me it is such a good Bill and it is a Bill that can carry out forward to proper ask into a Digital Economy to transform to State. It is a vision by Yang Amat Berhormat our Chief Minister. Such a good Bill and you want to politicise it. Doing all the politicking. Sit down, sit down, sit down.

Tuan Speaker: No, no interruption. No interruption, no interruption.

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): As Honourable Member of this sacred House I will expect Members of this Opposition to be more responsible, to be more professional in debating in this Bills. I am talking about USP Fund on the question of whether the authority it will levy or charge similar to what MCMC is empowered to impose on the USP Fund. The question raised by Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa. The answer is no, no. This is because the government is aware that this is the authority of MCMC. The only fees that this authority Sarawak Multimedia Authority may impose will be for the granting of approvals or permits for matters relating to the erection of towers and other State Legal requirement.

For instance, the provision of levying of charges under Clause 10J is limited to the use of resources or product belonging to the authority.

Tuan Speaker, the other point I like to respond would be Ahli Yang Berhormat for Pending talk about erecting of towers by SACOFA and all that. Let me point this out, the issues Clause 39(6) provides as follows.

- (6) Save as otherwise provided in the Ordinance.
- a) The provision of this Ordinance shall have effect notwithstanding anything contrary contained in other agreements undertaken or arrangement relating to communication and multimedia activities executed before and after the commencement of this Ordinance and;
 - b) 36(b) any provision contained in such agreements undertaken all arrangement shall to the extent to which it is repugnant to the provision of the Ordinance become or be void as the case may be. I would like to explain this further under this provision. Any agreement relating to communication and multimedia activities entered into whether before and after the commencement of this Ordinance shall be read subject to the provision of this Ordinance. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this agreement and the provision of this Ordinance shall prevail. The relevant provisions which are in conflict with this Ordinance shall become void and so much on the SACOFA issue.

Cyber Security

Talk about the cyber security. I have no time, thank you. Sit down, sit down ...
(Inaudible)

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Don't side step. Sit down, sit down. I talk about Cyber Security Issue is provided under 9(a)2. Sarawak Multimedia Authority will advise the Government on policies and measures to be taken on Cyber Security Issue. Otherwise it is under MCMC.

Yang Berhormat for Batu Lintang I may have to reiterate you that Sarawak Multimedia Authority do not seek to duplicate the functions of MCMC and therefore to be able to exercise its function under the Ordinance and I think there is no need to amend the Federal law. In the future, there is nothing to prevent MCMC to delegate some of the MCMC function to SMA to Sarawak Multimedia Authority.

MCMC may also empower SMA, Sarawak Multimedia Authority. That is matter for the State and Federal Government to deliberate on. I like to thank all Ahli Yang Berhormat, 14 of them, for the extensive deliberation on this bill. I must say that this bill in fact is to establish a body that would enable the Government to achieve its mission of transformation of the State to a digital economy. And I forgot to thank Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa for pointing out that our State is lagging behind. We are inadequate in internet coverage and internet penetration. Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa said we still crawl. Did you say that, still crawl. Yes, we have been crawling for many years and therefore ... *(Interruption)* ... yes yes yes ... no no no ... it says the same thing that we are still crawling. Sit down. Sit down. Indeed, we are slow. Thanks to our Yang Amat Berhormat our Chief Minister for investing State fund RM1 billion to improve our IT infrastructure. ... *(Applause)* ... And because of that our PM also responded by allocating another billion for Sabah and Sarawak. I suppose we will get RM500 million from there.

Tuan Speaker, ... *(Interruption)* ... Tuan Speaker, in the budget speech ... *(Interruption)* ... I have to finish it. Tuan Speaker, *(Interruption)* ... no no no ... I do not want to give you opportunity to do further politicking. *(Interruption)* You are playing to the gallery. *(Interruption)* sit down. Sit down. This is serious business. We are talking about such an important bill. *(Interruption)* ... Tuan Speaker .. *(Interruption)* ... Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: You raised the subject. The Honourable Minister replies. If you don't want to hear the reply, don't raise the subject. Proceed.

