



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***EFFECTIVENESS OF WELFARE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME  
ON QUALITY OF LIFE TO RURAL POOR COMMUNITY IN MALAYSIA***

**MOHD NIZAM BIN ABDUL AZIZ**

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**By**

**MOHD NIZAM BIN ABDUL AZIZ**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science**

**October 2014**

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## DEDICATION

*To my beloved mother, Azizah Abdullah, the Queen of my soul and life  
and*

*to my beloved father, Aziz Ahmad, the King of my inspiration and life  
Mak and Bapak*

*You were my truly sacred love in the past, present, future, and for our coming generations.*

*Love and miss you so much Mak and Bapak.*



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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**October 2014**

**Chairman : Professor Zainal Abidin Bin Mohamed, PhD**  
**Faculty : Agriculture**

Malaysia is committed to achieve a developed country in the year of 2020. One of the significance progresses towards the vision and mission is eradicate poverty population. SPKR programme is one of the main poverty eradication programmes in Malaysia. Main target of SPKR is to achieve 0.5 percents level of poverty in the year of 2005. However, in year 2010, the poverty incidence in Malaysia still in 2.9%. This study is to investigate did the percentage have been achieved by year 2005 and to investigate the current percentage of poverty population in Malaysia. The main finding for this research is to investigate and determine the successful of the programme to the poor community. Meanwhile the specific objective for this research conclude to identify the respondents' socio-demographic profiles, to determine the relationship between socio-demographic factors and level of generating income, to determine SPKR participant's satisfactions on changes of quality of life (in the context of economy and social) after they attended the programme and to identify the factors that influences the effectiveness of SPKR programme on the changes of participants' quality of life.

This research is using quantitative framework. A total five which reported have higher poverty populations in Peninsular Malaysia were selected. The states are from East Coast region (Kelantan and Terengganu) and North Coast region (Perlis, Kedah, and Perak). Those states are the main subject chose by Ministry of Rural And Regional Development Malaysia in eradicating poverty population.

In this survey, questionnaire has been used to get raw data from the SPKR programme participants (N=1122). The participants was categorized as standard poverty population which their household income are below RM700 per month. The respondents were selected by purposive random sampling in the survey. Respondent also selected from the poverty programmes which focused on capacity building of the target group. The capacity building includes income increment, human development, rural community

economy, and community development. This study was based on primary data, while the secondary data is to strengthen the facts and as supplementary of this research. In this study, the data conclude both qualitative and quantitative output. In this study, structured questionnaires with open and close-ended questions were the main instrument used in collecting data for this research. This research was based on primary data that collected through interview or face-to-face with the respondents. There were four main statistical techniques were used in this research. All those techniques were chosen due to fulfil the objectives of this research. Factor analysis, chi-square, descriptive analysis and logistic regression were applied in analyzing method for this study. SPSS was a medium of analyzing data in this study.

Regarding to the analysis, more than three-quarter of the respondents (87.4 percent) strongly agreed that their quality of life getting better after participate SPKR programme. After participated SPKR programme, majority of respondents strongly satisfy (54.6 percent) and satisfy (37.8 per cent) with their income level increments (mean = 4.48). This is mean that the respondents able to enhance their quality of life thus exit from poverty line. 58.5 per cent respondents have agreed in the responsibility done by SPKR in enhancing poverty community life (mean = 4.29). Majority of respondents agree (68.8 per cent) and strongly agree (22.6 percent) in their proactive improving their living standards. Most of the respondents (43.6 percent) response that they agreed of the time of visits by implementing agencies to monitor them from time to time. Respondents were agreed (52.2 percent) to appoint that the implemented poverty programme was fulfil respondents' needs (mean = 2.54). 64.3 per cent of respondents agreed and 30 per cent has strongly agreed that local residents who are given a support of to ensure the successful of the programme (mean = 4.23). There were significant relationship test between social-demographic factors and monthly household income which include state of origin (.014), marital status (.000), education (.000), gender (.000) and age (.000). There are significant at 0.05 and 0.10 level respectively. There were four factors detected on respondents' perceptions towards their Quality of life (QoL) and they were the level of importance, implementing agency, living and residency, and communication application.

As conclusion, this study can be a reference to Malaysia and all institutions which are related in eradicating poverty programmes in Malaysia. The government of Malaysia should take more actions and give these programmes priority for all related institutions. This study would be invigorated to all government agencies, policy maker, researchers, and all institutions through publication of this thesis. This kind of sharing information is very useful and important to government and all related institutions which involved in the programmes in Malaysia. Hopefully this study can be used for them to plan and executing eradication poverty programmes for increment of poor community quality of life especially in rural area, while bring them exit path from poverty life.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Sarjana Sains

**KEBERKESANAN SKIM PEMBANGUNAN KESEJAHTERAAN RAKYAT  
TERHADAP KUALITI KEHIDUPAN MASYARAKAT MISKIN  
LUAR BANDAR DI MALAYSIA**

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**Fakulti : Pertanian**

Malaysia adalah sebuah negara yang sedang membangun di mana meletakkan visi sebagai sebuah negara yang maju di dalam ASEAN menjelang tahun 2020. Visi 2020 adalah tahun sasaran bagi Malaysia untuk mencapai kemajuan dan kejayaan sejajar dengan negara-negara maju yang lain dalam aspek ekonomi, pembangunan serantau, dan modenisasi. Salah satu progres dalam melancarkan visi dan misi tersebut adalah dengan menghapuskan kadar populasi kemiskinan di negara ini.

Programme SPKR adalah merupakan salah satu programme penghapusan kadar kemiskinan di Malaysia. Matlamat utama SPKR adalah untuk mencapai 0.5 peratus kadar kemiskinan menjelang tahun 2005. Walaubagaimanapun, peratus insiden kemiskinan Malaysia sehingga tahun 2010 masih lagi 2.8 peratus. Pengajian ini adalah untuk menyelidik adakah peratusan tersebut dapat dicapai menjelang tahun 2005, malah pengajian turut menyelidik peratusan semasa populasi kemiskinan di Malaysia. Objektif utama penyelidikan ini adalah untuk menyelidik dan mengenalpasti keberkesanan programme SPKR ini kepada golongan miskin di Malaysia.

Penyelidikan ini menggunakan pelan kerja secara kuantitatif dan kualitatif. Beberapa negeri yang mencatat populasi kemiskinan telah dijadikan lokasi untuk kajian ini dijalankan. Negeri-negeri tersebut adalah dari Pantai Timur (Kelantan, dan Terengganu) dan Utara Malaysia (Perlis, Kedah dan Perak). Negeri-negeri tersebut telah dicatatkan oleh Kementerian Kemajuan Luar Bandar Dan Wilayah Malaysia sebagai populasi tertinggi golongan miskin.

Dalam pengajian ini, borang soal selidik digunakan dalam mendapatkan data daripada peserta programme SPKR ini (N=1122). Para peserta programme tersebut dikategorikan sebagai populasi kemiskinan di mana pendapatan seisi rumah mereka

adalah di bawah RM700 sebulan. Responden dipilih secara rawak (*random sampling*) di dalam pengajian ini. Responden- responden tersebut adalah dipilih secara rawak daripada programme pembasmian kemiskinan yang memfokuskan kepada *capacity building* kumpulan sasaran tersebut. *Capacity building* adalah melibatkan peningkatan pendapatan, pembangunan manusia, ekonomi penduduk luar bandar, dan pembangunan komuniti.

