

**FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MIZORAM  
( TENTH SESSION )**

**LIST OF BUSINESS  
FOR THIRTEENTH SITTING ON THURSDAY, THE 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH , 2007.  
( Time : 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM )**

**PRESENT**

Speaker at the Chair, Chief Minister, Deputy Speaker, 11 Ministers and 24 Members were present.

**QUESTION**

1. **QUESTIONS** entered in separate list to be asked and oral answers given

**LAYING OF PAPERS**

2. **PU ZORAMTHANGA** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2006 in respect of the Government of Mizoram.
3. **PU TAWNLUIA** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of correction of reply to Unstarred Question No. 168 put by Pu Zodintluanga on 26.3.2007.
4. **PU H. VANLALAUVA** to lay on the Table of the House a copy of "Orders of the Governor of Mizoram ( Under paragraph 16 of the sixth schedule to the Constitution)".

**LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS**

**Bill for introduction**

5. **PU H. RAMMAWI** to beg leave of the House to introduce " The Mizoram Compulsory Registration of Marriages Bill, 2007".

**ALSO**

**to introduce the Bill**

6. **Dr LALZAMA** to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2007".

**ALSO**  
**to introduce the Bill**

**BILL FOR CONSIDERATION AND PASSING**

7. **PU H. RAMMAWI** to move that the "The Court Fees (Mizoram Amendment) (Amendment) Bill, 2007 be taken into consideration.

**AND**  
**to move that the Bill be passed.**

8. **PU ZORAMTHANGA**, Chief Minister to move that "The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007" be taken into consideration.

**AND**  
**to move that the Bill be passed.**

**SPEAKER** : The desire of the righteous ends only in good ; the expectation of the wicked is wrath.

Proverbs 11 : 23

**PU R. LALZIRLIANA** : Pu Speaker, here is my question for favour of answer to be given by hon'ble Minister Public Health Engineering Department. Starred Question No. 201.

- (a) Number of Public Water Tanky made in Lungchhuan ?
- (b) Whether the work is done departmentally or through the contractors ?
- (c) If it is done by the latter, may the concerned Contractor's names and address be furnished ?

(d) Whether tender for the work had been flown ?

(e) If so, when ?

S P E A K E R : Minister Public Health Engineering Department to answer the questions.

P U T A W N L U I A : Mr Speaker, to answer the question  
M I N I S T E R (a) Construction of Public Water Tanky of Lungchhuan village is done to the tune of Rs.44,10,000/- (b) Certain portions of the work is of departmental and the other is given to contractors. (c) The contractors are as follows : -

- (i) Sangluta of Lungchhuan. Construction of slow Sand Filters Rs.2,80,000/-
- (ii) Thangmawia of Lungchhuan. Construction of Security Fencing of Impounding Dam Rs.2,79,000/-
- (iii) Thanzuala of Lungchhuan. Construction of Stone Masonry Chamber at Lungchhuan ( 4 Nos.) Rs.31,000/-
- (iv) Sawikunga of Lungchhuan. Construction of cement concrete (Platform) (9 Nos.). The bill for which is yet to be paid.

(d) The work is done without being tendered.

(e) No need to answer as it is done so as mentioned.

P U R . L A L Z I R L I A N A : Mr Speaker, my main question is construction of Public Water Tank of Lungchhuan village. It is learnt that this departmental work is given as sub-contract/agent to Pu Sangchhuana whose completed work fails to serve the purpose. Whether this work has already been repaired ? Mr Speaker Sir, the main reason for this failure seems to be an absence of appropriate supervisor. The concerned Minister may please look into this with immediate effect.

P U D . T H A N G L I A N A : Mr Speaker ; it is appreciated that member from Saitual constituency is making question of the problem within my constituency. In this regard, I would also like to mention that the construction itself could be taken for granted yet, the main problem is caused by poor condition of soil of this area. I, therefore, earnestly request the concerned Minister to give priority to this problem as the need for water is excessively high.

PU H. VANLALTHALIANA : Mr Speaker, I supposed my question is relevant to the main question. Is there any plan to clear up unpaid bill for trucks who supplied water under Public Health Engineering during dry season ?

PU LALDUHOMA : Mr Speaker, in reply to my question, the concerned Minister clarified that alternative arrangement is made by the department regarding contract work allotted to Pu M.C.Fala even though no work is executed. In this connection, I want to ask the amount of work and how did the department make such arrangement ?

PU S.HIATO : Mr Speaker Sir, there are member of complaints above destruction of pipe line due to construction of road under PMGSY and the concerned Minister have mentioned that an order has already been issued in that regard. The problem is that no pipe is being replaced to enable Public Health Engineering labourers to continue their works and this results in scarcity of water supply in certain places. My question is - to what extend step is being taken by the concerned authority to reduce the problem ?

PU TAWNLUIA : Answer to supplementary question Mr MINISTER Speaker. The contract work in question is amounting to Rs 44 lakhs. In this regard, I must say that the quality of Dam construction itself is not that poor as mentioned. Yet the floor has not been concreted and the concerned Engineers too admitted the failure. In fact, there is a plan for the repair within the year 2007-2008.

In reply to the question of a member from Lawngtlai constituency, we have seen in the budget that Rs.129 lakhs is allotted for expenditure of the department out of which 80 lakhs is meant for payment of unpaid due. Hopefully, all outstanding bill of the department will be cleared-up by the new financial year. Besides, 40 lakhs rupees has also been allotted for supply of water in special consideration zones.

As an advanced payment of Bill to Pu M.C. Thanga for renovation of Tanky at Tuikhuahtlang, the amount has already been returned as per arrangement made by the department. The work is now being taken up departmentally and is expected to be completed by the month of April.

About destruction of pipeline, it is true that there has been so much complaint about it and it happened to be of a major problem for the department. In this regard instruction has already been given to the concerned officers to obtain co-ordination of Public Works Department so as to alleviate mutual problems of the two departments and I will look into the matter.

Mr Speaker, a copy of the amount withdrawn/returned by the concerned contractor will be furnished later here in the House.

S P E A K E R : Starred Question No.202 to be asked by Pu Saikapthianga.

P U S A I K A P T H I A N G A : Mr Speaker, Starred Question No. 202. During the year 2007, how many High Schools have been provincialised by the Government ?

