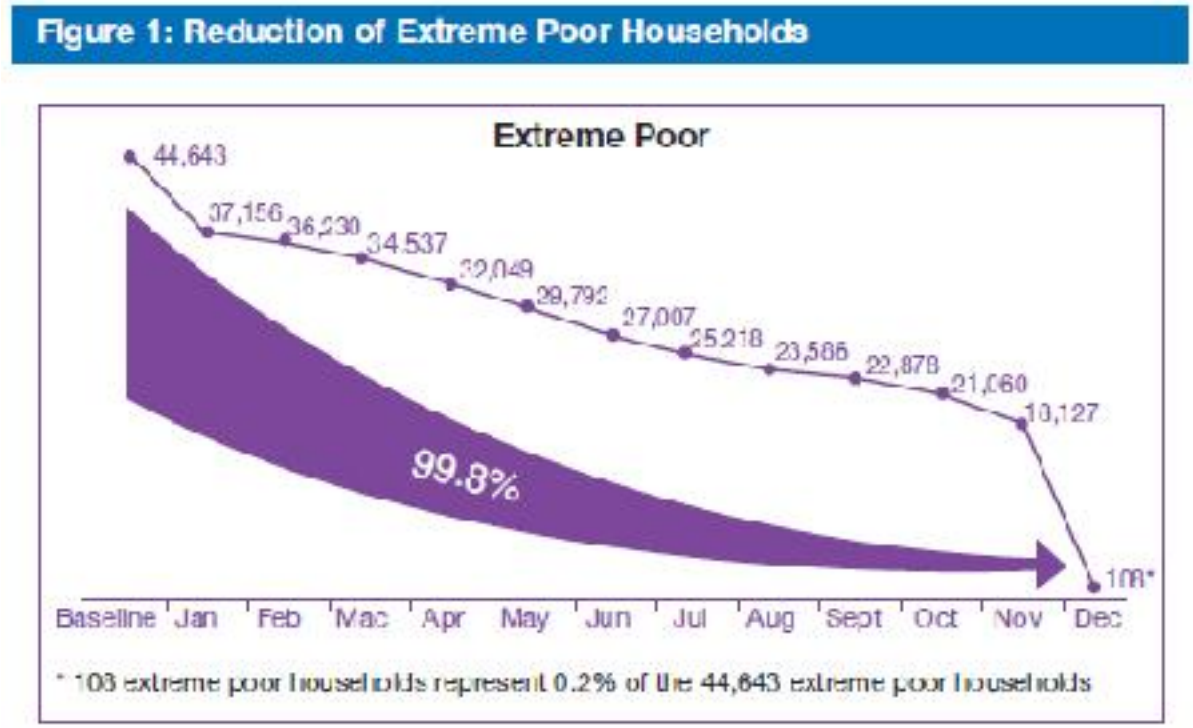
By Jayanath Appudurai

ACCORDING to the Government Transformation Programme [GTP] Annual Report released on 27 March 2011, there are only
"108 extreme poor households"
left. The GTP within a span of 12 months transformed the lives of 44,535 extreme poor households.
{See Chart}



To say the least, this is a stupendous achievement! An intractable problem that the nation has been grappling with for more than 40 years has ostensibly been solved in 1 year!

Should not the Government be lauded for this?

Guess, it all depends on how ‘extreme poor’ is defined?

The GTP’s definition is as shown below:

Table 2: Definition of Extreme Poor, Poor and Low-Income Households based on Monthly Income

	Peninsular Malaysia	Sabah	Sarawak
Extreme Poor	RM440 and below	RM540 and below	RM520 and below
Poor	RM750 and below	RM960 and below	RM830 and below
Low-income Households	RM2,000 and below	RM2,000 and below	RM2,000 and below

Now, you can decide to send congratulatory messages to Putrajaya.....or something else!