*Factor analysis*, *Chi-square*, dan *regression* digunakan sebagai *agen* penganalisan data dalam pengajian ini. SPSS merupakan medium yang digunakan untuk penganalisan data kajian kes ini. Keberkesanan programme SPKR ini boleh dikesan daripada penganalisan ini.

Sebagai kesimpulan, kajian ini boleh dijadikan sebagai sumber rujukan kepada rakyat Malaysia malah kepada institusi-institusi yang berkaitan dengan programme-programme pembasmian kemiskinan di Malaysia. Kerajaan Malaysia harus mengambil langkah yang lebih aktif, efektif, dan produktif malah memberikan lebih perhatian kepada insituti-institusi yang terlibat dalam programme pembasmian kemiskinan di Malaysia. Kajian ini akan memberikan maklumat tambahan tentang pembasmian kemiskinan termasuk beberapa statistik yang berkaitan kepada agensi-agensi kerajaan yang terlibat, penggubal polisi, para penyelidik, dan semua institusi yang terlibat dengan programme pembasmian kemiskinan. Diharap penyelidikan ini dapat digunakan untuk membuat perancangan dan menjalankan programme-programme pembasmian kemiskinan disamping dapat meningkatkan kualiti kehidupan komuniti miskin terutamanya populasi di luar bandar.



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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 22nd October 2014 to conduct the final examination of Mohd Nizam Bin Abdul Aziz on his thesis entitled The Effectiveness Of SPKR (Citizen Prosperity Development Scheme) Programme On Quality Of Life And Human Development Of Poor Community In Malaysia in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the (Master Science of Agribusiness).

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASB Sejahtera	Programme Amanah Saham Bumiputera Sejahtera
CDP	Country Development Policy
EPU	Economic Plan Unit
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
KKLW	Ministry of Rural Development and Regional Malaysia (Kementerian Kemajuan Luar Bandar dan Wilayah)
MP	Malaysia Plan
NAP	National Agriculture Policy
NDP	National Development Policy
NEP	New Economic Policy
NGO	Non-Government Agency
NVP	National Vision Policy
OPP	Outline Persepctive Plan
PBR	Programme Bantuan Rumah
PKP	Programme Kecemerlangan Pendidikan
PLI	Poverty Line Income
PLKK	Programme Latihan Kemahiran Dan Kerjaya
PPMI	Programme Pembangunan Minda Insan
PPMS	Programme Pembangunan Masyarakat Setempat
PPP	Programme Peningkatan Pendapatan
PPRT	Poorest Community Housing Programme (Programme Perumahan Rakyat Termiskin)
PTMS	Programme Tambahan Makanan Seimbang (PTMS)
QoL	Quality of Life
SPKR	Citizen Prosperity Development Scheme (Skim Pembangunan Kesejahteraan Rakyat)
TASKA	Programme Bangunan Taman Asuhan Kanak-Kanak

# CHAPTER 1

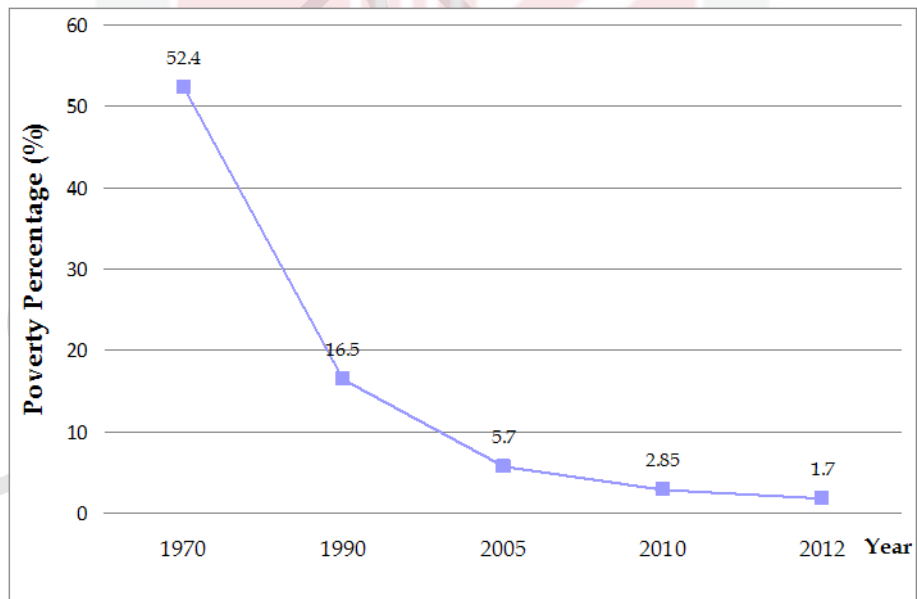
## INTRODUCTION

This chapter would explain generally on Malaysia population which can show the information of poverty and eradication poverty programmes community in Malaysia. Details information of SPKR programmes is also being discussed. This chapter will cover, the objectives of this study which includes general and specific objectives, problem statement, significance of study, and organisation of study also includes in this chapter. Information related to poverty eradication programmes in Malaysia also being discussed.

### 1.1 Background Of The Study

After Asian's financial crisis in the year of 1997 and 1998, Malaysia has become amongst the fastest growing economy along with other successful East Asian countries. In the period of 1991 – 1997, Malaysia's gross domestic product (GDP) growth more than 9% which accompanied by significant raised in the per capita income, low rates of inflation, and reduction in the incidence of poverty (Surtahman K.H, Ishak Y., 2009).

Poverty eradication becomes one of the important agenda to be solved by government. This is because, poverty may cause a blot to the country development, hence, can dampen to economic growth. At glance, the incidence of poverty shows a vast reduction of percentages.



**Figure 1.1: Percentage of poverty reduction in Malaysia (1970 – 2012)**

(Source: 1. Malaysia Economy, 2009; 2. Economic Plan Unit Malaysia, 2012)

Figure 1.1 shows the poverty reduction of Malaysia from 1970 until 2012. In 1970, the percentage of poverty was 52.4% and 20 years later it decreased to 16.5%. With government effort through poverty eradication programme and economic development, the percentage of poverty among Malaysian decreased to 2.85% in 2010. The number of poor household substantial reduced from 1 million to 311.3 thousand families in year 2005 (Malaysia, 2011). In 2012, the poverty incidence has decreased to 1.7% which shows the successful of government to alleviate poverty matter in Malaysia.

There are a lot of information which related to poverty eradication programmes such as Malaysia Plans (RMKs), Malaysia New Economic Policy (NEP), and Malaysia Country Development Policy (CDP). All these programmes are very important in poverty eradication. The information given by different Malaysia development plan will give a clear picture on Malaysia's development and economic growth.

All programmes on eradicating poverty in Malaysia established are with the objective to decrease the number of poverty community in Malaysia. Besides decreasing the number of poverty community, the programmes also purposely to provide a better quality of life which include human development and economic growth of the community specifically, and to Malaysia generally.