D r R . L A L T H A N G L I A N A : Mr Speaker, there are 10 Adhoc Aided MINISTERSchools that have not yet been provincialised yet there is a plan to do so during the year 2007.

P U H . R O H L U N A : Supplementary question Mr Speaker. It is learnt that there are number of private schools ran by teachers of Government Schools. Is this against the rules ? If not, will action be taken ?

P U L A L D U H O M A : Mr Speaker, I have already mentioned here in the House the need of Headmaster for Middle School Kepran for which the concerned teachers and students even observe prayer meeting more than a couple of time. Yet, it is sad that the concerned Minister does not react to this matter in his speech. How will the Government deal with the matter ?

Secondly, how many students are we having at Sainik School Imphal ? Is it true that the concerned parents are spending large amount of money due to excessive outstanding but of our Government to this School.

Lastly, is there any intention to increase Grant-in-Aid to Aided School ? If so, when will it be effective ?

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Mr Speaker, in this connection it is pointed out that at least 10 schools is planned for up-gradation as soon as provision is available. In the meantime, is it also possible to upgrade the basic pay of teachers of schools under Grant-in-Aid system ?

S P E A K E R : The concerned Minister to give the answer.

Dr R.LALTHANGLIANA : Mr Speaker, answer to the question relating to Sainik may be furnished later on Monday as I can not do it instantly since the matter is hardly relevant to the main question. As for the question of Middle School Kepran, Pu Lalbiakzama had recently been transferred from Lungmuat Middle School and I have not received any information whether he have joined his post or not.

PU SAILOTHANGA SAILO : Mr Speaker, I want to request the concerned Minister to post back the said teachers at Lungmuat as insufficiency of staff is deeply felt.

Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA : Mr Speaker, arrangement will be made so that our schools as a whole are not suffering and in the same way, we will look into the problem pointed out by Pu Sailothanga Sailo.

The question of Pu H.Rohluna relating to Private School ran by lecturers/teachers under Government, I have not received any information of who are involved in that case, since it is done usually by the name of their close relatives. If there is any, we will look into the matter as it is not permissible.

Regarding the question raised by Pu Lalduhoma regarding increase of Grant-in-Aid to Government Aided School, we are having 200 schools for upgradation and are intended to provide lumpsum for Adhoc Grant-in-Aids of half-pay allowance of basic pay. Besides, those schools are expected to receive provisions of Building grant. Presently, this has not yet been finalized.

As for the main question put forward by Pu Saikapthianga, I want to make few points that in addition 10 Adhoc/Aided High Schools, there are 38 Middle Schools who are in the same condition and are intended to be maintained as per basic pay half allowance school. It is to be noted that the Government is intended to upgrade the aforesaid schools to Adhoc/ Grant-in-Aid school.

As already pointed out, we are having certain deficit schools such as St. Pauls High School, Synod School, Seventh Day Adventist School and Modern School who are not depending totally on the Government as they are hesitant to hand themselves over to the Government. Hence, they are put under the maintenance of Board yet, it is a common desire of the concerned teachers to work under the maintenance of Government. We are, therefore determining how to deal with this problem keeping in mind the need for not involving too much in their affairs.

**SPEAKER** : It seems that the desire of those schools is to avail the pay of Government school teachers but maintenance of their respective schools in their own hands.

**Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA  
MINISTER** : That is true Mr Speaker. They seem to hesitate to hand over their respective schools to the Government and they are having reasonable stand-points. But keeping in mind their future of not having pension benefit etc. they deserved compassion on humanitarian ground. Hence, the Government determines how to deal with the problem.

**PU LALHMINGTHANGA** : Mr Speaker, I was informed by VCP Thiltlang this morning that the people are desperate to have upgraded Science teacher as well as Mathematics teacher for their school. It is regretted that the appointed teacher is not a Science graduate and the students are suffering intensely. It may be pleasing if action is taken immediately.

**PU R.LALZIRLIANA** : Mr Speaker, there is only one Government High School in my constituency Saitual and we are facing various problems since Saitual is not of a commercial centre. Yet, there is one good Private High School which may kindly be placed for provincialisation by the concerned Minister along with other schools. Besides, I would like to point out that Saitual High School is one of the oldest High Schools in Mizoram yet its building is very poor comparing to others. It will be much appreciated if the Government determines construction of a new building.

**PU K. LALRINLIANA** : Thank you Mr Speaker. What I would like to mention relating to this matter is that within my constituency Kolasib, there are 2 Adhoc Aided schools and purely Private High School where as lumpsum grant is given to the latter School on certain occasions. It is, therefore a problem for the concerned board to maintain these schools. It will be much appreciated if they are included in the list of those which will be provincialised.

**Dr R. LALTHANGLIANA** : Mr Speaker, In reply to the question of **MINISTER** Pu Hminga, I have to point out that one teacher from this School is selected in the MCS in the Departmental examination and Headmaster of this High School has been moved to other school and it is true that they are having problem as pointed out by Pu Hminga. This school is therefore, put in the list which will soon be provided with new Teacher as soon as new appointment of 20 teachers is made.

Regarding the point raised by a member from Saitual constituency, the said school is included in the list to be taken up under elementary universalisation of Elementary Education Project. As for provincialisation of School, it is not possible to give direct provincialisation to any school except to those of 10 Aided Schools which has already been selected. In doing so, selection cannot be based on seniority but on the quality and performance of the concerned school.

Regarding the request of Pu Lalrinliana of Kolasib constituency, I opine priority should be given to the said area as there are only 2 Schools, one Private school and no Higher Secondary. As for upgradation of one Private School and 2 Aided Schools, they are already being included in the list.

**PU H. VANLALTHALIANA** : Mr Speaker, Starred Question No. 203. - (a) What crop is selected as an alternative to Rice due to Mautam Famine ? (b) Will the seeds be made available in time ?

**PU H. RAMMAWI** : Mr Speaker, here is answer to Starred **MINISTER** Question No. 203. (a) During the year 2007 - 2008, there is a plan for concentration on plantation of turmeric and concerned farmers have also been encouraged to give concentration on one particular plantation. (b) The concerned seed has already been distributed to certain farmers yet it will be continued as necessary.



