

LIST OF BUSINESS

SECOND SITTING ON WEDNESDAY, THE 14TH MARCH 2007
(Time : 10:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. **Pu LALCHAMLIANA**, Speaker at the Chair, Pu Zoramthanga, Chief Minister, Deputy Speaker, 10 Ministers and 25 Members were present.

OBITUARY

2. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to make reference on the demise of Pu Zairemthanga Former Deputy Speaker.
3. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to make reference on the demise of Pu Biakchhunga Former Deputy Speaker.
4. **QUESTIONS** entered in separate list to be asked and oral answers given.

LAYING OF PAPERS

5. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to lay on the Table of the House "The Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts for the year 2005-2006" in respect of the Government of Mizoram.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT

6. **THE SPEAKER** to report to the House the time table as chalked out by the Business Advisory Committee for the current session.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Bill for introduction

7. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007".

ALSO

To introduce the Bill

DISCUSSION ON MOTION OF THANKS

8. Discussion on Motion of Thanks on the Address of the Governor.
(to be conclude).

S P E A K E R

: And we exhort you, brethren, admonish the idles, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all.

I Thessalonians 5 : 14.

We will now observe Obituary Reference in respect of the departed Members Pu Zairemthanga, Ex-Minister, Pu Biakchhunga Ex-Deputy Speaker. I now call upon Pu Zoramthanga, hon'ble Chief Minister and leader of the House to make his speech.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Mr. Speaker Sir, it is sad in a way that today, we are compelled to observe obituary reference in respect of the departed former members who were having great importance in our society and in this House.

Let me start with Pu Zairemthanga ex - Minister, who left us on 25.10.2006 2 : 20 PM. at Civil Hospital, Aizawl after suffering from a prolonged heart disease. He was 75.

Pu Zairemthanga was the eldest son of the nine children of Pu Chhuzova Khiangte (L) and Pi Vanneihchhingi (L) and was born on 21.7.1931. at Biata. He married Pi Thanmawii of Vaitin on 11.1.1962 at Presbyterian Church of Bukpui and the couple were blessed with 2 sons and 3 daughters. On the 5h December, 2000 his wife Pi Thanmawii passed away.

In the field of education, Pu Zairemthanga finished his matriculation from Mizo High School, Aizawl. He pursued I.A. course in private as his father left him at an early age. In 1950, he worked at Census office, Jorhat as a Clerk but the absence of his father compelled him to return to Mizoram and then worked as Primary School Teacher at Zawlsei. I came to know him personally as he visited our village on election duty for District Council & Village Council. In 1954, he worked at Bukpui and joined the post of Assistant Sub-Inspector of School.

He entered into politics in 1971 and joined Labour Party as its General Secretary. In 1972, he contested from Kawnpui Constituency in the first Legislative Assembly election of U.T. Mizoram but unfortunately he was defeated. As his party merged with congress party, he was appointed as the General Secretary of Aizawl District Congress Committee. In 1978, he also held the post of Secretary of Human Rights Committee formed under the leadership of Brig. T. Sailo after holding the post of General Secretary of People's Conference Party in 1975. In 1978, he was elected from Aizawl West Constituency as his debut membership of the Legislative Assembly and held the post of Minister for Supply & Transport Department, Local Administration Department and Parliamentary Affairs in the Ministry headed by Brig. T. Sailo. Shortly after the Ministry was dissolved, he was again elected from the same Constituency in 1979 and held the post of Cabinet Minister with his previous portfolio plus Education Department and Co-operation Department.

In 1984, he was again elected from Aizawl North Constituency and held the post of Deputy Opposition Leader.

In all his political career his main concern was upliftment of the conditions of poor people in Mizoram and of solution to the problem of farmers. In order to achieve the goal, he had even formed Tribal Welfare Agency and as a founder of this NGO, he had rendered his service and held the post of Treasurer till his last breath. He had even held portfolio of the President of YMA more than 10 years and received an award from this popular NGO for his services to our society.

It is worth mentioning that Pu Zairemthanga was a Sunday School Teacher since 1944 till his death and for his continued service for 50 years, he was awarded Jubilee Award by Mizo Sunday Sikul Union. In 1972, he was ordained as a Church Elder of Dawrpui Vengthar. Apart from these, he had even held number of important posts in Synod Presbytery and in the maintenance of his local church.

On 25th April 1990, he had heart attack and was admitted at Aizawl Civil Hospital. As his condition was not improving, he was then referred to Birla Hospital and received open-heart surgery. His condition again deteriorated after his return to Aizawl and was admitted to Aizawl Civil Hospital and spent his last day there on the 25th October 2006, 2:20 P.M.

It is sad that Mizoram has lost such a great leader who had rendered his whole life in the service of the Society, Politics, Church and Government.

Next, Pu Biakchhunga, Ex Deputy Speaker, who died of asthma on 5th February, 2007 Monday at 12:35 PM. at the age of 75.

Pu Biakchhunga (L) was the 6th Child of Upa K. Vawmhranga (L) and Pi Chawngdaii (L). He was born in Champhai, Since his parents died at an early age, he was brought up at an orphanage and gave up his study at class V. In 1950, he joined Burmese army at the age of 18. During this period, he took the chance of resuming his study and finished class 8. As a reserved pensioner, he was employed at 5 Star Hotel, Rangoon for 2 years. Out of his deep concern for Mizoram, he returned to Mizoram and then Joined MNF Party. MNF Party People Battalion was then formed at Champhai under his leadership. In 1966 he was promoted to the rank of Commander Brigadier General of the division and as Chief Record Officer that concern with matters relating to General Headquarter. In 1971, he was appointed as an Army Chief and as a member of National Army Committee in 1977. In 1978, he was appointed as the President of MNF.

In the signing of Peace Accord, he was one of the representatives from MNF Party and in the process of negotiation with the Central Government he visited Rome, Paris and Burma. In the third Mizoram Legislative Assembly of 1980, he was nominated as an MLA and in 1983, he was inducted as the Deputy Speaker of Mizoram Legislative Assembly.

Pu Biakchhunga had a great zeal of interest in the field of literature and even left us an article 'Hnam kalphung siam' which was intended to provide source of information to future students who have interest in Mizoram History.

In the year 1990, he began suffering from Bronchitis Asthma. His condition deteriorated from 1997 and then passed away on the 5th February, 2007 at 12:35 AM.

Pu Biakchhunga will be remembered for his courageous nature of perseverance and his death is of a great loss to the people of Mizoram. Hence, these two leaders truly deserved honour of this House.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: Next, let me call upon Pu Lal Thanhawla to have his speech on obituary reference of the two departed leaders.

PU LAL THANHAWLA

: Mr. Speaker Sir, leader of the House has made many points regarding the two departed leaders

As of my memories concern, I personally know Pu Zairemthanga and he was an honest person in his works and free from corruption in all circumstances. Speaking of his service to Church, he was a church elder and rendered his best effort to improve Church of his locality. During his career as a Minister, I was sitting in the opposition and had nothing much to mention negative point of his works. All I know of him is his honesty and his nature of amiability. He was one of the leaders who gave importance to keeping up the dignity and status of the House. It will be somewhat difficult to fill up the place left by him.

As of Pu Biakchhunga, I personally knew him very well and his loss is deeply regretted. We had even experienced a long tiresome journey together to Mandalay and his perseverance and his kindness towards the younger was a good lesson.

During the period of MNF as underground, his name was popularly known. He was once being proposed for Commission Officer while he was in Burmese Military due to his efficiency in this service. He can speak Burmese language as fluently as he speaks Mizo language. He was gentle in nature and a confident person. In the field of literature he had written number of articles and books that can be counted as source of information for historians of the coming generation.

Losing him is of a great loss to this House and of the Mizos as a whole. It is appreciated that opportunity is being arranged here in the House to express our feelings on the loss of the two leaders.

Thank you.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA

: Mr. Speaker Sir, it is regretted that we are compelled to observe obituary reference in honour of the

two departed members Upa Zairemthanga and Pu Biakchhunga. To start with let us mention about Pu Zairemthanga.