Furthermore, while the process of poverty eradication is running, productivity and incomes of the rural sector and main staying of the rural economy is steadily increased. On the other side point of view, the accessibility of better quality public amenities, infrastructure, and services to the rural population has improved steadily (Ministry of Rural Development Malaysia, 2010).

Government, semi-government, private sectors and non-government organisations roles will continue to be instrumental in bringing development, economic growth, and prosperity to the urban citizens, rural hinterland, until to the poor populations. All these institutions would be like catalyst to the poor populations to improve their quality of life, increase their economic growth and to bring prosperity and better life to the poor communities.

There are some of programmes have been established to eradicate poverty in Malaysia. The main objective is to eradicate poverty before the year of 2020. In the side of community, the programme is a benefit for them to increase their quality of life.

## **1.2 Economy of Malaysia**

Malaysia is one of the Asean country is having vast generating on human and economy development. The journeys to entrance Malaysian's quality of life have to be in a maximum gear to realize the Vision 2020 that less than one decade from current year, 2012. Agriculture is one of the apprentices of basic economy growth in almost all countries in this world. In Malaysia, economy activities normally divided into three main sectors; primary sector, secondary sector, and tertiary sector (Malaysia Plan). At glance, Malaysia's monthly household income from year within 2009 – 2012 has increased to 7.2% compared to previous rate in year 2007 – 2009 which stated 4.4% (Economic Plan Unit Malaysia, 2012).

At glance, Malaysia economy sector has 2 types of sector which is traditional (primary sector) and modern sector (secondary and tertiary sector). Primary sector is among of the economy activities that using less or more processing activity. Plantation, farming, fishery, forestry, mining, and quarry are a part of the primary sector. The outcome from primary sector can be grouped as source. They need to be process to become a product, except, for some of the plantation such as greens and fruits and fishery, that can handed to end recipient, consumer. Above activities has been exist in Malaysia before this country received a letter of independence.

Secondary sector is a continuous activity from primary sector. This sector is more on processing activity. The main sectors involved in this sector are manufacturing and construction sectors. Most of activities from primary sector would involve in this secondary sector in enhancing the development, economic growth besides to fulfil the citizen's needs.

Economy activities in the terms of providing facilities and services are a tertiary sector of Malaysia economy. This kind of sector which is focusing to fulfil citizen's need with non-material matters have three main sub-sectors. The sub-sectors included producing services, public services, and other services such as social services, retails, and hospitality.

Table 1.1 shows the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or a pattern of growth rate for Malaysia from year 1987 until 2012. The graph shows that the unstable pattern of percentages of GDP of Malaysia, and fluctuates over the years. This shows that the economy of Malaysia is still dependent to world economic growth. However, in the year 1998, Malaysia is a part of Asian country that gains an impact of Asian financial crisis. Somehow, Malaysia shows a good recovery economic rise after the crisis. In year 2001, sharp depreciation of the regional currencies, especially yen, which Ringgit Malaysia affected from the crisis and this is because the global slowdown in information technology (Poon W.C, 2008). Beginning 2002, Malaysia rises in a slow motion of GDP achievement until year 2010 which Malaysia achieved 7.19% in GDP and decreased in year 2011 to 5.1%. Somehow, the poverty incidence of Malaysia not really affected by the GDP except in year 2009 which is related to Asia Financial Crisis.

**Table 1.1: Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Malaysia (1987-2012)**

Year	GDP (RM billion)	GDP (%)	Year	GDP (RM billion)	GDP (% p.a.)
1987	81.1	5.39	2000	356.4	8.72
1988	92.37	9.94	2001	352.58	0.52
1989	105.22	9.06	2002	383.21	5.39
1990	119.08	9.01	2003	418.77	5.79
1991	137.16	9.55	2004	474.05	6.78
1992	152.96	8.94	2005	522.45	5.33
1993	174.79	9.89	2006	574.45	5.85
1994	198.41	9.19	2007	642.05	6.48
1995	225.83	9.88	2008	742.47	4.81
1996	257.57	10.03	2009	679.94	-1.64
1997	286.05	7.32	2010	765.97	7.19
1998	287.52	-7.29	2011	709.30	5.1
1999	305.31	6.02	2012	743.50 <sup>e</sup>	4.5 ~ 5.0 <sup>e</sup>

Notes : <sup>(e)</sup> Estimate

(Source: Malaysia Plan 2012)

### 1.3 Malaysia and Poverty

Malaysia is among the country that unable to avoid a poverty problem. As a developing country, the poverty issue should be eradicating with various strategies. As mentioned before, the poverty issue would dampen the country's economic growth. Once the country's economy did not grows positively and steadily, the country's vision and mission is hard to achieve even supported by others sectors of development. During the 70's, poverty remained an important issue which exists across races, especially among rural dwellers (Surtahman K.H, Ishak Y., 2009).

Generally, poverty is percept as a household with financial problem, unable to purchase daily necessities, and live in minimal assets. According to Economy Plan Unit Malaysia (EPU), poverty can relatively defined as in accordance with the state of society in a country or place, where, based on two main concepts, namely the concept of dynamic (absolute poverty) and the concept of income inequality (relative poverty). Specifically, absolute poverty refers to household gross income is not enough to purchase minimal daily necessities. This absolute poverty can be measured based on minimum level of expenditure or income poverty line. Absolute poverty is related to the concept of basic needs, while relative poverty is related to income distribution (Abu S., 1998). Relative poverty refers to inequality among groups such as income groups, ethnic groups, and rural and urban dwellers (Economic Plan Unit Malaysia, 2003).

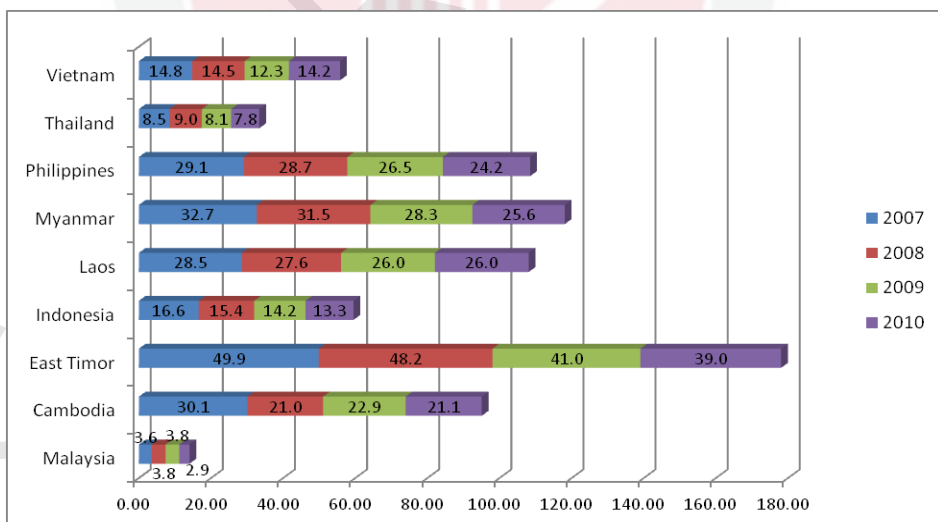
Definition of poverty can refer as marginalization of the perfection of life. If an individual does not earn an income that can fulfill their primary basic necessities, or not able to get nutrients food needed for health and cannot meet and maintain physical efficiency, then the individual or the household is considered poor (Ungku Aziz, 1964).

