On the broader picture, Facebook and Twitter have been branded as fostering a national security threat lately. Internal Security and Public Order Director Datuk Salleh Mat Rasid was quoted by Utusan Malaysia as saying "The Internet posed a challenge to the police as it allowed people to know what was going on in and outside the country. This would encourage those who have been influenced by liberal thinking to replicate locally what was happening in other countries.

In a borderless world, human thinking will change greatly particularly towards the liberal. It is difficult to restrict those who have been influenced by liberal thinking as Facebook and Twitter allowed them to communicate with each other easily."

It is true that there are limits to freedoms as enshrined in our constitution and not absolute. There are rules and regulations that every citizen of this country need to abide.

Several countries, including Tajikistan and Egypt in the Middle East recently blocked access to Facebook & Twitter and newssites following the bloody political unrest in their countries.

The deportation of Saudi journalist Hamza Kashgari, who was detained by Malaysian police last month, at the request of the Saudi government over Twitter posts on Prophet Muhammad, which had become controversial back home, is another example of the consequence a person would face for breaching the social media law in a country, where such religious offence is punishable by death.

Malaysians are still fortunate to have a fair government that did not enforce a total ban on the use of the Internet, but proposed to monitor or even block the accounts of Facebook and Twitter users in the event of abuse subject to the existing penalty code, Sedition Act 1948, Information Act 1950 and Communication and Multimedia Act 1998.

The Malaysian Multimedia and Communication Commission had received 716 complaints from the public in connection with various types of the abusive content found in Facebook and Twitter last year.

Sabah’s Internet penetration rate has reached 32.9 per cent, while for the whole country it is 62.9 per cent. During the closing of the State-level social media convention at UMS recently, CM Datuk Seri Musa Aman was quoted as saying: "In the kind of advanced society that people are living in today, technology has evolved and developed tremendously. These advances have been misused by irresponsible parties in exploiting certain issues for their personal benefit, which include the spread of false information as well as issues which touch on the sensitivities of the people."

Musa expects the participants to create a new dimension in social media that could be used for national development thereby improving the prosperity of the people as a whole. (DE March 18, 2012)

Let us see the extent of roles the Social Media will play to convince the people on the choice of leaders they think fit to lead this country in the coming 13th GE.

BN is optimistic of victory and capturing states currently held by the opposition in the Peninsula, judging from its outstanding track records in the government, despite former Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin’s prediction of a bleak outlook for BN in the coming 13 GE with an easy victory in only three States, namely Johor, Malacca and Pahang.