As far as my knowledge is concerned, Pu Zairemthanga was brought up in the family of good Christians and this effected his whole life and his principle is to show to others that Jesus Christ is in his life.

As Brig T. Sailo retired from his service, he returned to Mizoram while Mizoram was covered by the atmosphere of insurgency and the people were in fear of military operation and on the other hand insurgent activities. In order to relieve the situation, Brig T. Sailo then set up Human Rights Committee which was intended to resolve the problem of the people in all walks of life. Under this Committee Pu Zairemthanga was the General Secretary who stood up strongly for the cause of the people concerned.

As already stated, we were both favoured as Cabinet Minister in the Ministry headed by Brig. T. Sailo. During those 5 years term as a Minister he had made a number of achievements for the people of Mizoram and among them installation of satellite depot at Vairenge is worth mentioning. Not only this, he was the one who paved the way for majority of the people to avail Housing Loan from Housing and Urban Development Corporation. In regard to improvement of the standard of sanitation in Mizoram, he determined means for septic Tank Loan facilities as a Minister of Local Administration Department and with this idea, the people of Mizoram are enlightened with the importance of sanitation.

Not only this Mr. Speaker Sir, Pu Zairemthanga was the one who brought the agenda of Municipalities in respect of Aizawl and Lunglei and he was the one who introduced Public Education in Mizoram.

Not only in politics, he made many contribution in spiritual welfare of Churches. He had even been appointed as a member of Committee under Synod such as Pay Commission and others in respect of his contribution towards his community, it is worth mentioning that construction of the present Vaivakawn field was initiated by him with a view of providing a substitute playground for AR ground.

Last but not the least, I have to say that Pu Zairemthanga and his wife were the couple who emphasized the needs for avowing God in the welfare of P.C. Party and in the Ministry. His loss is surely a great loss for the people of Mizoram. May God keep his Children and other relatives through their moment of sorrows.

As of Pu Biakchunga, I have known him from his important note as underground and also from his tenure in the Legislative Assembly as Deputy Speaker I had personally known him only from 1977 after his return from underground and joined our party in which he was one of the important members of High Command in the Headquarter. As far as my knowledge is concerned he played an important role in the freedom movement and had so many experiences as an underground.

Besides, as a Deputy Speaker of the House, he maintained impartial judgement towards all the members. He had put so much effort to obtain power infrastructure for the development of Mizoram. I was there at Lunglei during the time of his death on 5.2.2007. I deeply regret that I was not able to attend his funeral function, yet, I conveyed my condolence through telephone to his wife. Today I feel lucky for having the opportunity to speak about him and sent my condolence to his family.

He is also a hero in fighting for freedom. His death grieved us and gives us pain in our heart. I, therefore wish his family to be blessed.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: Let our speech be in the shortest form as it is question hour.

PU LALDUHOMA

: Mr. Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I will not say much as many things had been said of him. Pu Zairemthanga was

Church elder whose contribution was highly varied even at Synod Level. His demise is acutely felt by the church much more than in the field of politics. He was polite and well-mannered in Church Committees and other activities.

Although Pu Biakchhunga was not highly educated, he held high position in Politics. I do admired such men. Both of them left us many good example in different fields. I offer a lot of thanks to them and also offer blessing to the deceased families.

Thank you.

**PU TAWNLUIA
MINISTER**

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I feel that for Mizoram Legislative Assembly it is a time of sorrow and mourning,

as we have been losing Pu Zairemthanga, ex-Minister and Pu Biakchhunga,

It is my privilege to speak about them while obituary reference is being held. Particularly MPC + MNF Party jointly fought Assembly election, I have close acquaintance with Pu Zairemthanga. I noticed that he has high ability and efficiency for serving the people both in the church and in the political field. I am proud of him and I send my condolence to the bereaved family.

Pu Biakchhunga Ex-Deputy Speaker, was an Army Chief in the Mizo National Army. He was truly a hero in fighting for freedom. He had efficiently looked after Army Headquarter. Not only that, he was also a good politician in the overground politics. I am very proud of his patriotism and I send condolence to his family.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: I had personally followed Pu Zairemthanga and Pu Biakchhunga for for sometimes. I also have many

things to say about them but we have taken quite a long time for obituary. I personally regret and mourn the demise of the two leaders.

Now, let us keep silent for one minute by standing to mourn them.

Now, we'll take question. Let us call upon Pu Andrew Latherliana to ask starred question no. 1.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA

: Thank you, Hon'ble Speaker Sir,
Will the Hon'ble Minister Finance
Department be pleased to state :-

(a) Whether tender is called before ICICI is selected to carry out Mizoram Government Service Health Insurance scheme (Medical Re-imburement) ?

(b) What are the criteria for the selection of ICICI to carry out the said work ?

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, answer to
the above questions are -
(a) No tender is called there of

(b) Government of Mizoram studied various insurance schemes and then selected ICICI to do the work which is the most suitable agency for Government servants.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, ICICI
Lombard and Bajaj Alliance gave
offer for it of which Bajaj Alliance

gave better offer. How can Government of Mizoram selected ICICI Lombard as the highest one while Bajaj Alliance's offer is better in regards to finance, hospital, debility or accident case ? Why was comparison not made ? And why was tender not called for it ?

PU LALDUHOMA

: Thank you Hon'ble Speaker Sir. It
is a wonder how this Government
knows the best agency while there
are many agencies for comparison without calling tender and without having comparative Statement. What is the criteria for it ?

Secondly, whether ICICI used to deduct the amount of M.R. Bill even for blood related family ? Whether Medical Re-imburement Bill of T.B., Cancer, Special disability are abandoned if not hospitalized ?

Thirdly, whether Government of Mizoram knows that it is troublesome to have Medical Re-imburement Bill for Government servants posted in the remote areas ?

PU LALHMINGTHANGA

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, Supplementary
questions. Firstly, what is the true
reason for out sourcing agency to
deal Medical Re-imburement Bill ?

Secondly, I had an eye-witness of the three or four patients in Calcutta who have serious difficulty on food and medicine. It is better to have the departments of the Government of Mizoram take up the work as was done before instead of having ICICI Lombard to do it.

S P E A K E R

: Mr. Rohluna.

PU ROHLUNA

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, supplementary questions - 1) Whether it is true that more than 45 patients cannot be

hospitalized after ICICI Lombard out source Medical Re-imbursement bill ?

2) Whether Government of Mizoram carry on its out sourcing of Medical Re-imbursement bill ?

3) It is commonly said that patients hospitalised are discharged from hospital if the first sanction money is gone and again hospitalised when the second installment comes. Is this true?

S P E A K E R

: Let me call upon the Hon'ble Chief Minister to answer.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, let me try to sum up the questions asked by the Hon'ble members in regard to the problem we are facing with ICICI.

At the first instance in regard to the question why ICICI was chosen without calling a tender is that The Insurance Regulator and Development Authority in their Circular No.01/MLA/JEN/APL/06 of 19.4.2006 did not allow to call sealed tender quotations. The Insurance Companies should rather offer/sell their policies. Accordingly the ICICI, Bajaj, National Insurance Company, Oriental Insurance Company sell their policies. Then, the Committee selected ICICI Lombard to finance Medical Re-imbursement.

The reason why ICICI Lombard is selected is that they do not demand contribution of some amount by Government servants while Bajaj Alliance demanded contribution of Government servant's. Besides this, ICICI could finance up to Rs. 2 ½ lakhs for a patient according to the requirement of the case.

Regarding share holder, no family member of the Chief Minister has share at all.

Now, the main problem faced by the patients is that a high power official is not at Aizawl for immediate financial sanction. There is much complaint about medical bills, we are now trying to solve the problem. Anyway, out source of Medical Re-imbursement is tested for only one year. If it is not good for the State Government as well as for the patients the Cabinet will see to the matter at any time. But now Government of Mizoram saved more than Rs. 20 crores. Anyhow, any problems should be informed to the Cabinet by oral or written form, we will then try to solve such problems.