Poverty is a situation where a household does not earn enough income to meet the total expenditure for the minimum basic needs like food, clothing, shelter and basic non-food needs (Ishak S., 1996). Poverty can also be defined as those who do not have the revenue potential, not having accessibility to resources such as power of expression of social power, political power, ownership of the sources of production, education and so on, and also to those who do not enjoy the protection of basic needs such as housing, basic education, health, employment and adequate enough to live according to the size of a community (Kamal Salih, 1983).

From the previous poverty definitions stated by the previous researchers and academicians, it shows that poverty is refers to many aspects of living. The aspects are includes household income, minimum daily basic necessities (food and non-food), social needs such as education, employment, infrastructures, etc., nutrition and health which means the quality food taken and physical efficiency, security and protection such as house, and the power of socialism and political.

Besides that, poverty can cause criminal and many negative effects to community and country. This is because the desperation in life leads them to do negative socialism life in getting something to fulfil their basic needs. Poverty was also frequently associated with those who are unemployed, underemployed, and those engaged in agricultural, industrial, and services activities which have low level of productivity (Surtahman K.H, Ishak Y., 2009).

Most of Southeast Asia countries are facing a poverty problem which may affect their generating economy and country development. At glance, figure 1.2 shows a pattern of poverty incidence among Southeast Asia countries.



**Figure 1.2: Graph pattern of Southeast Asia poverty incidence (2007 - 2010)**  
 (Source: 1. International Monetary Fund (IMF), 2012; 2. CIA World Factbook, 2012)

Figure 1.2 shows the poverty incidence in Southeast Asia countries which excluded Brunei and Singapore. The two countries are developed countries which gain zero poverty incidences in the countries. Regarding to the figure, Malaysia recorded good poverty alleviation through the year of 2007 until 2010. East Timor still facing with a serious poverty problem and become the top country gained the highest rate of poverty community (39%; updated 2010). Poverty problem is closely related to a government, political, and economy matter in handling the problem effectively.

In Malaysia, poverty can be measured with poverty line income (PLI). Poverty line income (PLI) can be define as household income that only can support to spend on minimum daily needs such as food in maintaining the household nutrition and health, besides, can spend minimum non-food needs such as clothes, house rent, communication and infrastructure, healthcare, education, and recreations.

Malaysia has shown a good achievement in eradicate poverty. Poverty eradication was not only to increase income but also to ensure that the poor had adequate access to basic needs such as nutrition, housing, health, education, and transportation (Surtahman K.H, Ishak Y., 2009). Furthermore, Malaysia New Economic Policy (NEP) along with their strategy to ensure that poverty in Malaysia has to be eliminated. According to NEP, poverty eradication should be implemented regardless of race and to overcome economic disparities and ethnic identity in accordance with the employment sector, the restructuring of society should be implemented. Somehow, NEP ended in 1990 then succeeded by the National Development Policy (NDP) in 1991.

Like the NEP, the NDP will follow through with aim of eradicating poverty and achieving an economically, socially, spiritually, culturally and psychologically well-balanced society (EPU Malaysia, 2003). The NDP is a part of Second Outline Perspective Plan (OPP2) which is sketching a Malaysia's development framework for 10 years (1991-2000). NDP aimed certain subject matters that liaise to development, humanity, socialism, and quality of life. In NDP, eradicating poverty is one of the priority matters to be done. NDP more focus to eliminating hard core poverty but reducing relative poverty can be done at the same time frame which involved rural and urban community.

The NDP is likely to achieve and create well-balanced societies which are balancing the society economically, socially, spiritually, culturally and psychologically. In NDP, government of Malaysia want to improve and restructuring employment and equity of people, especially to poverty community, to offer them better services and opportunities to earn higher wages. Behind all it, is because to increase the people quality of life.

However, the NDP end by year 2000 and next succeeded is known as National Vision Policy (NVP). At the same year, Third Outline Perspective Plan (OPP3) existed. This OPP3 is a long term plan and nation's framework to fulfil the country's need in development in many sectors to achieve Vision 2020. The NVP along with the OPP3 (2001 - 2010) which is covers 8MP and 9MP, still continue the NDP plan that focusing to balancing development and society but focus on industries based on high technology and information technology. The use of information technology can



generate economic growth based on knowledge or what is currently more popularly known as 'k-economy' (EPU Malaysia, 2003).

National Vision Policy (NVP) aims to establish a united, progressive, and prosperous of *Bangsa* Malaysia (Malaysians). Building a resilient nation, and promoting an equitable society are among the seven critical thrusts in NDP. This can be elaborated that Malaysia government ensuring all Malaysian dwellers should not be left behind in developing the country and nation together. It is implied that poverty should be eliminated from this country that can cause dampen social and economic growth.

According to OPP3 perspective plan, in the view of poverty matters, OPP3 aim to restructuring and modernizing the agriculture sector to be dynamic and competitive. This is a good effort in inviting all the farmers especially poverty community in a rural area to involve a modern agriculture which is effective in the matter of time, cost, output, and also on marketing and sales. This endeavor efforts can lead to economic growth besides the quality of Malaysian dwellers life is increase. Furthermore, this kind of plan can bring the poverty community to better life and let them graduated their poverty life as soon. OPP3 also plan to increase coverage as well as improving access and quality basic infrastructure and social services to increase efficiency and quality of life. This kind of plan obviously shows that good, smooth, enough, and achieve the minimum quality of access and infrastructure and social services would bring the efficiency of daily life is effective.

Malaysia Plan (MP) is the plan of the country to succeed and to aim the goals that have been plan in 5 current years. In the MPs, issues regarding of poverty also concluded according to current period issues. In the MPs, issues regarding of poverty also concluded according to current period issues.

Table 1.2 shows the poverty incidence for the year 1997 until 2012. In the year of 1970 (1MP), the incidence of poverty by rural (58.7%) is far higher than urban household (21.3%). The main objectives 1MP (1966 - 1970) was to look forward into this poverty problem were to provide steady increases in levels of income and consumption per head, and to increase the well-being of Malaysia's rural inhabitants and other low-income groups, primarily by raising their productivity and thus their income-earning capacity. According to Agriculture Development (1966 - 1970), from the objectives statements, it was related to the enhancement of rural community to gain experience in agriculture sector, indirectly, to improve their quality of life. Overall incidence in the years of 6MP declined compared to 1MP poverty incidence. However, in the year of 1993, the poverty incidence increased almost 9.6% of household. In the 7MP, year of 1999 shows an increment of poverty incidence. This is because the affect of Asian financial crisis occurred in the third-quarter year of 1997 which Malaysia also hurt by the slump (Kaufman, GG., Krueger, TH., Hunter, WC.; 1999). At the 9MP, shows the unchanged poverty incidence in the year of 2007 and 2009 which are contributed 3.8% of household. Meanwhile, in 2012 (10MP), the poverty incidence stated 1.7% of household monthly income. This shows a good sign of eliminate poverty incidence in Malaysia future in eliminate poverty in Malaysia. In addition, eradicate poverty programme is among the factor of this matter occurred.