PU ANDREW LALHERLIANA : Mr Speaker, relating to this matter, I want to mention that even though encouragement is given to farmers to take up plantation of turmeric, no clear-cut point is given for marketing of the product. Not only turmeric, plantation of other varieties such as Jatropha has also been encouraged by the Government without pre-determination for disposal of the product. What I would like to mention in this relation is that production of ginger, the market of which is available has been ignored. I opine it is important for the Government to encourage plantation of a variety, for which market has already been found. Will it be possible ?

PU H.ROHLUNA : Mr Speaker, how many families have been affected by upsurge of rats due to Mautam during the year 2006. Whether the Government has taken survey in this regard ? What is the amount of expenditure for the relief of those affected family ? If there is not any, is there any plan to do so ?

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker, supplementary question, it is learnt that turmeric is being collected from inside and outside the state. What is the amount of collection from inside Mizoram and how many have already been issued to the concerned farmers ?

Secondly, it is learnt that the Government is making a major policy to combat Mautam famine such as of plantation of Red oil Palm. In the meantime, there is a problem for the concerned planters to put the heavy seeds to their respective plantation areas. May the concerned Department deliver at the place of plantation so as to relief their problem.

PU K.LALRINLIANA : Mr Speaker, it seems that the Government is concentrating only on marketing of oil palm, jatropha, turmeric and passion fruit. where as our farmers produced large amount of ginger and potato as a result of encouragement from the Government. It may as well be wise to select the said varieties as alternative items to combat Mautam famine.

SPEAKER : The concerned Minister to answer the question.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr Speaker, in reply to the question of  
MINISTER marketing of turmeric production, the  
Government carefully categorises the  
production in three ways such as (a) for  
consumption (b) for cosmetic (c) for medicine depending on the processing.  
Presently, plantation has not yet been carried out and it will be done soon.

As for the question of Pu H.Rohluna, heavy loss faced by our  
farmers due to various agents and destruction of crops, according to our survey report  
is amounting to Rs.7,03,71,850/- yet it can still increase after collection of the full  
report.

PU H. ROHLUNA : Mr Speaker, my question is of number  
of affected families, their relief fund  
which is supposed to be determined by  
Planning.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr Speaker, since the question concern  
MINISTER with turmeric production, I am giving  
the answer. As the department of  
Agriculture I am not prepared for the  
answer relating to number of affected families. As for the question of Pu  
Saikapthianga, the amount collected from local production is amounting to 21,527.13  
quintals where as collection from outside which has already been checked and  
verified by NGOs such as MUP, YMA and AMFU amounts to 18,670 quintals.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker, if the said amount is  
collected from outside, from where they  
are collected ? From which state and  
which Corporation ? Is it a collection  
from private producers ?

PU H. RAMMAWI : Mr Speaker, the department float  
MINISTER quotation and is applied from various  
places and we have no witness regarding  
the source of each supply.

As for the question of amount of Oil-palm seed which has  
already been supplied so far, what I have to say is our NGO team distributed as soon  
as it is available.

PU LALTHLENGLIANA : Mr Speaker, what is the variety of  
turmeric seed received from outside ?  
If the variety is of Lakadong or else, I  
am afraid that it is being ignored after  
the quality is identified. May the concerned authority verify the quality ?

PU H. RAMMAWI MINISTER : Mr Speaker, the matter concerns with experts from the Spice board. Regarding suggestion of Pu Saikapthianga relating to assistance to the concerned farmers, any subsidized provision available for them is being provided and it will be continued.

PU SAIKAPTHIANGA : Mr Speaker, due to the distance of the place to deliver their Oil-palm seed certain families can make only once in a day and they hardly have the time to pursue their works. May the Government determine to alleviate their problem ?

PU H. RAMMAWI MINISTER : Mr Speaker, for this season, assessment is made in compact areas with predetermination of its communication conveniences. Mr Speaker, we will try our best to accomplish the project.

PU K. LALRINLIANA : Mr Speaker, what about my question about plantation of winter crops and Soya bean ?

PU H. RAMMAWI MINISTER : Mr Speaker, there is a determination to take up winter crops in all the fields of Kolasib areas and the harvest crops be stored at Vairengte food storage. In the same way, there is a plan for construction of food storage at Champhai and Mamit for the same purpose.

SPEAKER : Starred Question No. 204 and Pu K.Lalrinliana to ask.

PU K. LALRINLIANA : Mr Speaker, here is my question answer may be given by the concerned Minister of Prison Department. Starred Question No. 204 - Is there any plan to upgrade Kolasib District Jail ?

**S P E A K E R** : Pu H. Vanlalaiva, the concerned Minister to give the answer.

**PU H. VANLALAUVA  
MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, in pursuance of the plan to upgrade the said District Jail, more buildings are now under construction. As already stated in the demand discussion, there are more than 139 inmates in the capacity for 80 and the main reason is lack of site for extension so as to accommodate the whole inmates. We have been looking for conveniency with the concerned MLA Pu Lalrinliana so as to accomplish plan for extension.

**S P E A K E R** : Our business for question and answer is now over, coming to the next business, laying of Papers, may I call upon Pu Zoramthanga our Chief Minister and concerned Minister for finance to lay on the Table of the House, the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2006 in respect of the Government of Mizoram.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA  
CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, with your permission and of the House I now lay on the Table of the House, the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2006 in respect of the Government of Mizoram.

**S P E A K E R** : Let the copy be distributed to the members. I now call upon Pu Tawnluia, Minister for Home to lay the Papers of correction of the answer for Unstarred Question No. 168 on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2007 put forward by our fellow member Pu Zodintluanga.

**PU TAWNLUIA  
MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I hereby lay on the Table of the House correction of answer to Unstarred Question No. 168 on 26.3.2007.

**S P E A K E R** : Let the copy be distributed. Pu H. Vanlalaauva, the hon'ble Minister may now lay a copy on the Table of the House, "Order of the Governor of Mizoram under para 16 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution"

**PU H. VANLALAUVA  
MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, with your permission and of the House, I hereby lay on the Table of the House copy of "Order of the Governor of Mizoram under para 16 of the 6<sup>th</sup> Schedule to the Constitution".

**S P E A K E R** : Moving now to our next list of Business we will now take up Legislative Business Introduction of Bill. Before that, copy of Paper laid by Pu H. Vanlalaauva be distributed to the members. Two Ministers are willing to introduce Bill. To start with, let me call upon Pu H. Rammawi, hon'ble Minister to beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Compulsory Registration of Marriage Bill, 2007".

