THE 7th INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR FOR PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH SERVICES November 8 – 10, 2016 Republic of Korea

"DIFFICULTIES AND DILEMMAS IN PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH SERVICE"

> MALAYSIA : MS. BADRAH YUSSOF & Mrs. SAYANI UMAR (Parliamentary Research Officers)

the state of the last



- Vision;
- Malaysian Parliamentary Research Service;
- Research works;
- Deliverables;
- Obstacles / difficulties faced;
 - Personnel Analyzing Issues;
 - Resources Lack of materials; finance & infrastructure
 - Management;
 - Cost Benefits of Research Services;
 - Limitations stakeholders;
- Overcoming the Obstacles / Difficulties;
- Recommendations; and
- Conclusion.

VISION

 As a supreme legislative institution, Parliament of Malaysia has the vision to become the pioneer and benchmark to other local and international legislative institutions.

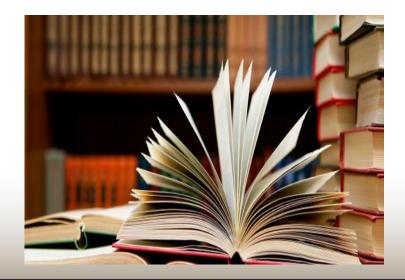


MALAYSIAN PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH SERVICE

- Organization of Research Service in Malaysian Parliament
- Divided into 4 Sections Economy, Social, Science & Security and International
- Background of Research Officers
- Experience mix /Government / private sector (Large and Small)

RESEARCH WORKS

- Presenting facts and organize research
- Theoretical and Practical
- Sources:
- Research Offices;
- Government /Agencies;
- ➤ Universities; &
- Think Tanks / Ministries / NGOs.



DELIVERABLES

- What Do MPs want to know:
 - Analysis;
 - Frequently Asked Questions;
 - Short Notes;
 - Fact Sheets on Current Issues;
 - Comprehensive Reports;
 - Comparative Analysis;
 - Provides Appropriate News; &
 - Journals and Databases.

OBSTACLES / DIFFICULTIES FACED

- Personnel
- Resources
- Management
- Limitations

PERSONNEL – Analyzing Issues

- Solve Problems
- Clarify Alternatives
- Quick Response
- Limited Objective
- Multi-disciplinary
- Research Officers (Institutionalized Field? / Mismatched position.

RESOURCES – Lack of materials

- Constitution Right to get documents & Information from the authorities. e.g., Ministry of Home Affairs and Defence
- Protected documents under Official Secrets Act 1972
- Requirement of the Law Documents in Courts / Sub-judice Issues
- Government/ Executive MPs vs. Opposition Parties
- Access to Insider Information.

RESOURCES – Finance, infrastructure

Finance

- Better Facilities/infrastructure
- Resources (Insufficient Exposure).

Development of Data-bank

- Access only by clients/MPs & Top Management
- Officials within Malaysian Parliament.
- > A challenge by itself (Quality vs. Quantity).

LIMITATIONS - STAKEHOLDERS

MPs have:

- Different Background/exposure; or
- Different Aspiration.



OVERCOMING THE OBSTACLES / DIFFICULTIES

- Expertise requirement institutionalized field/memory
- Awareness on the needs of MPs strict deadlines, scope and objectives
- The ability to anticipate wide-ranging issues
- Confidentiality when dealing with MPs
 - MPs are subject to scrutiny by the public.

CONT. OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

- Well-read;
- Knowledgeable and well-versed in legislature intricacies;
- Able to think on his or her own feet;
- Open to ideas and opinions of others; or
- Committed and interested in research/its results.

COST BENEFITS

<u>Result Should Be Tangible</u>

- Reflect the realities;
- Narratives ensure influence; and
- > Affirming the needs / immaterial as to time.

Objective Oriented

- Instructive in Nature; and
- Capitalize the Results.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Researchers should be provided/accorded with the following:
 - more resources and materials;
 - more exposure;
 - suitable trainings and courses based on their area/speciality; and
 - recognition based on their standing and merit.

CONCLUSIONS

- Research Services as an independent actor free from bias and non-partisan.
- Practical decisions to make policy conclusion
- Research works should be efficient / relevant / with balanced objectives and in line with the development/realities around the world.



THANK YOU FROM MALAYSIA *Ms. Badrah Yussof *Mrs. Sayani Umar



fppt.com