**Table 1.2: Poverty\* incidence in Malaysia (1997-2012)**

Incidence of Poverty (% of household)	1MP	5MP	6MP	7MP			8MP			9MP			10MP			
	1970	1980	1990	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2007	2008	2009	2012
Overall	49.3	37.4	17.1	13.5	8.7	6.1	8.5	5.5	4.5	6.0	7.5	5.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	1.7
Rural	58.7	45.8	5.2	18.6	16.1	10.9	14.8	10.0	7.4	13.5	12.4	9.6	7.1	7.7	1.7	3.4
Urban	21.3	17.5	1.3	5.3	4.1	2.1	3.3	1.9	1.7	2.3	3.4	2.5	2.0	2.0	8.4	1.0

(Source: 1. Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Prime Minister Department  
2. Household Income Survey - HIS  
3. Post Enumeration Survey of 1970 Population & Housing Census (reference 1970)  
4. Statistical compilation)

\*Poverty = income RM720 and below / household per month

**Table 1.3: Hard core poverty\* incidence in Malaysia (1997-2012)**

Incidence of Poverty (% of household)	1MP		6MP				7MP			8MP			9MP		10MP
	1970	1990	1993	1995	1997	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2007	2008	2009	2012
Overall	n.a	3.9	3.0	2.1	1.4	1.9	0.5	2.1	1.0	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.2
Rural	n.a	5.2	4.3	3.6	2.5	3.6	1.0	3.6	2.6	2.4	2.9	1.4	1.8	1.8	0.6
Urban	n.a	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1

(Source: 1. Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Prime Minister Department  
 2. Household Income Survey - HIS  
 3. Post Enumeration Survey of 1970 Population & Housing Census (reference 1970)  
 4. Statistical compilation)

\*Hard core Poverty = income RM430 and below/ household per month

Table 1.3 shows the hard core poverty incidence in Malaysia from 6MP onwards. In 6MP (1991 - 1995), the government and related organisations focused on hard core poor in implementing poverty alleviation programme. 6MP targeted to Government try to encourage hard core poverty community to the self-reliant besides government provides support facilities. As shown from the Table 1.3, the incidence of hard core poverty is declined from year to year except in the year of 2001 (2.1%). The incidence declined from 3.9% in 1990 to 0.7% in 2009. Hard core poverty in both rural and urban strata also shows the declination of the percentages of incidence. This shows that in the year of 2009 hard core poverty incidence contribute 0.7% of household. Meanwhile, in 2012, the overall hard core incidence contributes 0.2% of household. This shows that the organisations which involved in eradicate poverty, which is conclude hard core poverty, is accepted by the community and the programme is efficient.

Focusing to Peninsular Malaysia, Table 1.4 shows the trend of number of poverty incidence by state in 5MP and onwards. The 5MP (1986 - 1990), government has taken action to increase the productivity of farmers and fishermen, and at the same time, improve the QoL of the people through provision of public services and facilities to fulfil the needs such as education, health, water, electricity, and road. In year 1997, which in 7MP, Kelantan is the highest poverty incidence in Peninsular Malaysia by contributing 19.2% followed by Terengganu (17.3%), Kedah (11.5%), and Perlis (10.7%). In the year of 1999, many of states in Malaysia contributes higher poverty incidence. This is because of the affection of Asia Financial Crisis that occurred beginning July 1997.

**Table 1.4: Poverty\* incidence by state in Peninsular Malaysia (1997-2012)**

Region	State	5MP	6MP	7MP		8MP		9MP		10MP
		1990	1995	1997	1999	2002	2004	2007	2009	2012
North	Perlis	17.4	11.8	10.7	13.6	8.9	6.3	7	6.0	1.9
	Kedah	29.9	12.2	11.5	14.2	9.7	7	3.1	5.3	1.7
	Penang	8.7	4.0	1.7	0.7	1.2	0.3	1.4	1.2	0.6
	Perak	19.2	9.1	4.5	6.8	6.2	4.9	3.4	3.5	1.5
East Coast	Terengganu	31.3	23.4	17.3	22.7	14.9	15.4	6.5	4	1.7
	Kelantan	29.6	22.9	19.2	25.2	17.8	10.6	7.2	4.8	2.7
	Pahang	10.0	6.8	4.4	9.8	9.4	4	1.7	2.1	1.3
South	Melaka	12.4	5.3	3.5	2.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.5	0.1
	N.Sembilan	9.1	4.9	4.7	4.1	2.6	1.4	1.3	0.7	0.5
	Johor	9.8	3.1	1.6	3.1	2.5	2	1.5	1.3	0.9
Centre	Selangor	7.6	2.2	1.3	1.9	1.1	1	0.7	0.7	0.4
	Kuala Lumpur	3.7	0.5	-	-	-	1.5	1.5	0.7	0.8

(Source: 1. Various Malaysia Plans, 2. Economic Plan unit Malaysia, 2012)

Poverty\* = income RM720 and below / household per month

In the period of 7MP (1996 - 2000) the Development Programme for the Poorest (PPRT) was one of the programmes that produce by government to community. Meanwhile, the SPKR (*Skim Pembangunan Kesejahteraan Rakyat*) covered in the aspects of the economic, social, and physical towards eradicating poverty in areas and groups with a high incidence of poverty. In 8MP, the poverty incidence shows better performance for all states. During 8MP, some of the main objectives were related to poverty eradication and QoL improvement. At the 9MP, in year 2009, many states show a very satisfied poverty incidence which can obtain the country mission to eradicate poverty problem within year 2020. One of the target aimed in 9MP (2006 - 2010) plan is to eradicate hard core poverty and incidence of general poverty reduced in line with this plan target.

Hard core poverty is a very serious issue to the government and the community. Table 1.5 shows the overall performance, from 7MP until 10MP, the percentages of the hard core poverty incidence mostly decreased at all states. This shows the betterment of the poverty reduction in Malaysia. This matter would not occur without the intervention of government and the implementation of poverty reduction through many programmes by related agencies and by government itself. As in year 2012, only four states which are still contribute a little higher of hard core poverty incidence. The highest percentages of hard core poverty incidence contribute by Perlis (0.5%), followed by Kelantan (0.3%). If the economy of Malaysia grows steadily in current years and prolong in the future, the incidence of hard core poverty would be terminated easily. In 10MP (2011 - 2015), one of the key strategy on poverty eradication programmes, government has target at the end of this plan period are to reduce the incidence of poverty to 2.0 per cent in 2015.