S P E A K E R

: Question hour now comes to an end, we will take another business.

On the way, Pu K. Lianzuala MLA begs leave of the House on ground of Kidney transplant. Can we give him leave ?

If so, now laying papers. Let us call upon Pu Zoramthanga, Finance Minister to lay on the table of the House The Appropriation Account 2005-2006.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your permission I lay Finance Account For the year 2005 - 2006 on the Table of the House.

S P E A K E R

: The copy may be laid on the Table of the House. BAC had a meeting on 2nd March, 2007 formulating the detail Programme of this session. I present to the Table of the House. The copy be laid on the Table of the House. This programme was issued on the Bulletin. Do we agree with it ?

Now, we received The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007. The copy is distributed four days before, it is considered. That's why, it seemed that it is better to introduce as soon as the bill is received. Accordingly, let us call Pu Zoramthanga to beg leave of the House to introduce the Bill.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007 to the House.

S P E A K E R

: May we give him permission to introduce it ? (Yes). If so, let him introduce it.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER**

: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I introduce to the House "The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007".

S P E A K E R

: The said Bill was introduced to the House. We can presume that one will take sometime to study the bill in detail. The Bill will be considered in time.

Now, the last business-we will go is the motion of thanks on the address of the Governor. Now, we will start the discussion. The mover will have 25 minutes and the Members ten minutes each and the Leaders will be given more time than Members as usual. Now, let us call upon Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to move Motion of Thanks on the Address of the Governor of Mizoram.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE

: Thank you Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I, latest member sworn in only yesterday am very pleased to move vote of

thanks on the first Address of Lt. General M.M. Lakhera, Governor of Mizoram as my maiden speech. First of all I would like to thank God, Leader of my political party and the people of Tlungvel Constituency. It seemed that the Governor examines the works of this Government carefully although he has stayed only six months in Mizoram. Looking back the Address of yesterday the new Governor is not inferior to any other Governor comparing with them. He is interested in the work of the Government. The Speech spoken in Mizo dialect, official language of the State for five minutes at the beginning of his Speech highly deserved to be given thanks. I would like to request understanding of the Hon'ble Members if I spend more time as the Address contained twenty five pages.

First of all, it is very pleasing to know that there is no capital failure in law and order during 2006-2007 and he regarded Mizoram to be the most peaceful State comparing to the adjoining States. It is also very pleasing to know criminal case is reduced by 708 cases during 2005 and 2006. This shows that there is good cooperation between police personnel and various NGO's. It is also high-lighted that the Leaders of Zo-Lushai Self Determination (a new insurgency group) were captured on 28th June 2006 in the border area of Bangladesh and 804 BLFM surrendered all of their arms and ammunitions to the Government of Mizoram, new establishment of PTC at Thenzawl under Police Modernisation scheme, Improvement of Forensic Science Laboratory, Renewal of MPRO set, improvement of fire and Emergency services, improvement and renovation of security unit gave us great happiness.

It is pleasing to learn that the Ministry of Home Affairs had sanctioned Rs. 17.00 crores for raising of a new 3rd Bn. IR. in Mizoram. Also, it is worth mentioning that the wages of Mizoram Home Guards volunteers was increased.

The achievements of Excise Department and the collection of a revenue of Rs. 138 lakhs that has been highlighted in the Address are quite commendable.

I am glad that various steps taken by Agriculture Department to attain higher productivity by the farmers has been mentioned. It is further commendable that the Government has provided various facilities to farmers in order to increase their products.

It is pleasing to learn the steps taken by Horticulture Department towards increasing the production of Anthurium flowers and the first export consignment of anthurium - cut flowers were despatched to foreign countries.

I am also happy to note that the Government has assisted 2612 houseless families by providing dwelling houses in rural areas:

There have been mistakes on page 5 of the Governor's Address. It would be appreciated if the concerned department could make a corrigendum regarding the mistake.

The steps taken by Food and Civil Supplies to ensure food security in the State is quite commendable. Despite the reduction of the monthly allotment of rice by the Centre from 6810 metric tones to 2446, the State Government able to purchase 3000 MT of rice per month at a higher price from the open market. I would also like to commend on the efforts rendered by Legal Metrology Wing for quality control to check tampering of gas and adulteration of POL.

Coming to AH & Veterinary Department, the Governor's Address highlighted steps taken by the Government through this department. It is also a big achievement to note that the entry of the dreaded Bird flu was not noticed in the State. This is due to the awareness and preparedness of the department to encounter the entry of Bird flu.

It is also worthwhile to mention that over 100 Biogas plants has been set up for the farmers through this department.

The achievements of Fisheries Department mentioned by the Governor are highly remarkable.

I am happy to learn from the address that there are more than 5000 families who are directly or indirectly involved in Sericulture activities.

I would like to praise the efforts taken by the Government to further the industrial base in the State.

It is also pleasing to see that exploration of oil and natural gas near Hortoki by ONGC has been completed and a further exploration is underway.

Though the improvement in power supply has not been mentioned in the Governor's Address, it is encouraging that the Department is making utmost efforts to improve power supply by taking up various Hydel projects. It is indeed a great achievement to learn that under the Scheme of RGGVY, there is provision to electrify all households within 5 years.

The Address of the Governor has confirmed the saying that developmental works have been going on at rapid pace through the performance of the PWD.

It is pleasing to learn various efforts made by the Department of PHE in order to provide adequate water supply to rural and urban population.

At the same time, it is remarkable to hear from the Governor's Address that 16,209 latrines in BPL households, 8950 latrines in the households of APL families, 145 sanitary complex, 461 school toilets and 154 toilets for Balwadis were constructed under the implementation of Total Sanitation Campaign (TLC) by PHE department.

Coming to Health and Family Welfare Department the Governor's Address has highlighted the achievements made by this Department. To know that the 3,71 crores estimated Construction of OPD at Civil Hospital Aizawl is due to be completed within the current financial year is quite encouraging. Not to mention the upgradation of Nursing Schools and a number of PHC and CHC in rural areas.

The Governor's Address has clearly mentioned the improvement of education quality in the State. This department has taken various efforts to improve the education system in the State. Even a Memorandum of Settlement was signed between the Government and Cambridge University in order to have skilled teachers.

The achievements made by Higher and Technical Education Department have not been left out in the speech of the Governor. There are various signs of improvement in the quality of higher education which is quite remarkable.

The many efforts made by Art and Culture Department has been highlighted in the Address. It is a matter of pride that this Government has contributed a lot for preservation of our culture for future generation.

I am happy to notice the implementation of various welfare activities in regards to giving assistance to the handicapped, women empowerment, upliftment of women and children, aged and the disabled. Another remarkable achievement made by the Government is the creation of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation Department.

The Governor's Address has highlighted the performance of the former Relief & Rehabilitation Department which has recently been renamed as Disaster Management & Rehabilitation Department. The many steps taken by this department also deserves to be mentioned.

Amongst the notable and important achievements of Tourism department includes the construction of tourist lodges and tourist attractions in various places of Mizoram and also the revenue collection of Rs. 47.99. lakhs from tourist influx.

The performance of the Government through Information & Public Relation Department deserves special mention. Right to Information Act was introduced and being a nodal department, public awareness campaign on the Act was organized by Information & Public Relations Department in various districts. Not only this, it is great to see the Department organizing Bharat Darshan for members of PAMRA and Aizawl Darshan for elder citizens.

Another noteworthy activities made by the Government through Civil Aviation Department is the up gradation and improvement of facilities at Lengpui Airport. It is a matter of gratitude and satisfaction to learn from the Governor's Address that two more Airlines namely, Kingfisher and Surya Airways have conveyed their intention to introduce operation at Lengpui Airport. To hear about the increase of outgoing passengers from the previous years has proved that the Mizo people have certainly made use of the Airport.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the performance of Taxation Department particularly in regard to tax administration. I feel proud to learn the increase of tax collection.

Due to time constraint the Governor's Address has left out various points of development. Hence, considering all these, I request the hon'ble Members to pass my Motion of Thanks.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: Now, I will call upon Pu Andrew Lalherliana. The Members are requested to confine to the allotted time.

PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA

: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, Today we are going to discuss the Governor's Address. At the outset, I would like to say that the Governor's Speech is rather lengthy and detail that it becomes exhaustive for us. The officials who prepared the speech must have forgotten that our Governor is not young anymore and it could be difficult for him to read out the 45 pages of Address for him. Therefore, I advise the officials to prepare the Governor's speech in a compact manner.

At the same time, there are certain points which I approve of in the speech. I am glad to hear the efficiency of our police forces in tackling crime which resulted in the decrease of crime rate from the previous year.

Coming to road communication, it is pleasing to learn about the PMGSY road project from which 49 roads with a total length of 565.34 Kms. have been completed : It is a great opportunity to benefit from such a great scheme from the Centre. But, it is a matter of regret that various Central schemes have been diverted for our personal benefit.

In regard to Power and Electricity, we have not seen any major point to be pleased about in the speech. Whereas we expect mega hydel projects, the points that are highlighted in the Governor's speech are not up to the mark.

In the meantime, there is no mention of any major achievements made by the Government. Does this mean that this Government made no major achievements ? It is a shame that Aizawl Greater Water supply Scheme Phase II has been highlighted in the speech as this project does not seem to fulfill our expectation. Therefore, I have no good reason to be grateful to the Address.

Thank you.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO

: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. At the outset, I convey my gratitude to the House for being able to discuss the Address of the Governor. However, I feel disappointed when I see that the speech of

the Governor seems to be prepared by imitating the speeches of the Governor in 2005-2006.

I will start with Law and Order. We have experienced that in every speech of the Governor, the law and order situation has been portrayed as largely peaceful and under control. As this is the case, I have the opinion that we are now used to this wordings. Another point I would like to say is the mission of the contribution of NGOs and various churches in fighting various crimes and illegal drug trafficking. I wonder why the support of these two organizations have been left out.

Where-as the law and order situation has been portrayed as peaceful and under control the Address has stated that Excise and Narcotics Department have arrested 3,025 persons for contravention of the Prohibition Laws from the start of the current financial year up to January, 2007. Does this mean that the law and order situation has now become rotten from inside ?

There is no mention of any programme and policy made for the youth in the field of Information and Technology and software technology. I feel so sorry for the aspiring youths of Mizoram as I see no future for them in the Government.

I am sorry to notice that there is no mention of Labour & Employment Department and Sports & Youth Services. The speech of the Governor should have highlighted at least small points for these two Departments.

I feel delighted that Serlui 'B' Hydel project has been mentioned in the speech. However, considering the expenditure already incurred for the Project, it should have been completed long time back.

As we have known the state's debts have now reached 2,999 crores, it would be appreciated if the Governor's speech could have contain the write - off of a certain amount from our debt.

Thank you.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO

Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you. I would like to highlight some of the points that is not highlighted in the Governor's speech. In regard to Agriculture and Horticulture Red oil palm, passion fruit, jatrophas and Minor Irrigation Project has been mentioned in the speech. What concerns me is, potential area, connectivity and marketing case, also encouraging early paddy and cultivation of vegetables.

Mr. Speaker, the Government is aware eight years back of the coming Bamboo flowering. It is on this account that the Central Government has sanctioned crores to help fight famine. The Department instead of venturing on diversification of crops, should have concentrated on area, connectivity and marketing case, which could have helped in facing the coming bamboo flowering with much ease.

Mr. Speaker, the rural area is struck with poverty, nearly 30 % of the rural areas are on the verge of starvation. It is, therefore, surprising to learn that the Government did not give priority to Agriculture for the upliftment of rural areas. There is nothing to

look forward to for the rural people. Mr. Speaker, the people are facing poverty even before bamboo flowering. Thus, I would like to suggest that the Government should come up with immediate relief. Further, I would like to suggest the Government to take careful step in rodent damage surveillance.

Mr. Speaker, the 11th Plan fostered Agriculture bearing in mind the priority of the rural areas. It is unfortunate that the Government has neglected Agriculture and

Horticulture instead of keeping it as number one priority. Lastly, I request the Government to take steps to prevent even one person from death because of starvation.

Thank you.

PU ZODINTLUANGA

Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. After careful study of the Governor's speech, I realized that the time taken by the Governor to read out the speech has to be longer, as the Government highlighted all the small details such as the construction of BDO staff quarter the Government does not have much achievement to highlight.

The first point in the speech highlighted the over all law and order situation in Mizoram during 2006-2007 which remains largely peaceful and under control. But the Government hesitated to keep in writing that Mizoram is not the most peaceful state inspite of their continuous proclamation. Mr. Speaker, the Mizoram Police launched an operation against the BLFM militants and arrested the leaders. Also a militant outfit called 20 self Determination Front was apprehended by the Police. Therefore, I am not sure if we could call our state the most peaceful state. Mr. Speaker, I have visited police Training centre which is constructed at Thenzawl, the quality of the construction is very poor, Mr. Speaker I have visited the centre. I would like to know, why police personnel for 3rd IR BN. has not been given appointment ? Where will they be deployed. Mr. Speaker, why is the Government taking so long. As we have heard, the Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned Rs. 17.00 crores for raising of the new 3rd IR BN. -of Mizoram. The Governor's speech highlighted the donation of blood by Home Guard Volunteers which is not a noble act worth mentioning in the Governor's speech, thereby making the speech lengthy.

Regarding Excise, there is nothing to be proud of the revenue collected by the Department. It only signifies the failure of total prohibition.

Pu Speaker, there is hardly any new achievement in the Governor's speech. Like National Highway 44 (A) NH 150, NH 154 were reported, completed in the Governor's speech last year, and is being repeated this year as well so is the case with Rawpuichhip - Buarpui road. Therefore, there is nothing much to give thanks about the Governor's speech, there is nothing noble act worth mentioning. The Government does not have great achievement to highlight. As mentioned earlier, it is detail and repetition of last year. But what makes me happy is the Government is able to carry out the various scheme of the Central Government successfully.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We will now call Pu K. Lalrinliana.

PU K. LALRINLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you. I would like to thank the hon'ble member Pu Lalchhandama for the motion of thanks. The Governor took 1 ½ hours to read out the speech which means that there are many achievements made by the Government which needs to be highlighted. The Governor did not highlight about bamboo link road and the way it serves as means of self-sufficiency for the people. Therefore, there is a number of commendable achievement which is not highlighted in the speech.

Mr. Speaker, it is pleasing to note from the Governor's speech that the Government of India has agreed to transform the economy of Mizoram through "Look East Policy".

Mr. Speaker, the constitution of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation Department and the launching of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission for the development of Aizawl city and the VIDSSMT & IHSDP in the district headquarters is worth commenting. Mr. Speaker, it is a great achievement with the implementation of the schemes the district headquarters have benefited enormously. Aizawl city too has benefited like the CH. Chhunga Bus terminal building and capital complex.

Mr. Speaker, it is pleasing to note that in order to enhance the professional capacity of teachers 6 Mini DIETS have been started. Further, I am glad that a memorandum of understanding has been signed between the Government and the Cambridge University of International Examination.

It is note worthy that great development has taken place in the Health Department. Civil Hospital has been upgraded and the number of referred cases of patients have decreased as our Doctors are capable of taking up the cases. It is good to know that there is a proposal to upgrade the Hospitals of the District headquarters.

Aizawl Water Supply Scheme Phase - II is in progress. It is worth mentioning that the scheme is expected to be commissioned before end of the current financial years. It is also pleasing to note that the exploration of oil and natural gas by ONGC is almost complete.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give thanks for the on-going projects of construction of the District Court buildings.

I would like to give thanks for the initiative taken to upgrade and improve various facilities at Lengpui Airport.

It is good to learn that due importance has been given to the development of tourism in Mizoram and that we have become a tourist destination Mr. Speaker, since my allotted time is over I give my support to the Motion of Thanks by the hon'ble member Pu Lalchhandama Ralte.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : We will have a break. Before that I would like to make an announcement. Hon'ble Ministers and MLA.'s are requested not to let our respective PSO to cross the metal detector premises for security reasons. Sitting is adjourned.