**PU H. RAMMAWI  
MINISTER** : Mr hon'ble Speaker, with your kind permission and of the House I now beg leave of the House to introduce "The Mizoram Compulsory Registration of Marriage Bill, 2007".

**S P E A K E R** : Do we agree? If so, he may now introduce the Bill.

**PU H. RAMMAWI  
MINISTER** : Mr hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your permission I do hereby introduce "The Mizoram Compulsory Registration of Marriage Bill, 2007".

**S P E A K E R** : "The Mizoram Compulsory Registration of Marriage Bill, 2007 has been introduced. The copy had been laid on the Table of the House the day before. The Bill shall be considered early.

Dr Lalzama, Minister desires to introduce "The Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition (Amendment) Bill,2007" to the House. Let me call upon him to beg permission.

Dr LALZAMA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I beg the permission of the MINISTER House to introduce "The Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2007" in the House.

S P E A K E R : Do you agree with him? Yes, he has been given permission. Let us call him to introduce the Bill.

Dr LALZAMA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your kind permission and of the House I introduce MINISTER "The Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2007" to the House.

S P E A K E R : "The Mizoram Liquor Total Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2007" has been introduced to the House. The copy had already been laid on the Table of the House the day before ; It will be considered as early as possible.

Now, we have two Bills to be considered. Let us call upon Pu H.Rammawi to beg the House to consider "The Court Fee, Mizoram Amendment (Amendment) Bill, 2007" as it had already been introduced on 19.3.2007.

If we agree with him let us call him to move the Bill.

PU H. RAMMAWI : Thank you Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the name of the Bill, what I have to move is "The Court Fee, Mizoram Amendment (Amendment) Bill, 2007". The Court Fees Act, 1870 is the main Act. All states applied this Act to amend the said Act to comply with the position of the state. We, the Mizoram state, too adopted this Act in 1996.

In short, the Central Government amended Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. As the provision of this amendment bill is to be settled by means of Lok Adalat as far as possible, central Government too, had amended the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) 1908. In this connection, Supreme Court too issued direction to the lower Court to settle any case through Lok Adalat by way of reconciliation of the two parties. In any case at Court have court fee of Rs.375/- Rs. 1,98,800/- while Rs. 5,000/- is fixed in Mizoram. If the two

parties have reconciliation on their own agreement by talking face to face the Court fee should be returned/ refunded to the plaintiff from the Collector. That is to be provided in the Court fee, Mizoram (Amendment) Bill, 1996. It is therefore inserted under Section 4 of the said Bill, like this " where the Court refers the parties to the suit to anyone of the mode of settlement of dispute refer to in Section 89 of the Code of the Civil Procedure, 1908 and the matter is settled accordingly, the plaintiff shall be entitled to a Certificate from the Court authorizing him to receive back from the collector the full amount he had paid in respect of such pledge". That is all.

Hon'ble Speaker sir, there is no much to speak about it. I do hope that the House may pass it after due consideration. Thank you Sir.

S P E A K E R : Anyone have to speak about it ?

P U L A L D U H O M A : Hon'ble Speaker, as it is the direction of the Supreme Court of India, it is to be passed immediately.

P U L A L H M I N G T H A N G A : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we also welcome the Bill. The Supreme Court directed to comply with the Customary law of our state. We, therefore, agree to pass it.

P U R . L A L Z I R L I A N A : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we also agree with it.

S P E A K E R : It is very pleasing. Let us call upon the Hon'ble House Leader.

P U Z O R A M T H A N G A :  
C H I E F M I N I S T E R : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it is good to pass it without further discussion as it is the Supreme Court Order.

S P E A K E R : O. K. It is pleasing that we all agree with the Bill. I think the mover of the Bill too will have nothing to say but only "Thank you".

P U H . R A M M A W I :  
M I N I S T E R : Thank you Mr Speaker Sir.

S P E A K E R : Normally, we have to do voting. Now the Bill will be voted. (The Bill is voted and passed). The Court Fee (Mizoram Amendment) (Amendment) Bill, 2007 is passed by the House.

Now, we will have to consider the next Bill. Pu Zoramthanga, Hon'ble Chief Minister had already begged the House to introduce the Bill on 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2007. The copy also had been laid on the Table of the House and given to the Hon'ble Members. He also begged the House to introduce the amendment Bill which had been published in the Bulletin No. 2-181 on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2007. Now, I will call him to introduce the Bill to the House.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I introduce "The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007" to the House.

S P E A K E R : Let us call him to beg the House for consideration.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Mr Speaker Sir, with your kind permission I beg the House to consider "The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007".

S P E A K E R : Do you agree with him? Yes, if we agree, let us call him to move the Bill.

PU ZORAMTHANGA CHIEF MINISTER : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, the Bill takes a long time for its preparation and it is very thick. Although it is thick there may be some provision left out or incomplete. Besides, necessary amendment, there are some typing mistakes especially on pages 46,49 and 51. 'District Commission' is to be changed with District Magistrate. It will be very pleasing if we make correction on those pages.

The Municipal Bill is a must as Mizoram becomes more and more developed and the city and big towns needed better administrative system. We have District Council from Village Chiefship and the city is now under the District Council. While urban development project was formulated the central government drafted a guideline by which fiscal position and facilities are to be administered by



local party represented by various representatives of urban people. Before this Bill, Municipality Bill had been laid on the Table of the House many times. After many years The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007 is born. This Bill is divided into three big towns of the state can apply it. The first one includes board having more than 50,000 people. The Board will consist of 5 to 6 Members. Secondly, Municipality Counsellor needs to be there for more than one and a half lakh. The Council members will be called Counsellor. The number of Counsellor will be 11-23 Counsellors. More than 5 lakhs of people shall have corporation, the number of members will be fixed at 15-31 members. If the town is District headquarter, it can form the Board. Therefore, each town will have a Board or Council or Corporation as early as possible if the Municipality Bill, 2007 is passed.

In Aizawl city, let me say, the Chairman shall be elected by the Executive Members who were elected by each local bodies. The Rules of election shall be framed by the State Election Commission. The works and duties of the Municipality Members provided in the Bill, will not be possible to carry out immediately after the first election. The duties of the Municipality shall be fixed by the Government of Mizoram in the first stage as it is like a new body. If the duty of the Municipal, set by the State Government is too difficult, the task will be hand over to the State Government as proposed.