**Table 1.5: Hard core poverty\* incidence by state in Peninsular Malaysia (1997 – 2012)**

Region	State	7MP		8MP		9MP		10MP
		1997	1999	2002	2004	2007	2009	2012
North	Perlis	2.6	1.6	0.9	1.7	1.4	0.8	0.5
	Kedah	3.9	3	2	1.3	0.3	0.8	0.1
	Penang	0.2	0.1	0.1	n/a	0.1	0.1	0.0
	Perak	0.9	1.2	1	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.2
East Coast	Terengganu	5.2	5.1	2.2	4.4	0.8	0.5	0.2
	Kelantan	5.8	6.1	3.4	1.3	1.5	1	0.3
	Pahang	0.8	1.2	1.1	1	0.4	0.3	0.2
South	Melaka	0.6	1	0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0
	N.Sembilan	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Johor	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Centre	Selangor	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.04	0.1	0.1	0.0
	Kuala Lumpur	2.6	1.6	0.9	1.7	1.4	0.8	0.1

(Source: 1. Various Malaysia Plans, 2. Economic Plan unit Malaysia, 2012)

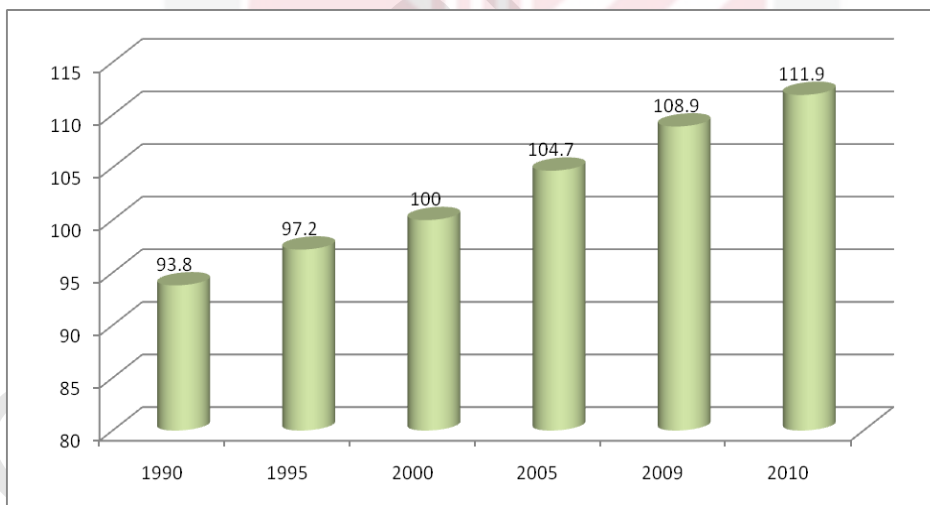
Hard core Poverty\* = income RM430 and below/ household per month

### 1.3.1 Quality of Life (QoL) in Malaysia

Quality of life (QoL) of Malaysia has many of components of index area. There are eleven components which include income and distribution focussing to poverty community, working life, transportation and communication, health, education, housing, environment, family life, social participation, public safety, and also culture and leisure.

QoL can be defined as encompassing personal advancements, a healthy lifestyle, access and freedom to pursue knowledge, and attaining a standard of living which supposes the fulfilment of the basic and psychological needs of the individuals to achieve a level of social well-being compatible with the nation's aspirations.

National Economic Recovery Plan (NERP) was formulated in July 1998. The existence of NERP was to steer Malaysia out of the Asian financial crisis and place it on the road to economic recovery (Quality of Life Malaysia, 2002). One of the main objectives of NERP was to continue the socio-economic and equity agenda which was to eradicate poverty in Malaysia. The successful implementation of poverty eradication programmes including programmes for the poorest contributed to the reduction in the incidence of poverty (Quality of Life Malaysia, 2002). Meanwhile, during National Vision Policy (NVP), 2001-2010; SPKR programme was introduced to eradicate poverty which to address the issue of general poverty and hard core poverty in both rural and urban area (Quality of Life 2004). Until year 2010, family sub-index has increased because of the increment of household income (Quality of Life. 2011).



**Figure 1.3: Quality of Life Composite Index Malaysia (1990 – 2010)**  
(Source: Economic Plan Unit Malaysia, 2011)

Figure 1.3 shows the QoL composite index of Malaysia from year 1990 until 2010. The figure show that the QoL of Malaysia is increase in form of composite index which from 93.8 in year 1990 to 111.9 in year 2010.

#### 1.4 Anti-Poverty Programme and Citizen Prosperity Development Scheme (SPKR) Programme

Effective economic planning and development programmes implemented since independence have helped shaped the transformation process and the economic structure (Surtahman K.H, Ishak Y., 2009). Rural development has always been considered as an important agenda for national development in Malaysia (Ibrahim N., 2009).

Rural community is generally located in a vast radius from the centre of federal administrative and it is hard for them to address any information to the administrator face-to-face. In connection with this, this poor community does not have a social power to enable them to dare to come forward to explain and indicate any problem they are facing.

Rural can be defined as non-adjacent built areas and areas with a population of less than 10,000 people (Statistic Department Malaysia, 2000). Meanwhile, Malaysia Rural Link Department defined rural as a small settlements and a population density of less than 10,000 people and is characterized by agricultural and natural resource areas. As the definitions given by various organisations on rural, it shows that the rural is related to an area and the area adjacent built areas and the areas or location suitable for carrying out the activities of the primary sector such as agriculture and natural resources that are readily available in this area. It shows that rural community is exposed to the passive environment and surrounding. If their capacity building lead them to dampen and passive activities, means that they would facing of low quality of their life.

Regarding to this matter, government, sub-government, and private sectors take an initiative action to enhance the rural community's life especially a community live under poverty line income (PLI). Their targets on implementing the anti-poverty programme are not much difference from each another, which is to improve the living standards of households with incomes under the PLI.

Poverty Line Income (PLI) is stated depends on the current time of the country. Current PLI used by Malaysia according to the PLI of 2007 (Ministry of Rural Development and Regional Malaysia, 2011).

**Table 1.6: Poverty Line Income (PLI) for Peninsular Malaysia (RM/Month).**

Standard of Life	Household Income (RM)			Per Capita Income (RM)		
	Peninsular Malaysia	Rural	Urban	Peninsular Malaysia	Rural	Urban
Poverty	720	700	740	180	160	185
Hard core Poverty	430	440	420	100	100	100

(Source of the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Prime Minister Department)

(Based on the Household Income Survey – HIS, 2011)

Table 1.6 shows the PLI currently used in Malaysia to measure poverty. The table shows that the PLI is divided into 2 main types; household and per capita. The PLI is based on methodology 2007 by EPU Malaysia, shows that the difference of PLI level between urban and rural community. Household maximum monthly income of RM700 is categorized as poverty meanwhile for urban citizen RM740 maximum monthly income considered as poverty. Hard core poverty shows more critical rather than poverty in PLI index. Household with maximum monthly income of RM440 in rural area is considered as hard core poverty meanwhile RM420 for the urban area. As for Peninsular Malaysia, the PLI for poverty is RM720 and for hard core poverty is RM430. PLI in per capita shows that the maximum of RM160 is poverty for the individual who live in the rural area, and RM185 in urban area. According to the PLI, monthly income value of RM100 per capita in both areas is considered as hard core poverty. RM180 per capita is considered as poverty and RM100 per capita considered as hard core poverty in Peninsular Malaysia.

Household can be defined as an individual or a group containing two or more persons living together in a house roof or a place to live (Statistic Department Malaysia, 2007). According to the household definitions, household income is the meaning of incomes that gained by the household member (individual or groups).

Per capita is a term adapted from the Latin phrase *pro capite* meaning "per (each) head" with *pro* meaning "per" or "for each", and *capite* (*caput* ablative) meaning "head." Both words together equate to the phrase "for each head", i.e. per individual or per person (World Bank, 2001). The definition brings the meaning of per capita income as income that they gained. The income might be used by one individual to fulfill own needs especially minimum basic needs.