Sitting adjourned 1 : 00 P.M.

S P E A K E R : We will continue with our discussion. Pu Lalhmingthanga.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to highlight a few points. First of all I would like to speak about Home Department. For the recruitment of I.R. Bn. open advertisement was called. Interview was held in all the Districts from May to October. But it is unfortunate that the result is held up till today. Yesterday our Party office Bearer held a meeting to discuss the issue, thus a resolution was passed, 'that the government should declare the result in order of merit list and not political appointment.'

Coming to page no.2 of the Governor's speech, we are all aware bamboo flowering is of great concern from ancient Mizo life. It can change the political course. The present ruling party (MNF) was born due to severe bamboo flowering. Mr. Speaker, we are now about to face bamboo flowering, therefore, the Government has come up with various famine combat programme. But after careful study, it is clear that the main purpose for the Government is to alter the system from seedling cultivation to stable economy, this could prove successful in the future, but as of now, I feel we need an immediate measure. I expect a need base Employment Generation Scheme but the Governor did not highlight it in the speech. When our Party came to power in 1978, we had this experience. We introduced need base Employment Generation Scheme, it helped and relieved the people. Therefore, if the Government could come up with immediate measures under these Departments - Agriculture, Rural Development Soil & Water Conservation, Veterinary, I believe it will prove successful in famine combat.

Coming to page 16, - para 23 of the Governor's speech, the Governor highlighted the 'Look East Policy'. I agree with this policy. The great economist of the world has now assessed India to be among the super powers in the coming 20 years. We have great prospect due to Geographical location, we are the corridor, Rs. 7469/- millions is sanctioned for Multi Model Transport Kolodyne river project. Further, as we are aware, Visakapatnam, and Kochin is unable to cover the North in defense, we have great prospect in commerce and defence. Mr. Speaker, we have various hydel projects which is not completed due to financial problem. The government should take step to utilize this Look East Policy corridor for the Hydel project, and further utilize to solve our problem. Mr. Speaker, I stayed in Lunglei for a couple of days recently, the main problem of the town is power supply. Therefore, if we could utilize this Look East Policy Kolodyne river project, our problem will be solved.

The other problem faced by the people of Lunglei town is scarcity of water. This is due to the shortage of power supply to pump water out of the river. Water is available, pumping machine is also there, but there is no power supply. Here in Aizawl too, we are going to commission Aizawl Greater Water Supply Scheme Phase-II, I am afraid that shortage of power supply will be our problem again. To avoid such problem, Look East Policy, which I have stated earlier is the only possible solution.

In regard to E-Governance, it is said that priority had been given to this sphere, however, I opine that the Government is much slower than I expect. I, therefore, request the Government to take rapid steps in this regard.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R : Before calling upon other members I would like to mention that our Official Gallery is today almost vacant. This is very bad. I, therefore want to repeat that every Department should send representative on those days when Discussion of Governor's Speech and General Discussion on the Budget are held. Now, let us call upon Pu D. Thangliana.

PU D. THANGLIANA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I support this Motion of Thanks moved by Pu LalchhandamRalte to be passed. First of all I would like to state that the Governor has been in office for a very short period only. In spite of this we can know from his speech that he is aware of every step even the smallest corner taken by the Government. I, therefore, opine that he has very high hopes for our state for development. Some members had raised some points which they considered important but was not included in the speech. Among such points I also have one important point to raise which is the victory of the ruling Party in the bye-election held recently in the constituencies of Tlungvel and Chawnkte. This victory proves that the people had faith in the ruling party.

Again, I would like to repeat from the Governor's speech that Mizoram has become a peaceful state. I am proud of this status. Besides, the salary of Home Guard is also increased by Rs. 830 per month to enable them to get Rs. 3830/-. This is a great achievement

It is also very pleasing to hear that G.I. wire is supplied to the growers of cash crops like Passion fruit and Grapes. Many houses had been constructed under the scheme of IAY, the rate of old-aged pension is also increased from Rs. 75 to Rs. 250 per month, Mid-day Meal is freely provided to 93192 students from 1367 Schools. All the above mentioned steps taken by the Government during the past year are very substantial for the receivers.

Inauguration of CH. Chhunga Bus terminal and CH. Saprawnga Truck Terminal during the last financial year would also be great achievement made by the Government. I heartily praise the Governor for his speech. It is sure that he knows every step taken by the Government in spite of his occupation of office being very short. I,

therefore, support the Motion of Thanks moved by Pu Lalchhandama Ralte and I request the House to pass this motion unanimously.

Thank you.

PU S. HIATO

: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, First of all, I would like to express my thanks to the Governor himself for using Mizo in the introductory part of his speech. As far as my knowledge is concerned he would be the first Governor of Mizoram who used Mizo language in Governor's Address. However, I would like to mention some important points which I consider important but do not include in the speech. Firstly, regarding Public Health Engineering Department, we know that scarcity of water is our main problem in various District Headquarters. But, only Champhai is pointed out in his speech. Will there be water supply scheme for Saiha, Lawngtlai and other District Headquarters too?

Secondly, in regard to Power Supply, we have had proposals for extension of transmission and distribution line, but we do not have power plant of our own. Are we still satisfied with extension of transmission and distribution only. Major Power Projects except Serlui 'B' are not heard from his speech.

The hon'ble Member, who moved this motion of thanks mentioned about the hard working efforts of this Ministry towards development. However, the state Government itself cannot carry on development works without the support of the Central U.P.A. Government. I, therefore, opine that we are credited to express our thanks to the UPA Ministry in the Central Government other than the Governor.

Bamboo flowering has started now, Agriculture Department and BAFFACOS seemed to be the instruments to be used against famine caused by bamboo flowering. But, the way how we use BAFFACOS, in my opinion is quite unsatisfactory. Distribution of G.I. wire to the growers of passion fruit and distribution of turmeric seeds would not relieve the hungry persons. In this regard, I support Pu Lalhmingthanga's speech on the said scheme to stock food grain as much as possible. So that hungry people from every corner of Mizoram can get adequate food when famine occurs. There is no progress report on Horticulture Department also.

On the other hand, I was pleased on Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for Aizawl city, I further hope that other District Capitals would also be covered under this special scheme. And in regard to water ways, we are eagerly waiting for construction of sea-port at Akyab. I, therefore, request the Government to take quicker steps.

The other point on which I would like to express my thanks to the Government is dissolution of Mara Autonomous District Council. The ruling party in the said District Council greatly misuse their power and misappropriation of money is very much. I would like to request the Minister for District Council Affairs to pay heed to our speech in this matter.

Thank you.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA

: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. As we have heard earlier from the hon'ble members the Central UPA

Government has laid a very good budget specially in the sphere of Rural Development, Forest & Environment, Agriculture and Public Distribution system. I, therefore, hope that our budget to be laid tomorrow would be similar with the budget of the Central Government.

Regarding reduction of crime rate during last year I would like to state that rape case in particular is greatly increased, we should not neglect this. We have to try harder to prevent it as much as we can. And in regard to peace, we heard from the Governor's Address that Mizoram is a peaceful State. However, Bru problem is still unsettled completely which remains very troublesome for those who settle in the western belt. Rapid steps are needed in this matter.

Coming to Agriculture Department we heard many points on its importance and progress, but he does not emphasize irrigation and land development as much as I like. Without irrigation and land development, progresses cannot be made in Agriculture. This Ministry works very well in this sphere. In regard to paddy seeds there is no progress and development since a very long time. We need to impart better scientific method in our agriculture. It is said that Red Oil Palm is going to be introduced and M.O.U. had already been signed. I suggest the concerned Department to tie it up with IWDP so that we can have better product.

In the matter of Fisheries. I support our local fish to get priority in the market other than fish imported from other states. Let the cold storage be utilized by our local fish farmers too. I, further request the Government to construct more and more cold storages in various towns.