In this connection, I would like to point out that the duties of the Municipality would not be mixed up with the duties of the Aizawl Development Authority set up by the State Government. The works and duties will be formulated by the State Government from time to time.

In regards to Recruitment Rules, each Board/Council/ Corporation will have separate Recruitment Rules and separate staff in different places. Next to this, the Recruitment Rules may collectively be made from the Municipality. At present, staffing and recruitment rules will not be taken up, the state government will make arrangement for deployment of staff for the time being.

There is much duties to be carried out by the Municipality like cleanliness of the city/town, local administration. Meeting will be held monthly. And a circle of each Executive Member also shall have Executive Body at the local area just like a Village Council. Such local body will be headed by each Executive Member.

Hon'ble Speaker, it is difficult to make law/rules without any criticism. If there are some mistake or inadequate provision it shall be noted down and clarify at a time as far as possible. I, therefore, request all Hon'ble Members to consider the Bill and pass it now. Thank you.

SPEAKER : Have you to clarify about the amendment portion?

PU ZORAMTHANGA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I had spoken about  
CHIEF MINISTER : some mistakes and now ' District  
Commission' printed on pages No. 46,  
49 and 51 are to be printed 'District  
Magistrate'. That's all.

SPEAKER : That may be regarded as patent error.  
The Bill will be discussed as it had been  
moved by the Leader of the House.  
Each Member will take 15 minutes for  
the discussion. Who will start the discussion ? Yes, Pu H. Liansailova.

PU H. LIANSILOVA : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, it is very pleasing  
that this Government could lay on the  
table of the House " The Mizoram  
Municipality Bill, 2007 " on this day. It seemed  
that we are laying a mile stone in the history of Mizoram.

In regard to Municipalities, the educated persons who are interested in it do their best both in Lunglei District and Aizawl District. The provision of the Bill has been drafted. I appreciate their earnestness although they are not sitting in the Government machinery. I feel that we remember to co-operate the government if it is for the welfare of the state as we do now in the formation if Municipality Bill. As it is a new Bill affecting many people, I think all the concerned people should approach such new things in good faith. The Village Council system is now to be changed by Municipalities, one must adjust himself to comply with the new administrative system.

Regarding the provision of the Bill I have nothing to say about it. Any way, on page 14 section 29 " a citizen of India " seemed to be omitted. On section 256 "distress" appears, but it seemed that it meant distrust. That also may need correction. Anyway, the bill is detail in form. There may also be other mistakes, but correction can be made now and then it may also be allowed to make new entry when the bill is applied. In short, the Bill is good to pass on this day. Thank you.

PU LALDUHOMA : Hon'ble Speaker, although this Bill is a  
great blessing to the House but it is not  
fully pleasing for the opposition groups.  
We had said that Aizawl Development  
Authority is not good enough for the state, it is preferable to have Municipal Bill. But the treasury bench passed it by means of majority votes. But now it has been brought to the table of the House compulsorily. The reason is that the State Government is afraid of fund lapsing from JNNURM. The ruling party said that Aizawl Development will not be contrary to the will of the JNNURM. But the ADA could

not receive fund from JNNURM of the Central Government. It is not so pleasing to pass it as the authority concerned did not give ear to our suggestion and proposal.

I think Aizawl Development Authority will be contradictory to the Municipality Bill when funds from JNNURM come, I am afraid that the authority will divide the fund between the ADA and the Municipality. If so, it is better to abolish Aizawl Development Authority because there may be dual power in regard to land acquisition in the city. In fact, we do not need Aizawl Development Authority if this bill is passed by the House on this day.

Again, as I said before, I am afraid that the fund received from JNNURM will be distributed among the three Departments like, Aizawl Development Authority, Department of Urban Development and the Municipal Board. I feel that the fund received from JNNURM be handed over in the hands of the Municipal Board totally.

Mr Speaker Sir, even the audit Rules has provision for proper utilization of fund under JNNURM. The audit Rules for local fund and account Act has also been passed last year to get rid off corruption in the state. I would like to say that we have to follow such rules strictly, the bill itself is good, no Members are opposing to the bill. I therefore, request the authority to improve and accomplish the Bill and pass it immediately. Thank you.

PU LALCHHANDAMA RALTE : Thank you Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I am very happy to speak about one of the most important topics for the State which is " The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007. It appears that this Bill would solve the problems of centralization of power in the state. The great differences between MLA and Village Council will be solved and there will be decentralization of power in the state. The most important thing that pleased me is the Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007 not only "The Aizawl Municipality Bill, 2007. That means all towns in the State will have Municipality Board or Council or Corporation . This Bill may be inadequate and incomplete but if the Governor could give us consent that will do for the state for the time being.. One of my happiness is that MLA will have such Members of Board/Council/Corporation to cooperate with them for more progressive development of urban areas.

Municipality is provided under the 12<sup>th</sup> scheduled of the Constitution of India. I feel that all provisions under the said Schedule is not to be bestowed on the members of the Municipality at once. The provisions given by the Constitution should be applied one by one by the state Government so that we may achieve effective administration in the Municipality. One thing I would like to highlight is that NewYork Mayor is far more responsible and more famous than the Government when World Trade Centre was attacked. Now, we are to have such local body to be responsible for town administration in the state. In short, we are

to pass a very good Bill for the state I feel that we have cooperation in this regard ignoring our political differences.

Regarding the purviews of Aizawl Development Authority and the Municipality the state Government will decide the cases through the Constitution of India and comparing the provisions of the rules in the Bill. The Municipality is appeared to be concerned with the administrative system of the towns/cities..

And we know that there will be a number of ward consisting of 2/3 Village Councils which shows that there shall be local administrative body whether Village Council system is abolished or not.

Anyway, it is good to have Municipality in the state for the state Government could receive funds from Central Government as a development fund. I therefore, request the hon'ble members to pass this Bill without any criticism as it is the primary need of the state. Thank you.

**S P E A K E R** : Now, 1:00 P.M. is at hand, we will have a recess and resume the discussion at 2:00 P.M.

Sitting adjourned at 12 : 55 P.M.