Regarding to the PLI measurement, it is clear to show the categorical standards of living for the community in Malaysia. It shows how the household would be able to expense their income to fulfill their minimum basic needs, besides, they have to expense the same income to other payments. Moreover, the same income also needs to be as saving. All these kind of factors can lead the community on how to handle their managing life and are they satisfy with their quality of life.

**Table 1.7: Poverty Line Income (PLI) for Malaysia (RM/Month)**

Territory	PLI based by year (RM household/month)						
	1977	1990	1995	1999	2004	2005	2007
Peninsular Malaysia	543	370	425	510	661	661	720
Sabah	704	544	601	685	888	888	960
Sarawak	608	452	516	584	765	765	830
Overall	543	n/a	n/a	n/a	691	691	n/a

(Source of the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Prime Minister Department)

(Based on the Household Income Survey – HIS, 2011)

Poverty Line Income (PLI) by years for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak is shown in Table 1.7. The table shows that the increment of PLI on the advance year usually is higher than previous years. In year 1990, household income of RM370 per month in Peninsular Malaysia would consider as poverty, besides RM544 for Sabah



and RM452 for Sarawak. The PLI is increase from year to year. As in 2007, a household monthly income with RM720 is considered as poverty in Peninsular Malaysia, and same thing goes to Sabah (RM960) and Sarawak (RM830). The PLI in Sabah and Sarawak is higher than Peninsular Malaysia is because of the cost of shipping products which are mostly manufactured and distributed from Peninsular Malaysia.

Many programmes in realizing the aim to eradicate poverty, enhance capacity building, and improve the quality of life implementing in Malaysia. One of the major programmes that respond to this challenge and responsibility is Welfare Development Scheme and also known by Malaysians as *Skim Pembangunan Kesejahteraan Rakyat* (SPKR).

Welfare Development Scheme (SPKR) programme has been established in year 2003 by Ministry of Rural Development and Regional Malaysia (better known as KKLW (*Kementerian Kemajuan Luar Bandar dan Wilayah*)). Ministry of Rural Development and Regional Malaysia (KKLW) is a government sector which responds to this national challenging responsibility. The SPKR general goal is to eradicate poverty. The implementation of the programme bring prosperous life and benefited to community in together improves living style and quality of living style aligned with current situation. SPKR succeeded Poorest Community Housing Programme which is better known as *Programme Perumahan Rakyat Termiskin* (PPRT) which is ended by year 2000. Furthermore, SPKR programme is more widen point of views and scopes. According to PPRT programme, is aimed to decrease the poverty percentage to 0.5 percents in the year of 2000. However, the goals cannot be realized according to Asian Financial Crisis in 1997. At a glance, the Asian financial crisis occurred in 1997 was started in Thailand with the financial collapse of the Thai baht and Malaysia also hurt by the slump (Kaufman, GG., Krueger, TH., Hunter, WC., 1999).

The SPKR programme focused to poverty community with low income for household that marginalized and excluded from mainstream of development. SPKR programme aimed to fulfill a 9MP need which is to decrease the poverty percentage to 2.85% by year 2010. In realizing the national mission on poverty eradication, SPKR exclaim on participation and responsibility should not only depend on government but non-government organizations should lend their hands to implement together in ensuring effective implementation and monitoring can be realized.

As mentioned before, SPKR programme is updating the previous programmes under PPRT and expand the scope of target groups including the poor community. In SPKR programme, the target groups are those who register in SPKR system. KIR Hard core Poor Profile Registration Database is used by SPKR for their planning and monitoring SPKR projects. The qualifications of participants are based on productive participants with monthly household income below the Poverty Line Income (PLI) 2007.

SPKR programme goals is to increase and improve the welfare of target groups through the eradicating poverty, increase the community household income, improves the community's standard of living and their quality of life. The standard of living includes career opportunity and increase the income of generating activities, meanwhile, the quality of life involved basic infrastructures, social amenities and utilities, social,

institutional, humanity, and enhancement on information technology and communication.

Briefly, the objective of SPKR programme is to empowering people through education, skills, business, and physical facilities, and their efforts. Specifically, the objectives of SPKR are as follows:

- 1) Contribute to the efforts of reducing poverty to 0.5% by the year 2005 (shifted to the year 2009, including elimination of the extreme poor).
- 2) Contribute to the increasing share of middle income group households.
- 3) Provide facilities to the target groups in order to improve the quality of life.

Five general strategies focused by SPKR programme which are concerning to human development, improve infrastructures, increase the community's income, welfare, and implement some researches. Specifically, there are eight specific strategies that get SPKR attention in fulfilling the responsibility to eradicate poverty problems in a matter to fulfil the 9MP needs.

The first strategy is to increase the income of poverty community which implemented in groups with a commercial approach according to the recommendations of Third National Agriculture Policy (NAP3) which is lasting from 1998 to 2010. At a glance, NAP3 is one of the national development frameworks, for future growth on agricultural sector in Malaysia. One of the action plans by NAP3 is to retain the Second National Agriculture Policy (NAP2) objective; to maximize income through optimal utilization of resources in the sector especially agriculture sector. Furthermore, this framework would maximize agriculture's contribution to national income, experiment, and income of producers (Malaysia: Third National Agriculture Policy (NAP3)).

The next SPKR programme's strategy is to increase in revenue which should get a 'hands' by other government agencies, NGOs, and government friendly companies to realize the matter of ideas sharing and capability to evaluate good project plan. The next strategy is SPKR programme would implement the programme to the states and area which gathered big number of poverty populations in focus. SPKR programme also focused to aboriginal community (known as *Orang Asli*) leading them to depart from poverty life, which is become the other strategy of SPKR programme. Allocation for repairing community's old building would be restored in accordance with the establishment of maintenance culture. The other strategy by SPKR programme is focused on academic based to the poverty's community children. This strategy would bring the children to be good student in academic which success in their career life in future. The programmes involved in this strategy are PPMI, PLKK, and PKP. The last but not least strategy involved in SPKR programme is various other related programmes that are multi dimensional and to improve the quality of life of the target groups in PBR and PPMS programme.

There are 9 other projects under the SPKR programme. The projects have their own commitment and responsibility to the poverty community. The projects covered

programme on business involvement, skills activity, academic, investment, housing, community development, child care, and healthy food supply to the poverty community. An introduction and a brief explanation of these projects will be discussed later.

*Programme Peningkatan Pendapatan (PPP)*

This project aims to increase the household income and living standards of the poverty community. Seed money and service assistance is provided for them to create their own activities that based on 4 scopes which are agro-based companies, small businesses, service activities, and agricultural activities.

*Programme Latihan Kemahiran Dan Kerjaya (PLKK)*

This project seeks to improve the skills of the target groups so that they can be independent to get a better job or be able and confident to undertake their own businesses based on skills they have acquired. Seed money and service assistance provided.

*Programme Pembangunan Minda Insan (PPMI)*

The programme is to develop the capacity buildings of poverty community and let them increase their self confidence for their efforts to improve socio-economic status of households. Seed money and service assistance provided for their course participation.

*Programme Kecemerlangan Pendidikan (PKP)*

To increase the level of education on target groups' children is the aim of this programme. Seed money and service assistance are still provided in this programme which is for the children attend any academic seminars and tuitions.