We always talk about bamboo flowering. In this matter, we need to try our best to propagate bamboo seeds as much as possible and also to prevent forest fire. Lastly, I would like to repeat the speech of hon'ble member from Lunglei 'S' constituency in the matter of Look East Policy initiated by the Central Government. It is our duty to take advantage of the said policy for the benefit of our state. Mr. Speaker Sir, I support this Motion of Thanks to be passed unanimously.

Thank you.

PU H. ROHLUNA

: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir. First of all I would like to mention that there are many points of re-petition of

the previous year's speech in the Governor's Speech this year. Most of the development works reflected in the speech are under the Central schemes, there is no steps taken under the State Plan Fund. Therefore, we ought to express our thanks to the Central UPA Government. Besides, in this voluminous speech Sports & Youth Services Department, Labour & Employment Department and Local Administration Department are not there. Do these Departments make no achievements? How can we forget our sport persons who got championship title in the world level? Therefore, I opine that the Governor's Speech

seemed to be unsatisfactory. It can be seen that the Government does not care those Departments. However, I express my thanks to Disaster Management Development for buying equipments to rescue drown persons.

In the Governor's Speech there is no step taken under BAFFACOS. Fund is allocated to various Departments but no achievements have been reflected in the speech. I, therefore, opine that the Government does not care about the welfare of the people.

In regard to Food & Civil Supplies we heard that our quota would be decreased from 6810 Metric ton to 2246 Metric ton. In this connection 300 Metric tons of rice is bought from the open market. However, it cannot cover the total deduct from our normal quota. This is very bad. Who will be responsible for proper condition of rice supply? I doubt that our Government has made enough pressure to the Central government. It is regretted that the amount of food-grains keep falling down where as development turns towards progress.

Coming now to Soil & Water Conservation, the Department is having Rs. 400 lakhs of Plan Budget during 2006-2007 but the amount is reduced to Rs. 320 lakhs for the year 2007-2008. I am asking if the Government is proud of this reduction? I, myself find no reason to speak in support of this budget which is going down in comparison to the previous years.

Regarding District Council Affairs, dissolution of Mara District Council is pointed out here. It is further stated that the dissolution is caused by withdrawal of 14 members in supporting the Government. Yet there is no explanation of the reason for their withdrawal. It will be good if it is explained to clear up our confusion. As far as my knowledge is concerned, it was done so following the decision of court against the Governor's order and they were compelled to withdraw their support to the Government.

Regarding recruitment of 3rd I.R. Battalion, it was done by open advertisement in which a thousand youths applied for the post. What is the reason for the delay of result as 17 crore has already been sanctioned to that effect? Is it done on account of the decision of Hnam Run, It will be pleasing if fair selection is made in that respect.

My conclusion is that there is no reason to praise this Governor's address if we study it in detail.

Thank you.

PU LALDUHOMA

Mr. Speaker Sir, I first of all would like to express my appreciation of our very own Mizo language. I suppose it is again drafted by the hon'ble Chief Minister as he once mentioned it in an interview with North-East News Agency that "I had already given them a guideline through the Governor's Speech as the speech was drafted by me". We are in a way, fortunate to have a House Leader who is writing a speech of each and every detail of any matter.

It is appreciated that the Government is continuing to make effort on eradication of malaria in our State and provision of Scholarship and stipend to the students as it was practiced since long time ago. We have further learnt that Education Act has already been implemented, Rules being prepared and is now being published. Besides, it is stated that all materials under NCERT is now translated in Mizo. It is in a way appreciated that the Governor's Speech covers even petty matters like the point mentioned previously and it is a good perception of that the Government takes 'Look East Policy' of the Central Government as a State Government's policy and number of other Central schemes even a construction of road by BRTF. It is a shame for the Government to highlight mounting collection of fees for 158 Markets under Trade & Commerce that concern mostly of poor vegetable sellers.

Other petty matters which is highlighted here in the Governor's speech are purchase of 2 new mini Buses by Transport Department, inauguration of Booking office of Kanhmun, Anthurium Festival being organised at Reiek, release of pension of Ex-MDC's, increase of flight for passenger from Lengpui Airport, implementation of Marriage Registration Rules for Muslim community in Mizoram, increase of revenue by 30 % due to introduction of VAT, release of Mizoram statistical - handbook 2006, observation of Armed Force Flag Day in Mizoram, joining of Navy by one Mizo youth, training conducted for disaster management from the Tsunami disaster which occurred recently in the far-east Asia, etc.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I opine it is degrading for our Governor to include such petty matters in his speech supposedly drafted by the hon'ble Chief Minister.

Last but not the least, I opine it is important for the Government to keep in line with Centrally sponsored scheme under Bharat Nirman and construction of 2 lane linkage road to all District Headquarters of Mizoram and 4 lane road from Silchar to Aizawl instead of dealing with petty matters.

Thank you

PU R. LALZIRLIANA

: Mr. Speaker Sir. I first of all want to extend my appreciation of our Governor for his attention towards

40 legislative members as his colleagues where-as in the previous year the members were being treated by the Governor as ordinary citizens. His address in Mizo therefore, is highly appreciated.

Secondly, dissolution of Mara Autonomous District Council is much appreciated as it indicates our Governor's want of justice.

It is also pleasing to learn that the Government is doing well by increasing the amount of old age Pension from 100 to 250 and in dealing with Centrally sponsored schemes such as IAY, SGRY and BADP provision for Rural connectivity under NEC. World Bank Donor encourages the Government to execute ideal works for the people. In this connection, it is to be noted that the said provisions did not come out of our Chief Minister's efforts or his Ministry but from the vision of the central Government headed by

Mrs. Sonia Gandhi to upgrade India at the level of other developed countries such as USA, China etc.

On the other hand, it is unfortunate to learn that officers of certain Departments cannot execute an ideal work due to dealing of contract work under National Rural Health Mission which is election oriented. In this connection, it is important to note that more provision cannot be given unless utilization certificate is produced by the concerned Department. In dealing of work Aizawl Development Authority, I opine it is necessary to allot the work to the concerned people but not with election oriented motive.

As of economic policy laid down by MNF Party. I opine it is degrading for the party as it ended up without accomplishment and it indicates loss of confidence of the people towards the Government.

Mr. Speaker Sir, our Governor on his Republic Day speech mentioned that sufficient amount of rice has already been stocked at various selected Go-downs. In this regard, I want to criticize that it is not a season to stock grain, obviously the speech was a copy of his last years Republic Day Speech. It is, therefore, degrading for the Governor to deliver the same speech on such important occasion.

Mr. Speaker Sir, construction of tunnel was a popular issue in the House in 2004, has this matter already been finalised? It should have been pointed out.

Regarding PLMF, the Government reports entry of 804 militants in Mizoram and is even included in the Governor's speech but most of NGO's hardly believe the fact. The matter is yet to be verified. Besides, matter regarding farmer's assistance has also been pointed out in Page 4 and 5. Here, I want to say that due to lack of an ideal policy, farmer's grievances of the concerned people is not yielding up. The farmers are no longer in the condition to be used as experiment, even plan for plantation of spices ends in smoke due to lack of prospect for its marketing. Matter relating to consumers protection has also been mentioned in the speech. Here, I opine it is not appropriate to exercise Consumers Protection Right only to shopkeepers. RTI has also been applied in various cases yet no appropriate information is furnished as demanded. It is regretted that not even the demanded Xerox copy land pass in the case of Tuirial compensation has not been furnished as it involved our Chief Minister and his brothers.

We have also seen at Page 12 matter relating to joint venture of Bamboo production of the Government with Mizoram Venus Bamboo Product and Zonun Matply where the contributions made by the Government is more than half of the total amount. It is good if the Government is able to help those private firms but the problem is that no profit is made by the Government in return. It is surprising to learn that machinery of bamboo production is now used for processing Teak timber. While pointing out matter relating to Hydro Electric Project, it is questionable why the Governor did not mention any of the problems relating to Tuirial Hydro Electric Project in which the Chief Minister and his brothers are allegedly involved in the case.