**2 : 00 P.M.**

**S P E A K E R** : We will resume our business. Pu Liansuama.

**P U L I A N S U A M A** : Mr Speaker Sir, it is a great privilege that we are now considering the Mizoram Municipality Bill. It was first introduced in 1998 but not mature due to the No-confidence motion. I am happy that we now have a more comprehensive bill than the previous one introduced by the then hon'ble Local Administration Department Minister, Pu S.T.Rualyapa.

In the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Indian Constitution during the Prime Ministership of Mr P.V.Narasimha Rao provisions were made for the Municipality Bill and Pachayati Raj for local governing bodies in rural areas. Several states have implemented it. We have Village Council since 1953 for this purpose. Although the rules may not be complete as desired, it is a good thing that we

are able to have a local elected body in the form of Municipal Council in Aizawl, Lunglei and District Capitals. Mr Speaker, in this very Session itself, we have frequently heard of dissatisfaction with the management of our Aizawl City. In Bangalore and other cities, there are proper guidelines for constructing houses leaving adequate space from the boundary. It is pleasing that we are going to have a body which will take up such problems. Our Government is wise to have formed a Committee on this under the Chairmanship of the Local Administration Department Minister representing all parties. I am honoured to be a member of this Committee alongwith hon'ble MLA Pu Andrew Lalherliana from ZNP, hon'ble MLA from Aizawl North-II Pu H.Liansailova from Congress Party and senior member Pu Lalhmingthanga from MPC. I would further like to elaborate on what hon'ble member from Aizawl North-II has mentioned regarding the electoral roll in section 29 and 30. We considered using the Village Council electoral roll. However, after considering the pros and cons, we opted for the electoral roll used in the MLA and MP elections. So, registration and disqualification of voters as it appears in section 29 and 30 of page 14 is based on Representation of the People Act, 1950. Since it is based on Representation of People Act, foreigner or non-citizen of India and abnormal persons will not be registered as voters.

As already explained by our House Leader who also introduced this Bill, in any event of clash/contradictory rules with the Aizawl Development Authority, the Act will separate the other. Moreover, when this Bill becomes an Act, the rules will be reformulated and revised covering all the shortcomings.

Local Administration Department who prepared the Bill re-employed a retired officer Pu L.T.Thankhuma and gave him enough time for preparation. All the good points of Municipal rules used in different states have been incorporated in this Bill. So, it could be the best Municipal Bill in India. Another point of its uniqueness is that the rules can be easily amended by the Government. So, this Bill must be the most self-supporting Bill ever introduced in Mizoram. Despite this, any defect can be amended by ways of Private member bill, and Government Bill. So, this Bill is quite noble.

Mr Speaker, as mentioned before, the concerned Local Administration Department had convened the Sub-Committee sitting two or three times. We had clause by clause study of it the department officers are also thorough with it. So, let's make this Bill functional quickly, our state needs it. This will open doors for local political aspirants.

Hon'ble member from Ratu has assumed that the Bill is prepared hastily in a hope of receiving funds from the Central Government under JNNURM, whatever the reason might be, this Bill is good for our state. This will look into the problems of the drainage system, water supply, maintenance of roads etc. in Aizawl, Lunglei and other towns. Their power will be manifold. The State Government will also gradually increase its power. On the other hand, it's a pity that we have to part with the Village Council institution. It is desirable that its

replacement, word 'Committee' take over the various powers including the court function regarding our customary laws. So, I express my support for this Municipal Bill, 2007 to go through. Thank you.

PU LALHMINGTHANGA : Thank you. Mr Speaker. I want to thank our House Leader, our Local Administration Department Minister and other officials for their efforts for bringing up 'The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007' in this House. I am also included in the Sub-Committee. I would like to mention that we, the Legislature Party deeply support this Bill when our party was in power and when our Leader Brig. T.Sailo was the Chief Minister, a Sub-Committee was formed for Aizawl and Lunglei. Steps were taken to some extent. However, since we were under Union Territory and a declared 'disturbed area' things were difficult. We were unable to accomplish anything during our term. The successive Government continued to work on it. It's great that it has finally materialized and it's the need of the hour.

This Bill is comprehensive in the sense that it takes into consideration not only this Aizawl city but other towns which are poised to become bigger and more developed. Besides, it takes into account the Municipality rules practiced in several cities. So, this is a unique bill. Another attribute of it worth mentioning is the decentralization of power which come along with it. Once enforced, this Act will enhance the development of our cities and better administration and management of resources.

It is apparent from the history of mankind that whenever there are changes in the political, administrative and educational set up, the social life and spiritual aspect of our society are affected. We have been following Village Council system for 50 years. The NGOs and religious groups of the youth like KTP and TKP follow the same political boundary. This act will abolish the present boundary and a new ward of boundary will be born. We need to have effective public awareness during this transition, otherwise undesired village-wise feeling may arise as already experienced in the grouping of 1968. It is desirable that we go about this awareness properly during the transitional period to prevent any unwanted development in our social life, church administration and different NGO's activities.

Our party High Command have considered this Bill and have some apprehension about clashes of interest with the Aizawl Development Authority. However, it is reassuring that Section 387 has been added stating that in any case of overlapping or conflict of provisions, the act shall have overriding effect.

It is obvious that the time is ripe for this act to be implemented. Chhimal Chhantu and Panchayati Raj Implementing Committee have been set up at Lunglei and Municipality Steering Committee in Aizawl. The constitutional amendment of the Indian Government has also opened wider scope for Panchayati Raj. Several memoranda have been submitted to our Government, seminars were

held and draft bill made for public education. With all these developments, it would be unwise to delay any further. It is already due that the Bill has come up in this House.

From this Act, we will see the true sense of decentralisation of power. Our 40 MLA seats cannot accommodate all the political aspirants who are willing to serve their nation and State. So, a new elected body will be set up opening doors for our talented youths. It is almost late but not too late. This is the right moment.

Further, Indian Government introduce several development projects such as JNNURM. About 63 cities including Aizawl have been chosen for this project. Our Government have forwarded a 2010 crore worth proposal which has been summarily accepted. It is fortunate and the right time that we are going to have a body accepted by the Central norms to be on the receiving end.