*Programme Amanah Saham Bumiputera Sejahtera (ASB Sejahtera)*

This programme provides additional income to the hard core poor in rural areas through the provision of an annual dividend and promoting the hard core poor to invest in the stock market trust government guarantees. Allocation for investment provided to the community.

*Programme Bantuan Rumah (PBR)*

This programme provides residential (house) is perfect and convenient to create a peace surrounding and safety of the household. From this programme the community welfare can be better. This programme has two main components. The components are reconstructed/construct a new house, home repair, damaged home repair resulting from disasters. The allocation on rebuild or renovation is provided.

*Programme Pembangunan Masyarakat Setempat (PPMS)*

This project is based on the two models of developments. The models are New Settlement Model (the target groups have to move out from current location to a new location provided) and *In-Situ* Model (no movement to be made by the target groups; upgrading the infrastructure, utilities, and social amenities at the current location).

*Programme Bangunan Taman Asuhan Kanak-Kanak (TASKA)*

This kind of programme provides a nursing care facilities for children aged between 1-4 years based on standards that have been set by the government. Other purposes that can be obtained from this programme is poor community can focus to their daily job in

acquiring and improving household incomes to enjoy better standard of living and quality of life.

#### *Programme Tambahan Makanan Seimbang (PTMS)*

By providing nutritious food and full of nutrients, the target group's children who are in primary school (12 years and below) can improve their ability physically and mentally in school.

The projects show that SPKR bring a wide scope for the poverty community to participate the programme. The motive of the projects is non from others is to assist the community graduate from poverty life, and bring the joyful life, enhance the standard of living and improve their quality of life. This benefit is not just for the target groups but also to their households. Once the society moves towards a situation of life generally regarded as better, it is considered to have improved their quality of life (EPU, 2002).

Quality of life (QoL) and SPKR programme has a close relationship in a manner of sociology. In Malaysia QoL mentioned that the QoL concept refers to changes by an entire society and social system from unsatisfactory towards a better situation of life. The QoL not only regarding economic development, but also other aspects such as social, psychological, cultural, political and environment (Quality of Life Malaysia, 1999). These show that all the aspects are conclude in the SPKR programme for the poor community. At glance, through Malaysian Quality Life of Index (MQoLI) government expects to measure the effectiveness of policy and socio-economy development programme towards Malaysian QoL (Quality of Life Malaysia, 1999).

### **1.5 Problem Statement**

Poverty is one of the issues that get government attention on Malaysia plans and policies. Poverty eradication programmes especially SPKR programme have been created to decrease the poor population in Malaysia. The focus of the research is to clarify the factor of the effectiveness of the SPKR programme to poor community which may increase their quality of life. Large funds and investments have been allotted for this purpose with the hope that poor community would join the programme and motivate them to increase their quality of life. The problem statement of the research is regarding to the effectiveness of the programme to the poor community, especially in a rural area. Government of Malaysia is concern in alleviating poverty in Malaysia. The matter is to contribute economic growth and increase QoL of people. Government has spent a lot of funds to eradicate poverty in Malaysia. The anti-poverty programme, specifically SPKR, was established with a reason to lead poor community to take better path and lead them to create better QoL. If the poverty problem remains occur, it would affect to country economic growth. SPKR programme is a medium or platform to lead the poor community to increase their capacity building and encourage them to increase their QoL.

The research is to identify the effectiveness of SPKR programme which influence the poor community to increase their QoL. This research is concern to identify the

relationship between socio-demographic of the participants' perception towards the programme. The programme might be able to assist the participants to cope with the existing programme and adapt it to their real life in enhancing and develop the poor community capacity building to enter the better of quality of life, thus exit from the poverty life. Previous literatures mentioned that personal attitude and external influence are among the factors that may influence the participants of the programme towards their QoL. Therefore there is a need to discover how demographic characteristics and other attitudinal factors will influence respondents' characteristics.

## **1.6 Research Objective**

### **1.6.1 General Objective**

General objective of this study is to investigate the effectiveness of SPKR programme to poor community particularly at rural area, towards their satisfaction and quality of life who have undergone the SPKR programme.

### **1.6.2 Specific Objective**

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- i) To investigate the relationships between socio-economic and demographic factors of SPKR participants in changes of their quality of life.
- ii) To identify the factors that influences the effectiveness of SPKR programme on the changes of participants' quality of life.
- iii) To analyse the impact of SPKR programme in influencing the participants to enhance their quality of life.

## **1.7 Significance of Study**

The SPKR programme is giving wide knowledge to poor community in changing their current life to be better. Furthermore, the programme is giving the opportunity to poor community to involve or participate themselves to any activities especially in agriculture activities that can give benefit to their life and to their own economic growth.

This study can give information on the level of effectiveness of SPKR programme to rural poor community. The information can be view by government, semi-government, and NGOs on poverty eradication programme, generally, and specifically on SPKR programme. From this study, the modification and extension on poverty eradication programmes can be made to be more efficient for rural poor community in future.

This study might be useful for government to update the act and policies on eradicating poverty in Malaysia. The SPKR programme can be apart of *promotion* to rural poor community to take the opportunity and gain knowledge from poverty eradication programmes to change their current life to be better.

Malaysians can gain the information and the importance of poverty problem to country. Besides that, Malaysians can enhance their quality of life and escape from poverty life. In the conscious regarding of the poverty problem, would remain the integrity among Malaysians together to eradicate poverty in Malaysia besides build capacity building to be more positive and towards Malaysia mission and vision.

Furthermore, this research is also importance for poverty community information and knowledge. This is because, once they know the effect of poor life not only affect to their life, the problem would automatically connected to other community, and country economy and future. Besides that, they can gain knowledge how effective poverty eradication programme for them. By participate the programme would bring them to better quality of life and enhance their capacity building to create a brand new better life for their own life, their families, and their kids' future.

The other significance of this study is giving more information to researchers on the effectiveness of eradication poverty programme, specifically to SPKR programme for them to publish more research and journals on eradication poverty programme to all related institutions and also to public. The researchers can do a research by time to time accordingly to monitor how the performances of the poverty programmes run in Malaysia and also to their local location and country. Furthermore, the future poverty problem can be estimated briefly through their research.

## **1.8 Organisation of Study**

This study consists of five important chapters that covered miscellaneous areas of the study. Chapter one covered wide and general knowledge of Malaysia economy which is conclude Malaysia Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in certain years. In this chapter, there is a briefly explanation regarding to poverty in Malaysia including an information of SPKR programme which is the one of eradication poverty programmes that would give a clear view of the issues of this study. In this chapter also conclude the background of study, objectives of the research, problem statement, and the significance of the study. Meanwhile, any relevant studies and previous research were contained in chapter two. Dimensions of this study and relevant models are also discussed including conceptual framework by previous researchers is contain in this chapter. All related methodology demonstrations and used instruments were covered in chapter three. The methodology is related to the objectives of the study. Relevant statistics and guideline that would be use to analyze data of this study was developed and were discussed in this chapter. Results presentations and analysis of the study would be specifically discussed in chapter four. Chapter five summarized briefly of this study and general conclusion would be discussed in this chapter. Furthermore, some recommendations based on this study would be stated in this chapter.

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