Page 16, 17 and 18 pointed out sufficient provision of PMGSY fund. I opine it is a fund that encourages the practice of corruption. If Public Works Department has to take up maintenance of PMGSY, it should be done with appropriate record. I dare say that the practice of corruption within Mizoram concentrates mostly in the construction of road under PMGSY.

Last but not the least, I have to say that the Government is exercising the Total Prohibition Act to certain limitation in which no farther step is taken after reaching that limit. It indicates that there is no intention of Total enforcement of Prohibition Act to As matter relating to Greater Water Supply Phase II, it is stated that Rs.11247 lakhs has already been spent but is not completed till today. I opine this is the case that requires an Enquiry Commission.

Thank you.

PU LIANSILOVA

Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, I have to make few points while discussing our opinion on the Governor's Speech.

To a certain extent, I support the opinion of my fellow members yet it is not appropriate for the Governor to discuss the programme or financial sanction of the Government but act according to the advise of the State Government while visiting rural areas.

In dealing with matters relating to Autonomous District Council, I opine our Governor is having special discretionary power vested by 6th scheduled of the Constitution of India. But it is regretted to learn that the Governor is misusing his discretionary power towards the three Autonomous District Councils. Even though the Governor is a Constitutional head he is not suppose to involve in the local politics of the concerned Autonomous District Council. It is surprising to learn that Mara Autonomous District Council is being dissolved by the Governor. It will be much appreciated if the same mistake does not happen again in the future. Speaking of our development investment I opine it is important for the concerned authority to determine on how to deal with that matter so that it is done without partiality. For instance, Aizawl Millennium Centre is constructed with the amount of not less than 3700 lakh rupees. Here, we have to consider who in renting of a particular store and who benefitted most. It is obvious that the dealing has not been addressed to the common people. The picture of our development investment shows no regard for the common people and is deeply regretted.

As of our implementation of Agriculture and Horticulture schemes in which number of crores is involved, it will be much appreciated if investment is determined so that ordinary people are benefited. It may be taken for granted if at least 50 % of the beneficiaries consolidate their economic condition out of this fund. But it is regretted to learn that the most popular case of seems to be misuse of provision for purchase of barbed wire.

Mr. Speaker Sir, it is regretting to learn that unemployment problem has not been mentioned in the Governor's address where as more than 2000 Mizo youths are now struggling for employment outside Mizoram. It is therefore highly necessary for the Government to turn its attention for their welfare.

Last but not least, it is important for the Government to re-examine what opportunities we have given to the poor and the common people. Whatever, Mizoram Intodelh Pawl project fulfilled expectations of the concerned Marketing prospect for the families who are producing ginger and spices?

PU LALTHLEGLIANA

: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. It is pleasing that the hon'ble member Pu Lalchhandama moved motion of

Thanks on Governor's speech. I feel that even the opposition members are pleased by Governor's speech though they mentioned some points which are not reflected in the speech, but this shows that there are many achievements in this Ministry. We can see many new things within Aizawl town itself like widening of road along the Governor's compound with beautiful retaining walls, constructions of CH. Chhunga Bus Terminal at Zuangtui, Millennium Centre, the ongoing work of City Centre and Assembly annexure building, construction of quarters and office buildings within Assam Rifle's Area.

I would like to point out that it is the responsibility of the MLA's to educate the people in the fields of Agriculture and Horticulture. During Congress Ministry New Land Use Policy was introduced but it was not successful. In the same manner, bundles of GCI sheets were distributed costing crores of rupees under "Roof for all" and many were benefited under IAD. In fact most of the beneficiaries did not build houses. In the mean time, it is not practicable to write-off the loans as suggested by the hon'ble member from Ratu Constituency. However, it is announced in the House that the loans of ginger growers will be written-off. Hence, it is important for all of us to be careful in what we are saying. It is unparliamentary to emphasize things. Truly speaking, construction of 49 roads in various parts of the state is great. My constituent villages like Nghalchawm and Lengte are also now connected with good roads. Besides steps are now being taken to blacktop these roads. As good communication is one of the main factors for development, my constituent villages like Rawpuichhip, Buarpui, Rulpuihlim, Tlangquite etc. are now greatly developed. I would like to request you to see the steps taken by Agriculture Department under minor irrigation in these areas. In the mean time, I am proud to inform the House that cultivation of turmeric is very successful at Reiek. However, while there are many achievements it is regretting that some of the members used to speak provocatively. It will be a blessing for the people if we can say constructive things in this House to educate the public. I am sure even the opposition members are glad that there is a proposal to connect every District Capital with two lane roads. It is true that the Governor did not mention all the achievements of the Ministry as it is not possible for him to do so within a few hour. Hence, it is good to pass this Motion of Thanks on Governor's speech as moved by the hon'ble member Pu Lalchhandama.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: As we all know if we are to go beyond 4:00 PM. we have to take the permission of the House. It is

going to be 4:00 PM. now and there are some more members who want to speak including Opposition Group Leader and House Leader. What is the opinion of the House?

PU R. KHAWPUITHANGA

: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am glad that the hon'ble member Pu Lalchhandama moved Motion of Thanks on

Governor's speech. However, as pointed out by some of the members the Governor's speech is not perfect. In some cases even small details are highlighted/reflected and in some cases major achievements are omitted. Meanwhile, it is understood that it is not possible to mention everything in this book. In any case, it is great that the Governor delivered a

remarkable speech. In my opinion his speech 'we are all a living testimony of the rapid pace of development' includes everything. What I would like to stress is that he said the overall law and order situation in Mizoram during 2006-2007 which remain largely peaceful and under control. It is worth to mention repeatedly that there is peace in Mizoram. It is also commendable that crime rates have been decreasing by 18.85%. This shows that there can be no development without peace. Though we can not say we have 100 % peace we are the most peaceful state in North East. The main reason for this is the presence of good governance.

It is remarkable that we are among the highest in India in various categories. As such there are many achievements and on going development works in this Ministry. Hence, I support this motion and request the House to pass it.

Thank you.

PU F. LAL THANZUALA

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to say a few things. The hon'ble member from Aizawl 'S' II had pointed out about law and order situation. I also would like to mention about it as I feel it is very important in our walk of life. While some of the members are not satisfied with the wording 'largely peaceful' it is good to know that it is not possible to say completely peaceful, because we are surrounded both by international and national boundaries where there are various insurgent groups. It is natural that there may be strange incidents in this situation so it is right to say largely peaceful. The reason why we are in a peaceful state is that the morality of the Mizo's, in general, have matured. We are now aware not to defend the criminals and give necessary information to the investigating officers or persons to detect the culprits. Because of this both, the NGOs and police are working with zeal, hence the incidence of crime rates has considerably decreased by 18.85 % in 2006. So as peace is maintained in the state as mentioned by the Governor's speech we have to pass this motion of thanks not to mention other points. It is also a great advancement to have working equipments for forensic science laboratory.

In para No. 3 he said 'the production of rice have increased by 4 %' and this shows that our production in rice is quite substantial though it is not up to our expectation. It is a great progress to practise organic farming in the state which is very important for our health, and I am glad the Governor mentioned about this. It is also a good thing that Agriculture and Horticulture Department are strengthened by establishment of various laboratories like Pesticide Testing Laboratory, Biological Central Laboratory, Bio-fertilize Production Unit, Seed and Soil testing laboratory.

Mention had been made about bamboo in para no. 11. As we all know, we are blessed with abundant bamboos. It is appreciating that the Governor mentioned various steps taken by the Government of Mizoram for bamboo trades to earn regular income even for the illiterates. In the meantime, it is good to know that exploration of oil and natural gas near Hortoki by the ONGC is almost complete.

Another point I would like to mention is about Education. As it is known to all of us, we have to be proficient either in English or Hindi if we are outside Mizoram. It

is great that sanction of fund for Hindi education and appointment of 687 Primary School Hindi Teachers is now in active process in addition to 500 Primary School Hindi Teachers already appointed. A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Government and the Cambridge University of International Examination to promote English as well.