So, I will not go into detail about the Bill itself ; it is good enough . Let's hope any shortcomings will be covered when the rules will be made. What is important now is to implement this Act quickly and hold election soon. That is the need of the hour. Mr Speaker, our Legislative party support and hope this bill will be passed with one accord.

PU K. LALRINLIANA

: Thank you, Mr Speaker. It is pleasing that our Chief Minister has introduced ' The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007' at the right time. It is the right time because Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation Department has just been formed. The same bill previously introduced by Pu Rualyapa and Pu Andrew were before the formation of this Department. What I feel great about this Bill is the decentralization of power which come along with it. Some express their reservation stating that the status of the MLAs and even the Minister would be degraded. However, I do not see any danger as such. On the contrary, it will be quite conducive to the State Government, we had discussed having a Municipal Board in Kolasib with Pu Aichhinga way back in 1988. The pioneer Pu L.T. Zothankhuma, the concerned Minister and previous Ministries are also praise worthy.

As stated in section 7 page 8, there will be 15-30 wards under the Municipal Corporation, 11-23 under Municipal Council. Under these, there would be the ward Committee. Then, there will be the local Bodies Committee. The different Committees will function in coordinate manner as Joint Committee as given in Section 25. Thus, the different Committees will represent all sections of the Community at the Joint Committee.

Tax collection procedures and rules are clearly mentioned in Chapter XVI ; Taxation.

Another thing which I give due importance is about the Layout Plan in Chapter XI, and then Establishment in Chapter VII. Building site & Construction in Chapter XII clearly mention rules for construction of buildings, demolition or alteration of building work and troughs and pipes for drainage. When we look into our towns today we can see that the streets are congested, poor drainage system, filthy septic tanks and disputes over land are the order of the day. All these problems will be taken care of by the Municipal Council or Municipal Corporation.

Planning and reservation of sites for parks, playgrounds, steps, drains, electric posts and telephone lines will be carried out smoothly and effectively under the Board/Council. This Municipalities Bill, 2007 will uplift the face of our towns and cities. I sincerely support this bill to go through. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

PU LALRINLIANA SAILO : Mr Speaker, it is pleasing that we are discussing ' The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007' today. Something like this is always raised by every political parties

before elections but never materialize it. As already mentioned by hon'ble member from Phuldungsei, it had been moved before and also by hon'ble member from Khawzawl. It is sad that it used to be rejected because it was moved from this side however good the bill might be.

In fact, this Municipality Bill is introduced due to the compulsion from the Central Government. We should have had this bill a long time ago. Various NGO's had earnestly urged for it in the past. They had discussed it with our Ministers and our Chief Minister, submitted memorandum at the Central and held seminars. Particularly MRF (Mizoram Reformation Forum) in Lunglei and Municipalities Steering Committee in Aizawl had spent much of their thoughts. The MMSC meet our Chief Minister on 20.7.2004 and again on 28<sup>th</sup> January this year who even proposed to form an adhoc body. However, with the expectation of availability of fund, Aizawl Development Authority was hastily formed. Now, we have this with a view of getting fund under JNNURM. The NGO's and who have spent their thoughts are praise worthy. It is great that a splendid Bill has been prepared and those who have worked on it are highly commendable.

I had some concern about Section 82, page 33 'Compulsory acquisition of land because Article 31 of the Indian Constitution is known to have been deleted in 1979. However, I consulted Pu Liansailova who assured me that it is alright. Once this bill is passed there is no need for Aizawl Development Authority so I suppose it should automatically be dissolved.



Mr Speaker, as hon'ble member from Tlungvel has mentioned, using Village Council electoral roll would be a better option. This is important to safeguard the interest of the Mizo community.

I feel our Government is fortunate that schemes like JNNURM are introduced. At the same time, we should be very careful to see that the funds are spent for the right reasons. I feel our Government neglect the problems of the general population of Aizawl it has done nothing much except changing Town Bus to City Bus, Children Park to City Park and the colour of taxi. Since 2004, I used to speak about unregulated construction on roadsides obstructing private properties. I am afraid this act will come out like a badly nourished baby. We have heard enough of the money to be received from Central Finance Commission. Rs. 10,00,000/- for municipality and 20 crore for Panchayati Raj. Whether it is Utilization Certificate or allocation of fund, we need to do it correctly to save ourselves from any unwanted scandals. This Bill is what our people need and it has a bundle of benefits with it for our daily life. I give my support to this Bill; let's pass it and nurture it. Thank you.

PU K. VANLALAUVA :

Mr Speaker, our Government chooses the right moment to introduce this Bill. Several members, in anticipation, introduced the same in the House before. The Bill is very comprehensive. Several important bills have been passed before and others are yet to be introduced. Creating Youth Commission is also under consideration, our House Leader had given his assurance. As written in the Election Manifesto of the MNF. Right to Information is now in full swing. Provision for this Bill is also mentioned in Sl. No. 5 of the Manifesto. There are accusations for delay and money to be the motive behind. If it is for money, our Government would have done it a long time ago, we are doing it as the time is ripe regardless of the money. Regarding the urgency of the Act, Rules will be formalised later. Election will be held before one year from the date of notification as given in Section 13. Notification can not be given unless everything is completed. The good thing about this Bill is that although we may feel Aizawl Development Authority to be an encumbrance, Section 387 provides that the Act will have an overriding effect even if there are conflicts. This bill is not projected only for Aizawl but has a wide scope for District Headquarters and other places if necessary. That is what we are about to pass now.

So, Mr Speaker, the Act will come up with certain criticisms from different corners, we are not perfect and the bill may not be so complete as desired. But we will see it soon enough that in principle, it is good for the administration and management of our state and our cities. Our Government has introduced it at the right time. I support this Bill which our Government approves and I have consulted the people and all parties on this Bill, hence, I want it to go through the House. Thank you.

PU R.LALZIRLIANA

: Thank you Mr Speaker. I am pleased to be able to participate in the discussion of 'The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007' today. During the P.C. Ministry efforts had been made to move this Bill. However, it was not successful. Again during the Congress Ministry in 1998, the same Bill was moved by Pu S.T.Rualyapa but was defunct as No-confidence was moved at the same time. Even the ZNP members had moved the same in the earlier session. It is also the desire of the Congress Legislature Party that this Bill be passed by the House. However, it is very regrettable that this Bill should not be extended to the Autonomous District Council.

Section 387 of the Bill provides that it shall be the duty of the Government to assign to the Municipality the functions which have been taken up by the Aizawl Development Authority. It further shows that the Aizawl Development Authority Act shall stand inferior to the Municipality Act. 'The Aizawl Development Authority could even be repealed by Section 387 of this Act. As this is the case, it is imperative that the Aizawl Authority Bill be repealed through this Act. If not, there can be unfavourable complication.

Considering the Bill be passed by the House, the Municipal area shall be published in the official gazetted. Following this notification if any person objects to anything contained in the notification, he should submit his objection to the Government within one month from the date of publication. After this, the State Government shall take his objection into consideration. In that case, another one month will be taken to settle and consider the objections if any. As provided in the Bill, on the expiry of three months from the date of publication of notification the existing village council body will continue to function for at least six months. If that is so, the election of the Municipality may not be held before the end of this Ministry. Therefore, I would like to urge the authority to hasten the steps taken for the materialization of this Municipality. I would further like to emphasize that it is vital to repeal the Aizawl Development Authority if the Municipality Bill is to be adopted.

The Bill provides that a population of not less than fifty thousand may be taken as sufficient population to constitute a Municipal Board. In that case, Municipality is applicable for Aizawl and Lunglei only. However, the required population has been relaxed only for District Headquarters. At the same time, there are towns and sub-towns where the population has been growing at a rapid rate. However, even after attaining the required population, any towns or sub-towns cannot have a Municipality if that town or sub-town is not a district capital. This signifies that there can never be a chance to have municipal Board for developing towns like Vairengte. Therefore, Mr Speaker, if we really prefer Municipality to Village Council the required number of population should better be reduced to at least 25,000. I have raised this as a suggestion to the House. I would even like to invite my fellow members to have an upright attitude so that Municipality could come out successful. Thank you.

SPEAKER

The House Leader, who is also the mover of the Bill may now be asked to make clarification on the Bill.

PU ZORAMTHANGA  
CHIEF MINISTER

Thank you, Mr Speaker. At the outset, I convey my gratitude to the members of the House for their constructive suggestions and criticisms. I am certain that their suggestions and constructive criticisms would become worthwhile in the future. A Bill which is found to be satisfactory may not be suitable after ten years or more. We have to know that even the Indian Constitution has been amended a number of times. Anyhow, a Bill cannot be made cent percent perfect.

As we have known all the legislature parties have supported this Bill. The former P.C. and Congress Ministries have also prepared the same Bill for passing in the House. However, due to certain reasons it has not been materialized. Today, 'The Municipalities Bill, 2007' could be introduced in the House. I would like to express that your contributions and support have enabled us to introduce this Bill today. But, we have to consider the states financial position. If we constitute the municipalities the financial involvement would certainly be very high. For this reason the State Government is very cautious realizing the poor state budget. Fortunately, the Central Government has introduced Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and through this scheme the financial requirements for Municipal Board could be satiated. Hence, this Bill can be introduced today.

As for the Bill itself experienced officials and experts were consulted to study the draft. The Steering Committee has also not been spared for the materialization of this Bill. However, as I have said earlier, there may be flows and imperfections and that could be amended.

There are certain mistakes in the wordings on Article 368 under the heading of "Overriding effect" the sentences should be amended as 'if any provision or provisions of this Act is or are found overlapping or in conflict with any provision of the Aizawl Development Authority Act 2005 or any other laws which are in force in any municipal area in the state of Mizoram, the provision or provisions of this Act shall prevail.

The hon'ble member Pu H.Liansailova argues that the Bill does not mention the required citizenship for the qualification of voter. But, Article 29 of the Bill referred "Representation of the People Act,1950" (43 of 1950) which states that a voter must be a citizen of India. Therefore, it has to be implied that to become a voter to a Municipal ward, a person must be a citizen of India.

Again on Article 256 the wording 'Distrace' has to be corrected as 'Distress'. I would further like to request the Hon'ble Speaker to announce the mistakes as patent error.

**S P E A K E R** : Spelling mistakes and typing mistakes may be admitted as printing error.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA  
CHIEF MINISTER** : Thank you, Mr Speaker. In reaction to the suggestion that Aizawl Development Authority should be repealed. I believe that the Municipality would not be overlapping or in conflict with the Aizawl Development Authority. Even in Guwahati there is Development Authority whereas Municipality has been actively functioning. Therefore, serious conflict is not anticipated.

**PU LALDUHOMA** : Mr Speaker, it would be desirable to have proper rules and regulations for the election of Municipal Board.

It would also be appreciated if the Hon'ble Chief Minister could furnish explanation on the divisions of financial power between the Aizawl Development Authority, Municipal Board and the Public Works Department.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA  
CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, the election of the Municipal Board will be conducted as per the regulation prescribed by the Election Commission.

**PU R.LALZIRLIANA** : Mr Speaker Sir, whereas a population of fifty thousand may be reasonable enough for District Headquarters to constitute a municipal area, it may be rather high for Sub-towns. Therefore, I suggest that the required population be reduced from fifty thousand to forty thousand.

**PU ZORAMTHANGA  
CHIEF MINISTER** : Mr Speaker, as I have mentioned before, the Bill can be amended anytime if it is necessary. As for now, the Expert Committee is satisfied with the various provisions of the Bill. Therefore, Mr Speaker, I request this august House to pass 'The Mizoram Municipality Bill, 2007'.

SPEAKER : We shall take voice vote on the Bill Chapter 3-24. Any member who agrees with the passing of the Bill may say 'yes' and those who are against it may say 'Nay' (Members agree).

The main body of the Bill Chapter 3-24 is passed by the House unanimously.

Those who agree to pass Schedule 1-3 and Preamble and Acting Formula Clause I Short Title and Clause II Definition may say 'Yes' (Members said 'Yes').

Now those who agree to pass 'The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007 may say 'Yes'. Those who disagree may say 'No'.

The House has passed 'The Mizoram Municipalities Bill, 2007' unanimously. (Pu Zoramthanga : Thank you, Mr Speaker).

As mentioned by the mover of the Bill, spelling mistakes and typing mistakes in the Bill are taken as patent error and will be corrected accordingly.

The business for today is over. The House will be adjourned for today and will resume tomorrow at 10: 30 A.M.

Sitting adjourned 3 : 55 P.M.