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, in the budget speech just delivered this morning by our Yang Amat Berhormat Chief Minister. He did say increase access to fixed line broadband 100Mbps for businesses in city to enable pioneering of digital initiatives in businesses. Tuan Speaker, we have to be ambitious.

Then, Ahli Yang Berhormat for Kota Sentosa may talk about speed in relative terms. He talked about cities as a whole. What about we take for example the office, each household or a certain specific area. Speeds may vary from place to place, from location to location. There is nothing wrong for us to aim high speed and we are moving towards that. And this Government under the leadership of Yang Amat Berhormat has the will, has the muscles also to move ahead preparing our State forward in digital economic development. I think I covered it all. I thanked once again all the 14 Ahli Yang Berhormat who have participated in the debate of this bill. Sekian, terima kasih, Tuan Speaker.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, the question before the Dewan is that the Motion standing in the Order Paper in the name of the Honourable Minister for International Trade and E-Commerce and Second Minister for Finance be referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Tuan Speaker: As many as are of the opinion say "Yes".

Government: Yes ... *(Resounding "Yes")*

Tuan Speaker: As many as are of the contrary opinion say "No".

Opposition: No ... (*Murmuring "No"*)

Tuan Speaker: The "Yes" have it. The Motion is agreed. The Dewan shall now resolve into the Committee of the Whole House to consider the Bill which stands committed to the Committee.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

[Tuan Pengerusi *mempengerusikan Mesyuarat*]

Tuan Pengerusi: The Dewan shall now consider Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017.

Clauses 1 to 39

Tuan Pengerusi: The question is that Clauses 1 to 39 are ordered to stand part of the Bill. As many as are of the opinion say "Yes".

Government: Yes ... (*Resounding "Yes"*)

Tuan Pengerusi: As many as are of the contrary opinion say "No". The "Yes" have it. Clauses 1 to 39 are ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Enacting Clauses and Title

Schedule

Tuan Pengerusi: The question is that the Schedule is ordered to stand part of the Bill. As many as are of the opinion say "Yes".

Government: Yes ... (*Resounding "Yes"*)

Tuan Pengerusi: As many as are of the contrary opinion say "No".

Opposition: No ... (*Murmuring "No"*)

Tuan Pengerusi: The "Yes" have it. The Schedule is ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Enacting Clause and Title

Tuan Pengerusi: The Dewan shall now resume.

HOUSE RESUMED

[Tuan Speaker *mempengerusikan Mesyuarat*]

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, I wish to report that Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 has been considered by the Committee of the Whole House and agreed to without amendment.

RANG UNDANG-UNDANG KERAJAAN – BACAAN KALI YANG KETIGA

SARAWAK MULTIMEDIA AUTHORITY BILL, 2017

Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan E-Perdagangan dan Menteri Kewangan II (Y.B. Dato Sri Wong Soon Koh): Tuan Speaker, I beg to move that the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 be read a third time and do pass.

Tuan Speaker: Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, the question before the Dewan is that the Sarawak Multimedia Authority Bill, 2017 be read a third time and do pass. As many as are of the opinion say “Yes”.

Government: Yes ... (*Resounding “Yes”*)

Tuan Speaker: As many as are of the contrary opinion say “No”. The “Yes” have it the Bill is read a time and passed.

SARAWAK MULTIMEDIA AUTHORITY BILL, 2017.

Tuan Speaker: Before we adjourn for the day, I promised to give a statement on the status of Yang Berhormat Honourable Member for Pujut. On the 12th May, 2017 this august House had passed a Motion on the disqualification of Honourable Member for Pujut in a vote of 70 to 10. The Court of first instance has set aside the said Motion on 17th June, 2017. The subject of disqualification of the said Honourable Member for Pujut had gone to the Appellate Court. We are waiting for the ruling of the Appellate Court on the Appeal. In the meantime, the Honourable Member can take his rightful place as an Honourable Member of this august House.

Ahli-Ahli Yang Berhormat, the sitting is now adjourned and the House shall resume its sitting at 9 a.m tomorrow.

(Mesyuarat ditangguhkan pada jam 5:11 petang)