S P E A K E R : It's 4:00 PM. now. What is the opinion of the House? Shall we continue or have recess? Does the Group Leader have anything to say) Mr. Speaker Sir, I will rather stop here.

P U L A L T H A N H A W L A : Mr. Speaker Sir, though I have no reason to be grateful with the speech of the Governor, I would like to say few things. At the first instance, I appreciate his determination to adapt with our society by learning Mizo Tawng since his assumption of his office.

Regarding the speech of the Governor, we, members of this House should know that according to the Constitution, either the President or Governor is a Titular or Constitutional Head in a democratic set up. As that is the case, even their speeches are drafted by the Government and they can not change by themselves even if it is not according to their policy. It is, therefore, good to know that even the speech of our Governor is prepared like that. In the mean time, it is understood that the opposition members are expected to express their desires/inclinations. Meanwhile, it is not possible for the Government to mention/reflect all the achievements. Yet, let the Government admit this time that the Governor mentioned insignificant things while he omitted some significant warming, topics like Global Environment & Forests and about the achievements of our youths in sports. We have to understand that the opposition members are not criticizing the speech itself but express their desires as well.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate both the Government and Police Department to know that crime rate has been considerably decreased. At the same time, it is necessary to take more efforts to maintain law and order specially in Aizawl. In the past, the police used to perform their duties 24 hours by going around the city. It will be appreciated if they could do it again. It is clear that crime incidence will be less if Mobile Vans are stationed at important intersections. While it is true to state that we are the most-peaceful state in India, it is regretting that there was communal riots among Hmar brethren. It is our desire that the Government convene peace talks between these two communities.

Amidst our financial problem it is pleasing that the wages of Mizoram Home Guard Volunteers had been increased from Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 3830/- per month and the pension of World War II Veterans and the widows have also increased.

In the meantime, I would like to urge the Government to take more efforts to generate more power supply because our demand for power is greatly increasing. It will be pleasing to know the status of Tuirial Hydel Project, Tuivai Hydel Project and Bairabi Hydel Project.

There was a proposal to have an outlet/transport linkage at AKYAB which is now known as sittwe before there was Look East Policy. The RITES has already done survey for this purpose. An agreement was signed when the Indian delegations visited Rangoon. According to that agreement, the survey work is to be done in joint survey. As such the survey was done during our ministry. Now, we are happy that the Government of India has agreed to take up this project after passing decades and tries to complete within 3 years. I would like to request state Government to co-operate the centre in this matter.

We used to talk about gas and natural gas. It is good to know that exploration in two geological blocks is underway for which the concerned Central Ministry is in the process of selecting global tenderers. I, therefore, would like to urge the state Government to take steps for the success of these projects.

As already mentioned, it is not possible to highlight/reflect every thing for the Governor. However, we have to give priority to the farmers and daily labourers instead of the well-to-dos. It is clear from the list that funds already released by Central Government for BAFFACOS is amounting to 90 crore rupees only few amount had been given to the farmers while non-farmers are given larger amount. There is an instance that in a village some beneficiaries are recorded as taking money which they do not take. It is, therefore, good for the Government to ensure whether the beneficiaries are really benefited.

Right to Information Act is not mentioned in the Governor's speech. I would like to advise the Government to implement Right to Information Act bravely to root out corruption from the grass root level. Considering all these matter, I would like to conclude my speech by urging the Government to utilize our budget to benefit even the poorest of the poor without any party feelings.

Thank you.

PU ZORAMTHANGA
CHIEF MINISTER

: Thank you Hon'ble Speaker Sir.
Pu Lalchhandama Ralte has moved
Vote of Thanks on the Address of the

Governor I think we now have some ideas about it. It is very lengthy. They are informed to do as brief as possible. But it is still lengthy. It is the result of their earnestness.

The Governor is praiseworthy as the first paragraph of the Address is started with Mizo dialect although he had stayed in Mizoram for a few months only. We should thank him for that. Some members complaint that the Address is so detail and includes small details. But it is needed. Anyway, some of them will be clarified by the Hon'ble Ministers when general discussion is held. I also will say only one or two points.

First of all, BAFFACOS -I had said about it to the Planning Commission and other authority in Delhi. It is necessary to prepare ourselves against famine on ground of bamboo flowering in the State. Various Departments impart people their knowledge and plans within their respective purviews. But there is increase in rat population and paddy fields are destroyed. If we know the area/point where concentrated efforts is needed, we can then concentrate the fund there.

Next, power generation is very few in the State. It is clear that it is not adequate. Shortage of power is commonly known in India as in our State. We need only 40-50 Mega watt of power. We have sufficient power comparing to other states of India. We tried our best to solve the problems of power in the State. About seven mini Hydel Projects are under construction to produce 20 mega watt. It is financed by MNES, while Government of Mizoram take steps for construction of two Hydel Projects especially Kolodyne river and Tuivai river, strong pressure is given to the Central Government. Tuivai Project is expected to produce around 210 mega watt. The project can be easily completed, when we say Power project Iron/Stone/Cement are required which are costly. That's why the Central Government expects us to do the work with Private Public Partnership (PPP). The dam constructed with rock filled dam had difference. Dams constructed in Mizoram are mostly earth filled dam, Serlui 'B' Project is also earth filled dam. The Central Government is expected to give us grant for Serlui 'B' Project. We expect the grant to be sanctioned within one year. If the grant is received, Tuivai Project that will produce 210 mega watt may be completed easily.

The Kolodyne river in the South is irrigable upto Kaletwa from Akyab. We are now taking step for the approach road. The Prime Minister Office monitor the meeting. After that, agreement is to be signed with the Government of Myanmar (Burma). Answering to my question, they expect to implement the work easily. Jairam Ramesh, Minister of Commerce has made a strong pressure for the success of the intended agreement. But Myanmar Government has to be consulted and their cooperation is needed. It is now expected that the MOU would be signed in the near future.

Regarding incoming fund from the Central Government. It is true that it is Central policy matter. But it is needed to utilize for development speedily by the State Government, without demand, no fund can be had easily like providing food to a baby. In order to be a developed country three or four years will not do. It requires a century. Europeans needed more than a century. But we are fortunate to be a developed country for we are in a computer age. Now, the world favours us for it. The former Ministry (Congress) too tried to develop the State through NLUP. But if transportation is not good it is meaningless. We also could not develop properly. The production of passion fruit is selected. It has, now improvement slightly. But we have marketing problem if the preservation is done by means of chemical preservation, we need to have machines. It is to be purchased from Italy. Now, it is planted. We would be able to process the passion fruit fit for marketing. Regarding bamboo road tour, the period of co-ordination with the authority in Delhi is too long. We received Rs. 60 crores last year. The construction of the road has been completed and at that time the bamboo have been flowering. The bamboo machine is readied for production but the bamboos were already dried up. I told them the period of coordination is too long. They also accepted that the period of concerning was too long. But as it appeared in the Governor's Address the steps taken by the Ministry is to be imparted to the people, machine is used instead of bullocks, the production will be more in the paddy field. If the flat land of the State is properly developed we can achieve self-sufficiency in food production. But now, we have a close relationship with them and have a good cooperation with them. Anyway we are blessed from the Central Government. There is therefore a great hope for the State. Let us therefore, give our thanks for this Address of the Governor.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: Let us call upon Pu Lalchhandama Ralte to wind up the discussion and to beg leave to pass in this august House.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE

: Thank you hon'ble Speaker Sir. The discussion of Motion of Thanks has been made satisfactorily. The members in the House discussed the Motion of Thanks warmly. It is very pleasing as the hon'ble members were saying the same words of thanks. It is therefore unnecessary to wind up the speeches. I, therefore, request the Hon'ble members to pass it without any complaint.

Thank you.

S P E A K E R

: The hon'ble Member Pu Lalchhandama Ralte wound up the discussion and begged the House to pass it. Do you agree with it? (The vote of thanks is voted and passed). Now, the business of the House for today have been finished. We will have a recess. The business of the House will be resumed again at 10:30 AM. Tomorrow.

Sitting Adjourned at 4:47 PM.