SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE * Number 16/2017 on Wednesday, 25 October 2017

6. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

PAC is generally satisfied that the Sustainable Village Programme is a well-intentioned Government's programme to help villagers establish cooperatives for business. However, PAC is concerned on some weaknesses in the management of the Programme such as failed and abandoned projects; procurement of supplies and work which did not comply with the specification; abuse of power by officers and lack of monitoring and action by SKM against cooperatives that did not fully comply with the requirements of the Cooperative Societies Act 1993.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

For future improvements and to ensure the Government's allocations channelled to cooperatives provide returns and made impact on the programme's objective, PAC recommends the following:

- (i) The PAC proposes that the Government should review the involvement of two Government agencies namely KKLW and SKM in monitoring the Sustainable Village programme which cause many weaknesses in contract management among the Cooperatives. It is more efficient for the Sustainable Village programme to be monitored and managed by one Ministry only.
- (ii) KKLW uses and involves a Government Agency that has the skills or expertise in an industry to provide advisory services in the planning and implementation of a project to be undertaken by the cooperative;

- (iii) SKM needs to be more strict in enforcing regulations stipulated in Cooperative Societies Act 1993 especially on cooperatives that receive Government's allocation in carrying out a project;
- (iv) PAC wants SKM to review the posts for supervisory officers, to enable them to provide more effective advisory services;
- (v) KKLW, SKM and the National Audit Department should solve the problem of updating the Ministry's response to the dashboard of the National Audit Department within a month.
- (vi) PAC wants the KKLW to retrieve the allocations which are "parked" at KKLW agencies.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE